

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011
ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER
ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME I of III
SINGLE SPACED TRANSCRIPT
50 LINES PER PAGE

Reported by: B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Call to Order (Pilar Reyes)	3
Invocation (Sylvia Alcantar)	3
Greeting from District 25 (Jan Mendez)	3
Welcome From District 18 (Denyse Laugeson)	4
Greeting from American Legion Riders President (Luis Diaz)	4
Roll Call (Doris Kilkenny)	6
Birthday Greetings (Pilar Reyes)	14
Rules of the Convention (Barbara LaDoucer)	15
National Executive Committeewoman Report (Norma DuVall)	20
Department Vice President's Report (Linda Fercho)	23
Department Secretary/Treasurer Report (Doris Kilkenny)	26
Department President Report (Pilar Reyes)	31
Department Chaplain Report (Sylvia Alcantar)	34
Parliamentarian Report (Diane DeLashmit)	36
Musician Report (Janet Wilson)	37
Historian Report (Rosemary Weber)	39
Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal Report (Zana Chaney)	47
Girls State Director Report (Sherry Schneider)	47
Girls State Committee Report (Jean McGinnis)	49
Convention Report (Norma DuVall)	53
Past Presidents Parley Report (Sue Hooker)	55
Announcements (Doris Kilkenny)	58
Luncheon Recess	59
Nomination For Department President (Tracy Vernal)	60
Nomination For Department Vice President (Molly Smith)	62
Nomination For Department Junior Member of Finance (Diane DeLashmit)	63
Nominations For Delegates and Alternates to National (Doris Kilkenny)	64
Legislative Report (Gloria Williams)	79
Constitution & Bylaws Report (Odette Cuccaro)	85
Afternoon Recess	95
Community Service Report (Michelle Soares)	95
Junior Activities Report (Geniecca Risner)	99
Junior Conference Report (Kathie Martinez)	101
Americanism Report (Kat Conrad)	103
Announcements (Doris Kilkenny)	110
Adjournment	113

1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011; 9:09 A.M.
3 ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER
4 ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA
5
6 CALL TO ORDER
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
8 Please take a seat. I want everybody to sit, please.
9 Good morning. Good morning. This convention
10 center is now reconvened. I request everyone to please
11 have your cell phones off. If your phone rings, you may
12 have to pay \$5, and I will collect from you for the
13 special project.
14 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, will the
15 Distinguished Guest Chairman please present District 25
16 President Shannon Mendez, District 18 President Denyse
17 Laugeson, and President of the American Legion Riders
18 Luis Diaz.
19 (Processional.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Department
21 Chaplain Sylvia Alcantar will open with the invocation.
22
23 INVOCATION
24 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Let us bow our
25 heads and pray.
26 Thank you, Dear Lord, for this beautiful day.
27 Thank you for the beautiful members here today. Lord,
28 we are meeting today to conduct matters of business.
29 Guide our hearts and our minds in the spirit of
30 fairness, right thought, and speech, and impart Your
31 supreme wisdom upon our activities so that affairs may
32 reach a successful conclusion. Thank You for being our
33 source of guidance today.
34 Amen.
35 ALL PRESENT: Amen.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: May we observe
37 a moment of silence in honor of our loved ones who have
38 gone on to be with our Heavenly Father.
39 (Moment of silence.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
41 I would like to present District 25 President,
42 who will give us greetings, Jan Mendez.
43
44 GREETING FROM DISTRICT 25
45 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Good morning.
46 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
47 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Welcome to the
48 92nd American Legion Auxiliary Conference here in the
49 25th District in the county of San Bernardino. Our
50 county --

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.
2 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: -- in the
3 United States. The 25th District family from the east
4 reach from the Colorado River to the high deserts to the
5 mountains, and in the west to the San Bernardino Valley.
6 We are taking the time to invite you to see the sights
7 in our beautiful county.
8 Thank you for visiting the 25th District, and
9 we wish you the best for visiting this district here in
10 the wonderful city of Ontario.
11 Thank you, Madam President. It has been
12 a privilege to work with you. And thank you.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
15 And now we will hear from District 18 President
16 Denyse Laugeson.
17 (Applause.)
18
19 WELCOME FROM DISTRICT 18
20 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: On behalf of
21 District 18 -- the elegant 18th District -- I welcome
22 you to the 92nd convention of the American Legion
23 Auxiliary.
24 Madam President, I hope you have an enjoyable
25 convention, a memorable convention, and one with no
26 hitches.
27 Thank you.
28 (Applause.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank
30 you.
31 And we have here the President of the
32 American Legion Riders from my district.
33 Presenting Luis.
34 (Applause.)
35
36 GREETING FROM AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT
37 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ:
38 Welcome. I think I can top the volume in here.
39 I should start with an apology.
40 Madam President, my apologies for missing
41 yesterday's ceremony. I'm still, thank God, gainfully
42 employed; so the guy who signs the check is the one that
43 kind of sets the schedule, as everyone knows. But I'm
44 sorry that I didn't make it, but I am glad to be here
45 today. It is great to see your convention so filled
46 today.
47 I bring you greetings from the American Legion
48 Riders. We had our convention back in April.
49 (Applause.)
50 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ: There

1 has been talk of bringing us all together some day and
2 try to do convention all in one place, but it just makes
3 for another party. And, you know, it is a different
4 month, to keep April happy. And we keep our bikes
5 a little cooler if we do our convention earlier in the
6 year; so that's -- it's not that we don't want to join
7 in. It's just that when you ride outside, you don't
8 have that air conditioning switch to flip up to try to
9 find a nice, cool place.

10 We did that. We had a great, great convention.
11 Our numbers are growing. This is my third term. I was
12 just reelected to Legion Riders President; so I am
13 moving into my third year.

14 (Applause.)

15 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ: So we
16 have been very, very busy. We don't have the benefit of
17 the maturity of the Auxiliary or the Sons of the
18 American Legion; so we are learning. We are learning
19 things that your predecessors learned years ago -- the
20 reasons why you have to have rules, why you have to have
21 bylaws, why you have to have an organized approach to
22 a big membership. And ours is growing. We started --
23 my first year we had 18 chapters. By my second term we
24 were at 40, and hopefully by the end of this term in
25 office we will have reached 60 with over 3,000 riders.

26 (Applause.)

27 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ: And
28 many of those are very, very dear to us and our
29 Auxiliary members of the American Legion, and they join
30 in and make up -- clearly, in some cases -- one-third of
31 our chapters; so without the Auxiliary the
32 American Legion Riders would not be where it is today.

33 So thank you. Have a great convention.

34 (Applause.)

35 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ:

36 Especially if your home post is one of our
37 chapters, I would love to hear about them. And if you
38 have any trouble with them, you can find me on the Web.
39 Hopefully, everyone over there will see what we are
40 doing. We have a Website. It's very easy to remember:
41 www.alrdoc.com. And you can find out all the happenings
42 of the American Legion Riders there. We use that as our
43 main focus for communication.

44 So thank you again. Have a great convention.

45 (Applause.)

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
47 much, Luis.

48 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ: And
49 then I forgot one thing. I would like to introduce my
50 wife, retired Navy Chief Jennifer Lynn Diaz, the

1 backbone.
2 Thank you.
3 (Applause.)
4 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ: Thank
5 you --
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
7 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESIDENT DIAZ: Thank
8 you for allowing me to come back for that one.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Will the three of
10 you -- the four of you approach the stage, please.
11 Or --
12 Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.
13 The Marshal, bring those things. Please escort
14 our guests.
15 (Processional.)
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Before I proceed,
17 I would like to present to you our National Children &
18 Youth Chairman, Past Department President Nancy Brown
19 Park.
20 And here is Nancy. She will be up there in
21 a couple of years at National.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She was up here
24 yesterday because she was doing her job for National.
25 So thank you for being here.
26 Department Secretary Doris Kilkenny, will you
27 call the roll, please: Officers, chairmen, and the
28 District Presidents.
29 (Music played.)
30 ROLL CALL
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
32 Department President Pilar Reyes.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Here.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
35 Department Vice President Linda Fercho.
36 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Here.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
38 Secretary/Treasurer Doris is here.
39 NEC Woman Norma DuVall.
40 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL: Good
41 morning, Doris.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
43 morning, Norma.
44 Chaplain Sylvia Alcantar.
45 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Here.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 I hate murdering names. It's the end of the year.
48 You'd think I'd have it figured out by now.
49 Historian Rosemary Weber.
50 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Here.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/24/2011

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
2 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit.
3 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Coming
4 like a car.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
7 go, girl.
8 Musician Janet Wilson.
9 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Present.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
11 Sergeant-at-Arms Zana Chaney.
12 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: Here.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
14 Marshal Molly Smith.
15 DEPARTMENT MARSHAL SMITH: I'm here.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: It's
17 early.
18 Finance Committee Chairman Linda Diebel.
19 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
20 Finances, we're here.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 Finance Committee - Senior Member Susie Tozier.
23 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR CHAIRMAN
24 TOZIER: Present.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
26 Finance Committee - Junior Member Norma Billings.
27 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR CHAIRMAN
28 BILLINGS: Present.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
30 Advisory Chairman Ruby Kapsalis.
31 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
32 KAPSALIS: Here and ready for action, all three of us.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 I really have a smart comment, but I'm not going to say
35 it.
36 Advisory Committee Margaret Quiñones.
37 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
38 QUIÑONES: Here.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 Advisory Committee Willie Burke.
41 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BURKE:
42 Here.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Past
44 National President Josie Melgard.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 Americanism Kat Conrad.
48 AMERICANISM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Here.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Lucille Taylor.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/24/2011

1 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
2 TAYLOR: Good morning, Doris.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
4 morning. I hear you, can't see you.
5 Children & Youth Anita Biggs.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
8 Community Service Michelle Soares.
9 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:
10 I'm here.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
12 morning.
13 Constitution & Bylaws Odette Cuccaro.
14 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
15 CUCCARO: Present.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 Convention Chairman - Ontario - Norma DuVall.
18 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: I'm still here.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 Convention Commission Chairman Beverly Sparks.
21 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I'm
22 here, and I'm going to miss you.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
24 going to miss you too.
25 Credentials Dolores Ryan.
26 CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYAN: Still
27 over here.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
29 I can't see you.
30 Distinguished Guest Chairman Linda Workman.
31 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN:
32 (Singing) These heels are made for walking, and that's
33 just what I'll do.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Very
35 good. Very good.
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
38 Editor Estella Avina.
39 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Here.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 Education Harriet Clendenin.
42 EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Good
43 morning.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
45 morning.
46 Elections Marge Rye.
47 ELECTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYE: (Singing)
48 Happy days are here again.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
50 job.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/24/2011

1 Girls State Chairman Jean McGinnis.
2 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: Are you from
3 Girls State?
4 ALL PRESENT: Yes.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Girls
6 State Director Sherry Schneider.
7 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR SCHNEIDER: Congrats to my
8 baby sharks.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 Junior Activities Geniecca Risner.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
13 I'll have to remember that.
14 Junior Conference Director Kathie Martinez.
15 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Good
16 morning, Doris.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
18 morning.
19 Leadership Committee Chairman Linda Fercho.
20 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Here.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 Legislative Gloria Williams.
23 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good
24 morning, Doris.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
26 morning.
27 Membership Chairman Alzora Carter.
28 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CARTER: Good
29 morning, Doris.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
31 morning.
32 National Security Chairman Normal DuVall.
33 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DUVALL:
34 Good morning, Doris.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
36 morning, Norma.
37 Are you done now?
38 Past Presidents Parley Sue Hooker.
39 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's in the bathroom.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Poppy
41 Committee Chairman Loretta Marsh.
42 POPPY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MARSH: Present.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
44 Public Relations Linda Farriss.
45 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
46 Present.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
48 Resolutions Bonnie Christner.
49 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
50 QUIÑONES: I'm here for Bonnie.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/24/2011

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Rules
2 Barbara LaDoucer.
3 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Here.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Terry Mikesell.
6 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
7 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: She is present.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 I should have known.
10 Ways & Means Chairman Jean Cooley-Desmeules.
11 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
12 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Present.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
14 District Presidents.
15 District 1, Patricia Lindley.
16 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Good morning.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
18 morning.
19 District 2, Molly Smith.
20 2ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT SMITH: Good morning,
21 Doris.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
23 morning.
24 District 3.
25 3RD DISTRICT MEMBER: We're here. The
26 president is not.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Is
28 there a First Vice?
29 3RD DISTRICT MEMBER: No.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 Second Vice?
32 3RD DISTRICT MEMBER: No.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
34 District 4, Kristi McFee.
35 4TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT McFEE: Here.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
37 District 5, Peggy Grabski.
38 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: Good morning,
39 Doris.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 District 6, Susie Castro.
42 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Musical notes
43 are here.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 District 7, Lynn Uhazi.
46 DISTRICT 7: (Singing) Oh, what a beautiful
47 morning. Oh, what a beautiful day.
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 District 8, Tammy Manini.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
3 District 9, Connie Clement.
4 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Present.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
6 District 10, Emily Magwili.
7 10TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MAGWILI: Good morning.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
9 morning.
10 10TH DISTRICT: Good morning, Madam President
11 Pilar.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 Whatever she said.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That was good
15 morning.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 District 11, Laura Barghorn.
18 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: Here.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: The
20 hills are alive.
21 Lisa Stuart, District 12.
22 12TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing) Hey,
23 Madam President, District 12 is here. On this jingle
24 jangle morning, we'll come following you.
25 (Applause.)
26 12TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning, Doris.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
28 morning.
29 12TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Greetings from
30 California to Michigan.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: No.
32 I'm not going to Michigan. Some might like to send me
33 there from Illinois.
34 Thank you, ladies.
35 District 13, Theresa Jacob.
36 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Here.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
38 District 14, Martha Sweeney.
39 DISTRICT 14 MEMBERS: District 14, displaying
40 loud and proud. Good morning.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
42 morning.
43 District 15, Zana Chaney.
44 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: Good morning.
45 15TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning,
46 Madam President Pilar.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 District 16, Carol Rombaugh.
50 16TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Sweet 16 rocking around

1 the clock all day long.
2 Good morning.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 District 18, Denyse Laugeson.
5 18TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing) Oh, what
6 a beautiful morning. Oh, what a beautiful day. Your
7 elegant District 18 are here to stay.
8 Good morning, Madam President Pilar.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
10 (Applause.)
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
12 District 19, Dorothy-Anne Chavez.
13 19TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning. The pink
14 roses have sprung up in Ontario.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
16 District 20, Maria Castrellon.
17 20TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: We are women. We are
18 strong.
19 Good morning, Madam President.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 District 21, Cheryl Hathaway.
23 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: Good
24 morning.
25 21ST DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 District 22, Midge Farrar.
28 22ND DISTRICT MEMBERS: 22nd are here.
29 (Applause.)
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 District 23, Wantu Robinson.
32 23RD DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing)
33 Unforgettable, that's who you are. Unforgettable,
34 Madam President Pilar.
35 Good morning, Madam President.
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
38 Good morning.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 District 24, Susie Johansen.
41 24TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHANSEN: Good
42 morning, Madam President.
43 (Singing) We're singing and swinging.
44 (Applause.)
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 District 25, Shannon Mendez.
48 25TH DISTRICT: Membership United in Service
49 and Ideals.
50 Good morning, Madam President Pilar.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 District 26, Gerry Wilcox.
5 26TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: LuAnn is here for
7 Gerry.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 District 27, Jean Winkler-Ring.
10 27TH DISTRICT: Here.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
12 District 28, Connie Raya.
13 28TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: In search of both short
14 and long, [inaudible], enough to write a children's
15 song.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 District 29, Karen Karanickolas.
20 29TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: It's our time.
21 Good morning from District 29.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 District 30, Belen Telford.
25 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: Here.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: It
27 sounded so meek.
28 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: Here.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
30 That's here.
31 Hospital reps. Veronica Spence, Fort Miley.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 Wendy O'Brien, Northern California/Sacramento.
35 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE O'BRIEN: Here.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
37 Mary Sinopoli, Central California/Fresno.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 Pat Klang, Palo Alto.
41 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KLANG: Here.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
43 Ruth Briggs, Livermore.
44 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE BRIGGS: Here.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
46 Phyllis Holmberg, WAVE Clinic, San Diego.
47 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HOLMBERG: Here.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 Mavis Kanka, Loma Linda, Jerry L. Pettis.
50 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KANKA: Here.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
2 Pat Alvarez, Long Beach.
3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She had to take Ed to
4 dialysis.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She's not here.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
7 Earlean Paige, Greater LA.
8 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE PAIGE: Good
9 morning. And get your kicks on Route 66.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
11 I know how old you are now, because I am.
12 Hermine Fosmark, Santa Barbara.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
15 Evangeline Acosta, Barstow.
16 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA: Good
17 morning, Doris.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
19 morning.
20 Lois Cornish, Chula Vista.
21 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: Right
22 here.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 Peggy Grabski, Yountville.
25 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE GRABSKI: Present.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 Veronica McGough, Lancaster.
28 Is Veronica not here?
29 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's here.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 Madeline Lee, Ventura.
32 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE LEE: Good morning,
33 Doris.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
35 morning.
36 Delores Artis, West LA.
37 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ARTIS: Here.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
39 go, girl.
40 Madam President, that's your roll call.
41
42 BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
44 much.
45 Before I proceed, I would like to wish someone
46 here who is 89 years old celebrating her birthday -- it
47 would be -- oh, it's today. Frances King.
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Happy birthday.
50 And also Norma DuVall, it's also her birthday.

1 Happy birthday, Norma.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: How old are you,
4 my dear?
5 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL: Old
6 enough.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Old enough. Okay.
8 That's good enough.
9 And happy birthday to all celebrating their
10 birthdays. All gifts will be -- happy birthday this
11 month to my personal page, Emily.
12 Happy birthday, Emily.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. I will be
15 calling three chairmen at a time to be at the stage and
16 ready to give their report.
17 Chairmen, please be sure that you have sent
18 notes for the recipients of their awards so they are
19 present at the dais on the stage when you give your
20 reports.
21 Recipients, again, when you receive your
22 awards, please stay on the right of the stage so that
23 individual or group photos can be taken after the
24 chairman's report, and remember to be as quiet as
25 possible so that everyone can hear the reports of the
26 following chairmen.
27 Importantly, as I have said earlier, keep your
28 cell phones turned off.
29 Rules Chairman Barbara LaDoucer will now read
30 the convention rules.
31 Barbara.
32
33 RULES OF THE CONVENTION
34 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Good
35 morning.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
37 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Madam
38 Department President Pilar, I move that the convention
39 rules be considered seriatim and be adopted as a whole.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please read the
41 rules first.
42 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And have the
44 microphone close to your mouth because we cannot hear
45 you.
46 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Madam
47 Department Chairman -- Madam Department President Pilar,
48 this chairman will hesitate after each rule, or if there
49 is a question or an amendment, it may be presented at
50 that time.

1 Your convention rules will be on Page 10 of
2 your Book of Reports.

3 All the meetings of the convention shall be
4 called to order at the designated time or as soon
5 thereafter as a quorum is present.

6 A quorum shall exist when one-third of the
7 units in good standing are partially or wholly
8 represented by duly elected delegates or alternates.
9 Article IV, Section 3 of the Department Constitution.

10 The audience shall remain seated during the
11 business hours -- business of the convention. The
12 Department President shall designate certain doors to
13 accommodate delegates who find it necessary to enter or
14 leave the convention hall during the reports of
15 committees or when a speaker has the floor.

16 Cell phones must be turned off or in violation
17 of --

18 Madam Department President, may I ask my
19 District President to turn my phone off?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

21 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Number 4:
22 The chairman may deviate from the printed program when
23 necessary or expedient.

24 Number 5: The Credentials Chairman shall
25 report registration as directed by the Chair.

26 Number 6: The registration of delegates and
27 alternates shall close at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 25th,
28 2011.

29 Only qualified delegates shall have a voice and
30 vote.

31 Number 8: It shall be the responsibility of
32 each District President to see that only accredited
33 delegates and alternates serving as delegates are seated
34 in her district delegation during the business meetings
35 of the convention.

36 Number 9: If a delegate expects to be absent
37 from the convention, except for the purpose of attending
38 a committee meeting, she shall relinquish her delegate
39 card to her alternate. The alternate shall then take
40 her seat in the voting section. In the event the
41 delegate does not have the opportunity of reporting to
42 the District President, it shall become the duty of the
43 chairman of the unit delegation to report to the
44 District President the absence of the delegate and the
45 presence of the alternate or the absence of both the
46 delegate and alternate.

47 Number 10: A delegate wishing the privilege of
48 the floor shall rise; address the chair as Madam
49 Department President; give her name, unit, and district
50 numbers; pause; and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

1 A member speaking in debate on a question shall
2 be limited to three minutes. No one shall speak more
3 than twice on the same question without consent of the
4 assembly.

5 Number 12: The delegates attending called
6 committee meetings shall be notified when the convention
7 is considering or voting upon adoption of any change in
8 policy or matters affecting finance.

9 Number 13: Reports of committees which do not
10 appear to be controversial in nature may be adopted by
11 general consent, if there is no objection. If there is
12 an objection, a vote shall be taken. Following the
13 acceptance of a report of a committee, recommendation or
14 resolutions may present -- be presented for
15 consideration and adoption.

16 Number 14: Any committee whose proposed
17 changes in policy might conflict with that of the
18 American Legion shall confer with the American Legion
19 before presenting said change at the convention.

20 Number 15: A committee recommending an
21 appropriation of funds for any purpose shall consult
22 with the Department Finance Committee before presenting
23 the recommendation or resolution to the convention.

24 Number 16: All resolutions to be presented to
25 the convention shall be in triplicate and properly
26 signed.

27 Number 17: Committees may amend resolutions
28 and recommendations referred to them before favorably
29 reporting the same. Resolutions and recommendations
30 rejected by a committee shall be marked rejected, signed
31 by the chairman of the committee, and returned to the
32 Department Resolutions Chairman immediately following
33 the committee meeting.

34 Number 18: A unit, district, or members
35 presenting a resolution or recommendation shall have the
36 privilege of explaining the same to the committee to
37 which it was referred.

38 Number 19: Committees shall report to the
39 convention all resolutions properly submitted and
40 accepted by the majority of the convention committee.

41 Number 20: A resolution rejected by
42 a committee may be brought before the convention by
43 a two-thirds vote.

44 Emergency resolution -- Number 21: Emergency
45 resolutions that may arise during a convention or after
46 the date for submitting a resolution may be presented no
47 later than noon on the second day of the convention.
48 Article IV, Section 4b of the Department Constitution.

49 Number 22: Nominations of the officers, Junior
50 Member of Finance, the department delegates and

1 alternates to the National Convention shall be held
2 Friday afternoon, June 24th, 2011.

3 Endorsed -- Number 23: Endorsements of
4 candidates for national office shall follow the
5 nominations.

6 Number 24: Nomination speeches shall be
7 limited to three minutes. There shall be no seconding
8 speeches.

9 Number 25: Election of department officers,
10 Junior Member of Finance, national candidates,
11 department delegates and alternates to the National
12 Convention shall be held on Saturday morning,
13 June 25th, 2011.

14 Number 26: The doors of the convention hall
15 shall be closed during the entire election procedure,
16 and no one shall leave or enter the hall until the chair
17 states that the election is concluded. The exception to
18 this shall be that in an emergency a member may leave,
19 and if her absence affects the voting strength, the
20 District President shall immediately notify the
21 presiding officer.

22 Number 27: When there is but one nominee for
23 the department offices and but one nominee for Junior
24 Member of Finance, the nominees shall be elected viva
25 voce. Article V, Section 3, Department Constitution.

26 Upon roll call, the department -- District
27 Presidents shall report the number of units partially or
28 wholly represented by duly elected delegates or
29 alternates present in the delegation at the time of roll
30 call. This is to determine that there is a quorum of
31 units present at the time of the election.

32 Number 28: When there is more than one nominee
33 for the department offices or Junior Member of Finance
34 or national office, election shall be written ballot.
35 The District President shall, when they are instructed
36 by the Chair, take a roll call of their respective
37 delegations to ascertain the total voting strength of
38 their district for the election, reporting the same to
39 the Chair. When there is but one nominee for the office
40 of Junior Member of Finance, the ballot may be dispensed
41 with and a nominee elected viva voce.

42 Number 29: When there are three or more
43 nominees for an office or Junior Member of Finance,
44 unless one nominee reaches the majority vote on the
45 first ballot, the nominee receiving the lowest number of
46 votes shall be automatically dropped before proceeding
47 with the next ballot.

48 Number 30: Each District President and
49 district member of the Elections committee shall
50 distribute and collect the votes cast by the district

1 delegation and deliver them to the Department Chairman
2 of Elections.
3 Number 31: Department officers, chairmen,
4 committee members, and Past Department Presidents shall
5 vote with their respective districts.
6 Number 32: Each delegate shall be entitled to
7 one vote. The vote of an absent unit delegate, not
8 represented by an alternate, shall be cast by the
9 majority of the delegates from the unit. When two
10 delegates represent three votes, the chairman of the
11 unit delegation shall cast the third vote.
12 Number 33: A majority of all votes cast shall
13 elect, except in the election of the national delegates
14 and alternates a plurality shall elect.
15 Number 34: These convention rules may be
16 amended during the convention by two-thirds vote.
17 Number 35: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly
18 Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all
19 points not covered by these rules, the Department
20 Constitution and Bylaws, and convention mandates.
21 Madam Department President, I move that the
22 convention rules be considered seriatim and be adopted
23 as a whole.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved.
25 Is there a second?
26 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
28 that the convention rules be adopted seriatim and be
29 adopted as a whole.
30 Any discussion?
31 (No response.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No discussion.
33 Those in favor say aye.
34 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
36 (No response.)
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Madam
38 Convention Rules Chairman, just say that you move to
39 adopt the rules of convention.
40 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: I move that
41 we adopt the rules of convention.
42 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
44 to adopt the convention rules as a whole.
45 In favor?
46 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
48 (No response.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Carried.
50 Thank you. Thank you very much.

1 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Now, Rule
2 Number 3 provides it is your responsibility to designate
3 doors to accommodate delegates to enter or leave the
4 convention.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

6 I will assign -- we have only one door open
7 over there; so we have no choice. So that is our
8 exiting and entering door.

9 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Thank you,
10 Madam Department President, for this chairmanship.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
12 much.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now we will hear
15 the report of National Executive Committeewoman
16 Norma Duvall.

17

18 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN REPORT

19 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL: Good
20 morning.

21 Thank you, Madam Department President.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You're welcome.

23 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL:

24 Needless to say, the post convention NEC meeting in
25 Milwaukee last summer was mind boggling and a bit
26 frightening. But, once again, our great organization
27 provided an eye-opening and informative year and a great
28 learning experience.

29 It has truly been an honor to serve as
30 California's National Executive Committeewoman for
31 2010-2011 and to attend the Awareness Assembly in
32 Washington D.C.

33 Saturday evening prior to the NEC meeting and
34 Awareness Assembly in March a first-time orientation was
35 held for the members of the NEC on our role and duties
36 as a member of the National Executive Committee. The
37 purpose of long-range strategic planning and the NEC
38 role, the responsibility and role of reviewing and
39 approving the national budget, and guidelines for
40 governing under the Constitution and Bylaws and
41 Parliamentary and national headquarters role and
42 overview were discussed, as well as the entire governing
43 structure of the ALA.

44 Nancy was just filling me in on some changes
45 that were just made in the last couple of days; so I was
46 going to change a little bit in part of the report that
47 I am giving to you.

48 But there is going to be a proposed change in
49 the governance structure. It is not going to come to
50 the floor at National Convention in Minneapolis this

1 year for discussion and vote, but it will be going out
2 to the departments for review and will go to National at
3 a later date for a vote.

4 So the proposed change is going to have a small
5 group with term limits to more -- to meet more regularly
6 and then report to the NEC for final approval. What
7 I have is -- the proposed model would include three
8 groups, totaling 15 people, who would be accountable and
9 report to the entire NEC. The first group of seven is
10 the National President, the National Vice President,
11 VA&R Chairman, Children & Youth Chairman, the National
12 Treasurer, the National Secretary, and immediate Past
13 National President. The second group would be five
14 members, one per division, elected annually by the NEC
15 at the DEC. The final group includes three elected
16 members at large rotating three-, two-, one-year terms
17 with two term limits and a maximum of six years of
18 service. Each divisional caucus may elect up to three
19 candidates for these positions, plus there will be any
20 nominations from the floor.

21 Past National President Rita Navarrete gave
22 a short presentation on character initiative, civility,
23 and being role models in our departments.

24 Our new mission statement and the 990 filings
25 were also discussed, with the compliance being focused
26 on a mission of outreach programs: Americanism,
27 Children & Youth, Community Service, Education, Girls
28 State, Junior Activities, Legislative, National
29 Security, Poppy, and VA&R.

30 Our new mission statement:

31 In the spirit of service, not self, the mission
32 of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support the
33 American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who
34 serve by enhancing the life of our veterans, military,
35 and their families, both at home and abroad. For God
36 and country we advocate for veterans, educate our
37 citizens, mentor youth, promote patriotism, good
38 citizenship, peace, and security.

39 Our new vision statement:

40 The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is
41 to support the American Legion while becoming the
42 premier service organization and foundation of every
43 community providing support for our veterans, our
44 military, and their families by providing a positive
45 future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism,
46 peace, and security.

47 Sunday's National Executive Committee meeting
48 gave a summary of the audit report, Finance committee
49 report, and review of the budget. A resolution was
50 presented and adopted on amending Standing Rules,

1 Section III: The Department Presidents and Secretaries
2 Conference to allow a scheduling flexibility.

3 The rationale in removing the requirement to
4 conduct the Presidents and Secretaries Conference at
5 a specific time optimizes the potential efficiency, cost
6 effectiveness, and attendance by allowing more
7 scheduling flexibility and more creativity in scheduling
8 or combining other National meetings, conferences, and
9 workshops in conjunction with the Department Presidents
10 and Secretaries Conference.

11 After an update on Vista, the National Chairmen
12 gave their mid-year reports, and I am happy to report
13 California units' accomplishments were mentioned more
14 than once.

15 (Applause.)

16 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL: The
17 awards assembly opening session Sunday evening featured
18 the Public Spirit Award presentation. What a thrill to
19 have our own department special project last year --
20 Operation Mend -- be the recipient for 2011.

21 (Applause.)

22 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL:
23 Regular sessions included speakers and presentations and
24 topics that varied from the implications of the nation's
25 deficit and debt on -- what the nation's deficit and
26 debt has on the military and veterans spending to
27 caregiver support opportunities to how to advocate from
28 a desktop or cell phone. After a legislative rally, the
29 entire Legion family was encouraged to visit the offices
30 of their senators and representatives on Capitol Hill to
31 discuss the organization's legislative initiatives. I'm
32 sure you will hear more from the Legislative Chairman on
33 her visit.

34 Wednesday's session included a presentation on
35 restoring civility in politics and fostering civility
36 within the Auxiliary. Many would say that the Auxiliary
37 has mastered the art of giving to others, but many of us
38 have work to do to master the art of giving to our
39 sister members. For example, some members report
40 situations of committee chairmen jealously guarding
41 their committee positions, in-fighting between units and
42 posts, or unwelcome -- unwelcoming environments for new
43 members with their new ideas and energies. We had the
44 opportunity to learn about deploying our own personal
45 power as an individual Auxiliary member to positively
46 influence civility within our Auxiliary family.
47 Remember, each of us is the power of one.

48 The National Convention in Minneapolis awaits
49 just a short time away, and, yes. As rumors have
50 started to fly, you will hear the economic recovery plan

1 developed by the National Finance committee. Their
2 request? A \$5 dues increase beginning in fiscal year
3 2013 with automatic 50 cent increases each year. Why?
4 Membership is the lowest since 1945, the end of
5 World War II. Over the past 16 years we have relied on
6 investment income to support operations. Reality hit in
7 2008 with a \$5 million loss. Even with further
8 sufficient cuts in spending, and even if membership
9 numbers remain the same, dues will continue to fall
10 short of covering expenses.

11 But National Convention also presents the
12 opportunity for California to, once again, shine in the
13 organization and the Western Division with all the
14 wonderful accomplishments and awards. We can also be
15 very proud of our membership this year. Congratulations
16 to all on a rewarding and successful year of Membership
17 United in Service, Ideals, and Commitment.

18 Thank you, Madam President.

19 This concludes my report.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
21 much.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Before I call on
24 the next person to report, I just want to let you know
25 that the restroom is that door over there. And -- well,
26 don't worry about the men's restroom, so....

27 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Women's only today.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: If it is crowded,
29 there is another one on this side. Thank you.

30 Okay. May I hear from our Vice President
31 Linda Fercho.

32 (Music played.)

33

34 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

35 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: If you all
36 don't know, my husband and I are a one-hit wonder on
37 karaoke. He can sing; I can't. So this is our one song
38 that we do. I kind of hum along in the background.
39 That is our one song.

40 Thank you, Janet.

41 Good morning, ladies.

42 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.

43 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Madam
44 President and all of the ladies here at the American
45 Legion Auxiliary and our young ladies, the Juniors, wow.
46 Of course, they all know I love my Juniors.

47 (Applause.)

48 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you
49 for coming, and thank you for doing this. Our ladies
50 truly appreciate it, the younger ones that are doing the

1 running around.

2 First of all, Madam President, I would like to
3 take a point of personal privilege. That's it. And
4 because I was so overwhelmed last night, thank you for
5 coming to our reception line. Kathie and Terry and I,
6 I know altogether we were amazed. Welcoming you all was
7 just -- it was just amazing that you stood in line that
8 long. I would never have stood in line that long for
9 even a great sale, but -- to get the prize, and we had
10 no cookies or punch.

11 But thank you, thank you, thank you from all of
12 us. We really truly appreciated your turnout. Thank
13 you.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: I'm not sure
16 my feet do. I had to have a little help getting the
17 cowboy boots off, but it was amazing.

18 Boy, has the last six months gone by fast. We
19 were just at the DEC in Santa Clara and I thought, okay.
20 We still have got six months until convention. I've got
21 plenty of time. I blinked, and here we are.

22 Well, seeing you all at the DEC, I had a lot of
23 fun. In January I went to the Quechan -- and I'm not
24 sure I said that right -- Casino four miles from Yuma,
25 for the Fifth Area meeting. Now, I love going to that
26 meeting. It's a great time that they have, but they
27 also have a wonderful membership meeting for Area 5.
28 The districts there just do a wonderful job. It is
29 always a lot of fun.

30 And then to add to it a casino. What's not to
31 like, you know? Except maybe running out of gas on the
32 way between Brawley and the Quechon Casino. Yes.
33 I have one of those husbands. The gas light went on.
34 There was 12 miles to empty and 27 miles to the casino.
35 Guess which happened first?

36 Well, thanks to my good friend Janet Wilson,
37 who really liked my husband a lot, in saving his life
38 that day, and went and got us two gallons of gas in
39 a gas can. But \$25 later Dennis's gambling budget was
40 decreased.

41 In March I brought greetings from
42 Madam President to the Legion at the DEC in Long Beach
43 at the Lakewood Post. Earlier that month my
44 granddaughter Jaclynn turned 18.

45 What a busy month April was starting out at
46 Junior Convention, and if you saw the pictures, it was
47 quite an experience. It was cold, but I will never have
48 to go to the gym and use a Stairmaster again. I had had
49 a lot of climbing around. It was gorgeous, gorgeous
50 country. Even though it was cold, the Auxiliary members

1 showed the Juniors how to heat it up with some wild and
2 crazy dancing. Boy, did we seasoned Auxiliary members
3 show the Juniors we still got our groove on. And I'll
4 tell you what. We all knew it.

5 The next week sent me off to the other end of
6 the state to Madam President's homecoming, and, yes.
7 She had a wonderful lumpia there. I just love lumpia.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Lumpia.

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Whatever it
10 is, it is wonderful.

11 And then off to the membership meeting in
12 Indianapolis. My traveling companion, Karen
13 Karanickolas, and I had a great time at the membership
14 meeting. They gave us lots of great tools to use this
15 next year for membership and some fantastic ideas. But
16 Karen had one wish. It's on her bucket list, and that
17 was to go to the Brick Yard, the Indianapolis 500
18 Speedway. So that is just what we did, and we are out
19 of gasoline now and she is crying. And I'm looking at
20 her and I'm going, Karen. We are in the tour on the bus
21 in Gasoline Alley, and you are crying. Right now
22 I realize this is a very, very lovely emotional woman
23 who is still crying. But what a great sport and really
24 fun to travel with.

25 In May I was in San Francisco for a very
26 informative budget meeting. Ladies, your Finance
27 committee is amazing, and our finances are in good
28 hands. I sound like an Allstate commercial. But all
29 kidding aside, we need to give them a big round of
30 applause. They do a great job and -- they do a great
31 job.

32 (Applause.)

33 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Glad it is
34 them and not me.

35 Well, I rushed home to represent Madam
36 President at the homecoming for Patricia Jackson Kelley,
37 4th Area Vice Commander, at the Jackie Robinson,
38 Post 252, at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 14th. And then
39 still rushing around, I had to get back to Camarillo at
40 5:30 for my granddaughter Jaclynn's senior prom.

41 Now into June, and here we are at convention.
42 But before getting here I was at the installation of
43 officers for my 16th District. I'm so very, very proud
44 of you ladies. Wow. They are amazing. And you will
45 see how amazing they are later on this weekend. And the
46 family of Camarillo 741. And then Jaclynn graduated.
47 Can you tell the last six months was all about Jackie?
48 And who am I talking to? Grandmothers. That's what we
49 do. We brag about our granddaughters.

50 I also realized in the last couple of months

1 that I can survive on four hours of sleep per day while
2 getting ready for this weekend.

3 But, ladies, I cannot tell you how proud I am
4 of having served and having the opportunity to be your
5 Vice President this year. You are an amazing, amazing
6 group of women, working so hard for our veterans, our
7 communities, our children and youth. I can't thank you
8 enough for all your service and what you do. So much
9 heart and love for people, the power of one that you
10 touch.

11 So right now I want you to raise your hand --
12 raise your right hand, reach around behind you, and pat
13 yourself on the back. You deserve it.

14 Thank you, Madam President.

15 It has been a fantastic year. Working with you
16 has been amazing. Every time I see you I just want to
17 hug and kiss you. Thank you. You are a lovely woman.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
19 much.

20 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you.
21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now we will hear
23 from our Department Secretary/Treasurer Doris Kilkenny.

24 (Music played.)

25

26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
28 Good morning, ladies.

29 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.

30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Ah --
31 the melodious tunes of our department, all in perfect
32 harmony. Not all of the time, but most of the time.

33 I have stood before you several times and
34 preached, admonished, and stated facts of what the
35 department office endures from members. I have
36 encouraged customer service, hoping that the staff and
37 I could accommodate you whenever possible. The
38 criticism directed at us was sometimes difficult to hear
39 and to digest.

40 We have also passed a huge milestone of
41 changes: The new membership database, accounting
42 software conversion, staff changes, and audits. And
43 look at us; we are still one.

44 We have a new bookkeeper in the office. Her
45 name is Susan Lough. She is doing a great job so far.
46 She is very knowledgeable in the accounting software and
47 has, in fact, been doing reports for us for convention
48 this past week. She joined us on June 13th, shortly
49 after the previous bookkeeper submitted his resignation
50 to pursue other career interests. He was very helpful

1 in the implementation of the conversion of the accounts
2 and assisting in clarifying issues for our recent audit,
3 but we understand the need for him to move on. It was
4 in our favor that Susan had recently been laid off of
5 her job, is an Auxiliary member of Unit 510, District 8,
6 and is qualified for this position.

7 The new membership database has been and still
8 is at times a challenge; yet we have had several
9 brand-new units that have formed, showing our growth in
10 membership. At the current time we are in sixth place
11 in the National listings.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
14 we are second in the western division.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 Ladies, three years ago we were at 28th and the next
18 year we were 26th; so, Nancy, we get to sit closer to
19 the front at National.

20 Okay. Our standings proved that we can adapt
21 and overcome the change in tunes that have been handed
22 to us.

23 Music soothes the savage beast, as they say.
24 But how does that relate to the American Legion
25 Auxiliary? We, the members, are the music, and the
26 savage beast is our battle of advocating for our
27 veterans.

28 We offer ourselves, the power of one -- one
29 member, one unit, one organization -- to combat the
30 forces of harm, denying our veterans of their just
31 benefits, which includes their children and family
32 members.

33 Our mission is to promote the programs of the
34 American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion,
35 helping to assist those who are in need. Take a moment
36 to reflect on just one time in the past year that you
37 chose to put aside your differences with another member
38 to carry out the mission of the Auxiliary to help
39 a veteran. I urge you to think before you speak and
40 spend the energy you are exerting at being angry about
41 something within your unit on helping a veteran.
42 I would --

43 (Applause.)

44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ruby and
46 Art Kapsalis for managing the Website for us.

47 Thank you, Ruby.

48 (Applause.)

49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: They
50 have been a tremendous help, and I am ever so grateful

1 for all the hard work they have done to help the
2 department office.

3 Thank you, also, Ruby, for your expert advice
4 that come up periodically. Art has done a fantastic job
5 at getting the membership statistics on the Website, as
6 this was a challenge, to say the least, in the beginning
7 of this database conversion. So many of you met your
8 milestones, and I will not elaborate at this time and
9 steal the thunder of our Membership Chairman's report.

10 Changes that are coming are an improved
11 membership transmittal form and new donation forms. The
12 application pads will slowly be phased out by National,
13 and the new one is currently available from them.
14 Member data forms will be available online and no longer
15 on a three-part form. Units accessing the database
16 themselves is a possibility within the next year.

17 The retrofit of the building in San Francisco
18 is coming closer to fruition. Local newspapers are
19 printing articles about it right now. That means
20 a change in location for not only the Auxiliary but also
21 the American Legion and other veterans groups located in
22 the building at the current time.

23 Membership issues are slowly but surely being
24 corrected and researched. I still urge you to contact
25 the office with any ongoing situations or difficulties
26 that need to have attention. We are doing our best work
27 with National on -- we are doing our best to work with
28 National on issues at their level and hope to have these
29 areas taken care of as quickly as we can. Patience is
30 a virtue, ladies, and we must continue to have faith
31 that all of our challenges will eventually be handled.

32 I thank you from the bottom of my heart for
33 your cooperation --

34 (Applause.)

35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

36 -- commitment --

37 (Applause.)

38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

39 -- and patience.

40 Change is good, ladies. We surrender charters
41 and we form new units, which is similar to the circle of
42 life. We must let go at times and embrace the new.
43 This promotes growth and power and unity.

44 We need to soar like an eagle -- the wind
45 beneath our wings. We should climb every mountain and
46 look over the rainbow. Music is our voices rising in a
47 chorus of harmonious unison.

48 M.U.S.I.C.: Members United in Service, Ideals,
49 and Commitment.

50 We are the power of one.

1 Thank you, Madam President. Thank you.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
4 much, Doris.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: May
8 I take a moment for a personal privilege?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
11 going to try to quit crying, but it is going to get
12 worse.
13 Madam President, offices of the chairmen,
14 Past Department Presidents, and Auxiliary members of the
15 American Legion for the Department of California.
16 This is, by far, one of the most difficult
17 statements I have had to make. Sorry, ladies. Last
18 year my husband and I acquired a home in Illinois that
19 we had intended to be a rental property. Obviously, we
20 weren't going to be the tenants; however, as we all
21 know, situations change. Our tenants left, leaving the
22 property vacant. My husband had made the decision in
23 February to retire on July 1st, which put an end to our
24 place -- which put into place our plan to move back to
25 Illinois.
26 We planned to move back there the first week of
27 August, and as my husband and I are getting older, we
28 have chosen to live where we can afford to on our
29 retirement, and that is that place, my home. This is my
30 hometown, near all of my siblings, a stone's throw from
31 my mother -- which might not be a good thing. Right now
32 she is very excited. And we are actually next door to
33 my son and daughter-in-law, along with my grandson, who
34 has always known me as the three-month grandma because
35 I can only visit them every three months, on the
36 holidays.
37 We plan to keep our Legion and Auxiliary
38 membership in California and come back as often as
39 possible, as some of our children and grandchildren live
40 here.
41 Our plans are to spend our vacation in
42 Yountville at the end of July, helping with the annual
43 picnic, be in attendance here during the month of
44 January for the family, and hopefully attending mid-year
45 functions, joining you at the department.
46 So you can't get rid of us that easily. As
47 Arnold, our illustrious ex-Governor would say, we will
48 be back.
49 I tendered my resignation in a separate letter
50 to Madam President Pilar, the effective date being the

1 last day of the 2011 Ontario convention, Sunday. I plan
2 to attend the National Convention in August in
3 Minneapolis, and I have offered to help in any way to
4 transition the department office and to train my
5 successor. I am sure that the next candidate to this
6 position will have the capability to do the job
7 necessary to keep our department a successful one, and
8 I encourage you to keep up the good work in
9 communications under family and cooperation.

10 I thank each and every one of you for your
11 support, your assistance, your devotion to our
12 organization and, most of all, your friendship. It is
13 an experience I will never forget and have learned from
14 all of you in many ways, regardless of criticism,
15 appreciation, or help. Your devotion to this
16 department, to our veterans, their families, and
17 communities is exemplary and to be commended; so please
18 continue the mission, the power of one, of service and
19 not self.

20 And with all my love....
21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It doesn't matter
23 where as long as we are here.

24 On behalf of the American Legion Auxiliary
25 I take pride and honor in presenting this meritorious
26 service citation to Doris Kilkenny for outstanding
27 service and dedication as Secretary/Treasurer for the
28 Department of California from June 2008 through
29 August 2009. Doris Kilkenny has demonstrated
30 comprehensive knowledge of the administrative procedures
31 of the Department of California, and we value her
32 willingness at all times as advisor and mentor and her
33 significant points of view to the American Legion
34 Auxiliary.

35 And please give Doris a standing ovation as
36 I present her this meritorious commendation.
37 (Applause.)

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I want to thank
39 you personally for your technique for being there
40 anytime I needed you.

41 (Applause.)

42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
43 going to miss you. I'm going to miss all of you. But
44 remember, ladies, we are all in this together, no matter
45 where we are in the country. We are always out there to
46 take care of our veterans. And I couldn't do the job in
47 the office -- no one can -- without the cooperation and
48 the help of our 27,000 Auxiliary members in the
49 Department of California.

50 So thank you.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I hope I still
2 have my mascara on before I go to the Legion.
3 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
4 CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Put your sunglasses on. They'll never
5 know.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I would like to
7 give my report before I go to the Legion, and I would
8 like to ask Linda Fercho, our Vice President, to assume
9 the station.

10 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
11 CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: She's putting her shoes on.

12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: President
13 Pilar will now give her report.

14
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REPORT

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I have to regain
17 my composure.

18 Having served as your Department President for
19 the year 2010-2011 has been one of the most trying but
20 memorable experiences in my 27 years of membership with
21 the American Legion. It all starts with the lovely
22 installation in Fresno, with the presence and
23 participation of my whole family, including my
24 grandsons, in the whole event. It has been a great year
25 filled with eventful, challenging travels and
26 happenings.

27 Attending the Girls State Conference right
28 after installation was so exciting. It is amazing to
29 witness how energized and smart our Girls State
30 delegates were. After all, they are the chosen ones.
31 They were all receptive to every item in the agenda,
32 where they participated with willingness and enthusiasm.
33 The committee members were well equipped with the proper
34 tools in the implementation of the program.

35 June 28th, 2010, drove to Forest Home and had
36 a satisfactory tour of the facility as a new site for
37 the Junior Conference, then drove back to Claremont to
38 join the Girls State Conference for the rest of the
39 session.

40 August 2010, off to Yountville to participate
41 in the 80th annual picnic at the veterans home. It was
42 a great time to spend with our veterans, with all the
43 good food, western music, line dancing, and friendly
44 smiles from everyone.

45 August 27th, 2010, off to Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
46 for the National Convention, attended daily convention
47 session, hosted a Legion family cocktail party, attended
48 the banquet, joined in the parade, and back home to rest
49 in preparation for another long journey.

50 September was the busiest month for this

1 conductor. The training session and workshops were well
2 attended. Program orientations were conducted by
3 appointed Past Department Presidents and the
4 Secretary/Treasurer as instructors, disseminating
5 valuable information in each session to produce
6 better-informed members and building up a stronger
7 organization.

8 Immediately after the Clovis workshop on the
9 same day drove off to Long Beach to start the extensive
10 month tour of a total of 19 facilities, which include
11 eleven VAMCs, six vet homes, two OPC's, Fisher Houses,
12 and USOs throughout the State of California. The
13 experience was most rewarding and will never be
14 forgotten, in spite of all the challenges of traffic
15 congestions and weather conditions you have to contend
16 with during all those travels.

17 It is so heartwarming to actually see the ideal
18 love and care our veterans receive from our hospital
19 representatives, deputies, and volunteers from our
20 organization who are always working on various projects
21 to benefit our veterans. Having participated in
22 a Stand Down is a great experience for me and would be
23 willing to be part of it again.

24 As other -- as other Presidents before me had
25 the pleasure of welcoming visiting National Presidents,
26 it was a great honor for me to welcome the visit of our
27 National President Carlene Ashworth, joining her in the
28 R2R and other memorable events. She is a great National
29 President.

30 It was equally a great honor and pride to be
31 able to participate in National Commander Jimmy Foster's
32 visitation, both in the northern and southern part of
33 our great state of California.

34 Continuing my October itinerary, flew to
35 Indianapolis to join Doris for the Presidents and
36 Secretaries Conference. Met several friendly ladies
37 from other departments who are very dedicated
38 unconditionally to serve our organization. It was
39 a four-day session of learning and sharing.

40 After returning from the conference, had to
41 deal with challenging lengthy negotiations regarding
42 convention location choices. With the patience of our
43 convention chairman and the committee, a final decision
44 was achieved, and we are now conducting our convention
45 at this beautiful location.

46 In between my district visitations, I was able
47 to attend two of the three leadership workshops
48 conducted by our Leadership Committee Chairman,
49 Linda Fercho. They were all productive and informative
50 workshops.

1 We had a very exciting and fun-filled DEC
2 meeting in Santa Clara, where we had a parade of
3 characters wearing musical symbols on their attires
4 portraying the theme of M.U.S.I.C. The meeting was very
5 productive, with information on various programs given
6 out by respective department chairmen. We had the
7 pleasure of welcoming our Western Division National
8 Vice President Darlene McLaughlin at this event.

9 I want to take this opportunity to thank all of
10 you from the bottom of my heart who have patiently
11 supported me all the way during my term. My advisory
12 committee, headed by Ruby Kapsalis -- headed by
13 Ruby Kapsalis, had patiently guided and mentored me and
14 always there behind me in every endeavor I tried to
15 achieve. All the Past Department Presidents had helped
16 me in so many ways, most especially Diane DeLashmit.
17 Doris deserves all the kudos and appreciation for all
18 the good work and help she has done for our department,
19 and she will surely be missed by all of us after she
20 leaves. Linda Workman, our Distinguished Guest
21 Chairman, was exceptional with her job. Worthy of
22 mention, I also wish to thank my personal pages for
23 their assistance.

24 Likewise, I am extending my gratitude and
25 appreciation to the whole Legion family for the
26 unselfish support and generous donations to my special
27 project. With harmonious teamwork, we can make
28 a difference in the enhancement of the lives of our
29 wounded warriors, the OEF/OIF and TBI veterans and their
30 families. And I want to let you know that the special
31 project goal, my goal of \$15,000, is more than doubled
32 now, and I want to thank you for it.

33 (Applause.)

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All my official
35 visitations of our 29 districts -- all of them have been
36 completed. All the districts have been completed. The
37 experience will be remembered and cherished forever.

38 I wish to express my most sincere gratitude and
39 appreciation to all the districts and units for the
40 graciousness, hospitality, generosity, courtesies, and
41 special friendship. I did not mind the ordeals I had to
42 deal with in some of the trips -- the challenges of
43 nasty weather, fright of being up in the sky for my
44 countless flights, and the blinding fog while driving --
45 because behind all those are the smiling faces, warm
46 hearts, special friendship, good food, and above all the
47 generous donations for my special project awaiting my
48 arrival.

49 All those memorable experiences will be added
50 to the history of my service as President of the

1 American Legion Auxiliary, Department of California,
2 inspired by my theme, M.U.S.I.C., and the motto:
3 Membership United in Service, Ideals, and Commitment.
4 Thank you very much.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Linda.
7 I hope I can see. I don't know if it is time
8 to go to the Legion. We will just keep going.
9 We will now hear from our Chaplain
10 Sylvia Alcantar.

11
12 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN REPORT
13 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Madam President,
14 the Convention Committee of Chaplains met on
15 June 23rd, 2011, in Room 107A, the Ontario Convention
16 Center, Ontario, California. The meeting was called to
17 order by this chairman at 10:10 a.m.
18 The statistical report of this chairman appears
19 on Page 13 of the Book of Reports.
20 Tamara Duran was appointed Secretary.
21 Judith Forest offered prayer.
22 We appointed a Sergeant-at-Arms who led in the
23 Pledge of Allegiance.
24 A total of 22 districts answered roll call.
25 The committee agreed on the following report.
26 The department code was read and there was no
27 changes.
28 There was no resolutions and no
29 recommendations.
30 Presentations and citations and awards were
31 presented by this chairman, a memorial service
32 instructing everyone that once they received their
33 crystals they were to put them on the tree of life.
34 Virginia will be different from everyone else because
35 she is being honored today. It was suggested to have
36 chairs in the back for the Chaplains while they were
37 waiting for the memorial service.
38 The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.
39 Madam President, this concludes my committee
40 report.
41 May I begin my supplemental report?
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
43 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Thank you.
44 Our "Violins" throughout our state of
45 California have joined together with opening and closing
46 prayer at all meetings. Prayers were taken from the
47 National News Magazine, the American Legion Auxiliary
48 Prayer Book, Bibles, personal prayers, passage
49 scriptures, Department Chaplain bulletins, and prayers
50 from the Internet. Units draped their charters, and

1 units and districts held memorial services with their
2 respective posts, invited their local representatives,
3 and one unit held a candlelight service using their
4 local high school ROTC juniors.

5 Units worked together with their Legion family
6 and communities to honor all veterans holidays, helping
7 the homeless veterans with clothing, food, and giving
8 inspirational support.

9 On February the 12th, 2011, I was invited to
10 attend the service for the Four Chaplains Day Interfaith
11 Service, celebrating their 46th anniversary, which was
12 held at the Presidio main Post Chapel. What an
13 experience this was. The settings were so beautiful --
14 peaceful and beautiful, with the veterans cemetery
15 overlooking the Golden Gate Bridge. The ROTC students'
16 presentation of their colors gave everyone a wonderful
17 feeling, and we're very proud to see these young
18 students taking pride in America.

19 Memorial contributions came from the units and
20 communities to this worthy fund. Much support to our
21 Loving Tribute, the Chapel of Four Chaplains, and other
22 local Ronald McDonald, breast cancer, and to the
23 Military Moms Ministry.

24 This year units used the Internet to send get
25 well wishes, sympathy messages, and special occasion
26 greetings to our members. And some did use our mail.
27 Care packages and cards were mailed to our soldiers in
28 Iraq and Afghanistan to let them know that we are here
29 to support them and their families.

30 Units participated in the Heroes to Hometown
31 welcome home celebrations, Make A Difference Day,
32 Healing Fields, and received great community support.

33 Madam President, may I announce the first place
34 winners of the district supplemental and the winner of
35 the Chaplain's Prayer Book?

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

37 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: And notes were
38 sent to those districts.

39 First place unit supplemental going to
40 District 18, Unit 790, West Covina, Mary Chaba.

41 (Applause.)

42 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Best first place
43 district supplemental went to District 29, Joan Claytor,
44 Chaplain.

45 (Applause.)

46 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: First place
47 prayer book, District 21, Alma Jarquin.

48 (Applause.)

49 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Okay. First
50 place unit prayer book, Unit 26, Dolores Ryan.

1 (Applause.)
2 CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYAN: Ashley
3 helped to put it together.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Madam President,
6 thank you for this great opportunity this year in
7 serving as your spiritual leader. We "Violins" have
8 taken pride in serving our members with prayers and
9 music from the north to the south of our state with lots
10 of compassion for each other and for our veterans and
11 their families. We are the power of one.
12 Thank you, Madam President.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome,
14 and thank you.
15 (Applause.)
16 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: May I approach
17 your station?
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
19 (Music played.)
20 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: There are four
21 of these books.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: 800 prayers and
24 four books.
25 We will skip opening presents to save time, if
26 you don't mind.
27 Thank you very much.
28 Now we will hear from our very knowledgeable
29 Parliamentarian, Diane DeLashmit.
30 (Music played.)
31
32 PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT
33 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT:
34 Madam President, I was sent this story by
35 e-mail, and as I considered it, I found many
36 similarities to our organization.
37 The story of the eagle. The eagle has the
38 longest life span among birds. It can live up to
39 70 years, but to reach this age, the eagle must make
40 a hard decision. In its 40s its long and flexible
41 talons can no longer grab prey which serves as food.
42 Its long and sharp beak becomes bent. Its old-aged and
43 heavy wings, due to their thick feathers, become stuck
44 to its chest and make it difficult to fly. The eagle is
45 left with only two options, die or go through a painful
46 process of change, which lasts for 150 days.
47 The process requires that the eagle fly to
48 a mountaintop and sit on its nest. There the eagle
49 knocks its beak against a rock until it plucks it out.
50 After plucking it out, the eagle will wait for a new

1 beak to grow, and then it will pluck out its talons.
2 When its new talons grow back, the eagle starts plucking
3 out its old-aged feathers. And after five months the
4 eagle takes its famous flight of rebirth and lives for
5 30 more years.

6 Many times, in order to survive, we have to
7 start a change process. We sometimes need to get rid of
8 some old memories, habits, and other past traditions on
9 all levels of our organization. Not all, just some,
10 and, yes. It may be painful. Only freed from past
11 burdens can we take advantage of the present. Our lives
12 are not determined by what happens to us but how we
13 react to what happens; not by what life brings to us,
14 but by the attitude we bring to life. A positive
15 attitude causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts,
16 events, and outcomes. It is a catalyst, a spark that
17 creates extraordinary results. When it rains, most
18 birds head for shelter; the eagle is the only bird that,
19 in order to avoid the rain, starts flying above the
20 clouds.

21 After 91 years as an organization there have
22 been many changes. It is time again to face some
23 challenges and make some hard and, perhaps, painful
24 decisions. We may need to release some of our burdens
25 and simplify some of our processes, and it may take some
26 time. I was told when I first joined this organization
27 that we were never intended to last, as World War I was
28 the war to end all wars, and eventually there would be
29 no eligibility to join; so we would die out.
30 Unfortunately, the wars have continued, and it seems as
31 though we are here to stay for a very long time.

32 In saying that, we have to adapt to changes in
33 our society. We need to keep our core values. We may
34 need to reevaluate our thinking on the things that
35 really matter. We will still have rules and regulations
36 to follow, but perhaps we need to modify some of them.
37 When we have conflicts, we need to be respectful of each
38 other. We need to step back and see what is in the best
39 interest of our organization so that when it rains, we
40 too will be like the eagle and fly above the clouds.

41 Madam President, this concludes my report.

42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
44 much. Thank you for the nice analogy. It was great.

45 We'll hear from our musician, Janet.

46 Do you have a report?

47 (Music played.)

48

49 MUSICIAN REPORT

50 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Take out your

1 music. I took 200 sheets out yesterday and passed out
2 another 200 today. Please share if you did not get one.
3 This is Madam Pilar's song.
4 Do we have enough songs? We can always play it
5 later. I passed out enough sheets yesterday, and
6 I passed out enough today.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Whatever
8 you do.
9 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Ladies, my report
10 is I would like to thank every single one of you for
11 your musical outburst today and support for the
12 programs. You ladies absolutely rock. I am so ashamed
13 that I did not do more as a musician in getting in
14 contact with you and making sure that you had programs
15 in place. We had some really great songstresses that
16 turned in some music.
17 I truly, truly thank you from the bottom of my
18 heart for the music and the wonderful prayers that were
19 passed on to me and my family.
20 Thank you very much.
21 "Battle Hymn of the Republic," please.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please rise and
23 stretch.
24 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: There's only one
25 song there.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Keep stretching.
27 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Yeah. Keep
28 stretching.
29 (Singing, "I'm proud to be a member of ALA
30 Auxiliary" song:
31 I'm proud to be a member of this great
32 auxiliary.
33 It has taught me how to love and care for
34 those in misery.
35 Let us strive to make our goals and dreams
36 become reality.
37 Hail this Auxiliary.
38 Glory, glory to our members.
39 Glory, glory to our leaders.
40 Glory to the worthy programs
41 Of this Auxiliary.)
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Janet.
43 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Personal point of
44 privilege, Madam President. It's not wrapped; so you
45 don't have to open it.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thanks
47 so much.
48 All right. We have our Rosemary.
49 Is Rosemary here?
50 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She is coming.

1 (Music played.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Sergeant-at-Arms
3 and Marshal, please come closer because you will be
4 reporting next. You will have to walk to the front and
5 just be ready for your report.

6 (Music played.)

7

8 HISTORIAN REPORT

9 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: I was just getting
10 into it.

11 Good morning, everyone.

12 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.

13 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Our convention
14 committee meeting report, it was held in Room 100B. Our
15 secretary was Karen Munich, Unit 534, District 16.

16 Our Chaplain was Diane Connelly, Unit 222,
17 District 29.

18 Our Sergeant-at-Arms was Debra Troxel,
19 Unit 763, District 21.

20 The historical -- Historian Code was read.

21 Recommendation to add to Code Number 6. I gave
22 copies to everybody. I'm not going to read the whole
23 Code, just what we're going to add. It got a little
24 confusing this year, and I really thank everybody who
25 called me to ask about the rules of the history book and
26 the picture book. And that's the major thing we need to
27 communicate. And, sadly to say, because of lack of
28 communication or questions, we had to disqualify some of
29 the history books because they got a little confusing;
30 so I approached our committee with this, and they came
31 up with some great ideas. And we just want to not
32 change the Code, but we want to clarify it, to make it
33 simpler about the rules; so we are just adding to the
34 code. It is Number 6.

35 Okay. So we are not changing anything. This
36 is a recommendation from the committee. We are going to
37 add A and B, two new rules, and then we are going to
38 bring the present A and B down to C and D just to
39 clarify to the units and districts about the rules and
40 when to turn in the books, and so for next year it will
41 be a little clearer to most of you that are there
42 because some of the books are great. They are just
43 fabulous. And, sadly to say, we had to disqualify some
44 of the history books with the picture books, and it got
45 a little confusing. And, unfortunately, they didn't
46 call me or -- I tried to put the rules on the Website,
47 you know; so we need to communicate a little better this
48 year.

49 So here are the new additions. We hope this
50 makes it clear.

1 A. All written history books and picture book
2 entries should be submitted to the District Historian
3 for judging no later than June 1st before department
4 convention.

5 In other words, do not bring your book to
6 convention. Give it to your district chairman to bring
7 it. They've got to judge at the district level first.

8 Second, all written history books and picture
9 books that are the first place winners at district level
10 should be brought to convention by the District
11 Historian or a representative for the judging by the
12 Department Historian and her committee.

13 And then it goes on to explain the other
14 present codes, which goes on to tell you that there is
15 a tally sheet, and it will be judged on that basis; so
16 I hope this makes this a little bit more clear.

17 And I would like to move that we accept that
18 addition to the code.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Rosemary, please
20 do read one at a time because we have to vote on it and
21 put it on a motion.

22 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: But one by one,
24 and read it again.

25 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Make a motion.

27 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: So do I make
28 a motion?

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.

30 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: I move that we
31 accept this code -- okay.

32 I move that we accept this Code A, and I'll
33 read it all again.

34 All written history books and picture book
35 entries should be submitted to the District Historian
36 for judging no later than June 1st before department
37 convention.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is there a second?

39 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
41 moved and seconded that we accept this all within the
42 first motion, all written history books and picture
43 books have to be submitted to the District Historian for
44 judging no later than June 1st, before department
45 convention.

46 Any discussion?

47 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: 28.

48 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Yes.

49 Michelle Soares, District 28.

50 How is this going to affect your national

1 guidelines for reporting? Because I know, as district
2 chairman -- or department chairman, we have to have our
3 reports in by June 1st; so if you are delaying the
4 written history -- the written histories to the district
5 chairman by June 1st, what do you plan to do about that?

6 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Well, actually,
7 when National sends us to give a report, we need -- we
8 have the district send in a supplemental report to send
9 off; so we don't send the history books to National.

10 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Right.

11 But your -- your supplementals and the
12 district -- the district supplementals are based on the
13 written history supplementals that are turned in by the
14 units; so if that is all delayed by two weeks, or
15 whatever it is until June 1st, your district chairman
16 will not have a written supplemental ready.

17 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: No. The district
18 supplemental comes with an end-of-the-year report, which
19 is in April.

20 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Exactly. But
21 those are based on the written history supplementals
22 that are turned in by the units.

23 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. We are
24 talking about the book itself because you are going to
25 put -- if you send in the report of your history, not
26 the book -- you send in a report -- unit report to your
27 district, and then the district sends it in to
28 department. But it is not the book itself. I'm talking
29 about the book for judging.

30 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Right. But --
31 but in most cases the book and the supplemental are one
32 in the same, I think.

33 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: No. It is
34 different. The book is, like, when make up a book with
35 a hard cover --

36 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: I'm not
37 talking about a picture book. I'm talking about the
38 written histories.

39 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. Well,
40 this -- this is -- I'm talking about the book itself --
41 I mean the history book.

42 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Are we talking
43 about a written history book or a picture book?

44 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: We have two
45 different ones. We have a picture book and a history
46 book.

47 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Okay. And
48 which one --

49 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: I'm talking about
50 the report itself you send in to National. You send

1 that in earlier, but the book itself that you put on
2 display is way different. This is where you have the
3 actual book. You have a picture in there. You have
4 a --
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excuse me. You
6 can ask only one question at a time.
7 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
8 KAPSALIS: If the deadline -- if you sent your report to
9 National by June 1st, then your change will prevent you
10 from meeting the deadline for the national report.
11 Picture book -- you don't send a picture book to
12 National. You do not send your written history to
13 National.
14 Okay. So -- and this change will not prevent
15 you from making that deadline.
16 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Because the report
17 that you give to the Department Historian is sent in
18 earlier, but that is not the book itself. The book is
19 the one that you bring for display and which will
20 include your report, but there has to be more to it.
21 You know, you put it in a book, you put pictures, and
22 then the whole to be judged.
23 But the report that I need to send on to
24 National from your districts does need to be sent in
25 earlier, and it does have a deadline.
26 Is that too confusing? Should I say a history
27 book to be judged, not the report itself? There is two
28 different things there.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing
30 Diane DeLashmit.
31 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT:
32 Madam President, Diane DeLashmit, Parliamentarian.
33 I have a question as to what the purpose of
34 this code change is. It doesn't seem to me -- this is
35 just an observation -- that we have a great deal of
36 books here to be judged, and if they are now going to be
37 judged by the District President -- District Historians,
38 it seems like we will have fewer because it sounds like
39 they are only sending in one book per district. I'm not
40 sure this is really necessary, and it probably will be
41 fewer and fewer things for us to actually look and
42 judge. I think if we had, you know, all 270 or
43 280 units doing that, that would present a problem, but
44 I don't think that is the case.
45 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: It is actually
46 clarifying what is in the Code already, where it goes
47 down to -- right away it goes down to A. We are trying
48 to clarify this. Present A already says it.
49 It says:
50 Unit and Junior Historians entered into

1 competition shall forward their entries to the
2 District Historian for judging. The District
3 Historian shall select three Auxiliary members
4 as judges. Not more than two judges shall be
5 from the same unit.
6 So forth and so forth.
7 Judges on district and department level
8 shall be provided with individual scoring sheets
9 for each entry. Scores will be recorded for
10 each category by the judges, signed, and given
11 to the District Department Historian, who will
12 transfer the scores to the tally sheets and
13 compute the averages.
14 Okay. This is confusing. That's why we are
15 trying to clarify it. It was already in the code that
16 they were to compete on a district level and that -- we
17 are asking you -- you can still bring your books here
18 for -- to display, but, as far as judging, they need to
19 judge -- it took us, I think, about almost an hour and
20 a half yesterday to judge those books, and we should
21 have had at least a tally sheet from the districts to do
22 it.
23 And the whole thing is, too, you want to
24 clarify it that we want one book from each district
25 because sometimes you get a lot and sometimes you don't
26 get enough; so that's the whole thing. So we are just
27 trying to clarify this code that is all right in there.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Recognizing
29 the microphone.
30 28TH DISTRICT HISTORIAN SOARES: My name is
31 Michelle Soares from District 28, Unit 694. I was the
32 Historian this year.
33 I'm telling you that was a lot of work for me.
34 I did -- with the written history and the picture
35 history book, I was there. You have to be there for
36 everything that is going on. With postage as it is
37 today, you are going to get fewer and fewer.
38 Have you seen some of those books over there?
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
40 28TH DISTRICT HISTORIAN SOARES: It must weigh
41 30 pounds. I don't think it is necessary. I'm not sure
42 it wasn't necessary to bring it here.
43 I'm also the Poppy Chairman. It would be crazy
44 for us to send our poppy displays to our district to
45 be -- you know, to be judged and then them bring it over
46 here. It seems like we are doing double -- everything
47 is double. We have to do a report, and then we have to
48 bring our books here. It just seems like the way we did
49 it this time, it might take a little longer to judge the
50 books.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Uh-huh.
2 28TH DISTRICT HISTORIAN SOARES: But, actually,
3 I believe it is easier for the units to bring them here
4 to be done.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Question.
7 Those of --
8 Oh, you have one more question, Norma?
9 Recognizing Norma.
10 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL:
11 Norma DuVall, NEC chairman -- NEC Chairwoman.
12 I think that we just need clarification here
13 because the code already states it is to be judged on
14 a district level. What Rosemary is saying what the
15 committee is doing is to clarify that you need to do it
16 first on the unit, to the district, then the district
17 sends to the department. They are not changing any part
18 of the code that is already there that said it was
19 supposed to be on a district level; so those that
20 came straight to convention, number one, were
21 automatically -- my understanding were automatically
22 disqualified because they did not go through the proper
23 process to begin with.
24 So what the motion is on the floor is to accept
25 that the change clarifies something. It doesn't change
26 it being from the unit level straight to department; so
27 there is two different issues going on on the floor in
28 discussion.
29 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Yes. Because then
30 we have to change the whole code that is presently
31 there.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Ruby.
33 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
34 KAPSALIS: Madam Department President, Ruby Kapsalis,
35 District 28.
36 My understanding is we are adding the deadline
37 of June 1st to the Code. Is that not correct? We are
38 making a change to the Code?
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing my
40 cousin, C.J. -- District 19, C.J. Reyes, Pilar's cousin.
41 MS. REYES: What I'm hearing is that what we
42 should possibly do is eliminate Code 6 and no longer
43 make it mandatory that the district judge the picture.
44 (Applause.)
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Okay.
46 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SOARES: Amen.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So what we
48 could --
49 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: So there is a
50 motion on the floor right now; so if we want to vote

1 on -- well, we need to change it, amend the motion,
2 don't we? Or just vote on this one first, and if it is
3 declined, then vote on -- to eliminate Number 6 totally;
4 right?
5 Okay. So there is a motion on the floor, and
6 it was seconded.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. You heard
8 the motion, and we are going to vote on it. And it was
9 clarified, lots of discussion; so we go through the
10 question.
11 Those in favor of the motion say aye.
12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed.
14 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: No.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So the motion is
16 defeated.
17 And I see that B is different from A; so if we
18 can read that again.
19 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. Okay.
20 Well, B would go along with A; so B is going to be:
21 All written history books and picture books
22 that are the first place winners at district level
23 should be brought to convention by District Historians
24 or a representative for judging by the Department
25 Historian and her committee.
26 So if you eliminate A, you are probably going
27 to eliminate B, so....
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So you have to
29 make a motion to receive.
30 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Well, I don't see
31 the point of making a motion, so....
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. So she
33 withdraws the second.
34 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. Okay. So
35 should we --
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Rosemary, I was
37 advised by the Parliamentarian that you have to go back
38 to the committee and get a consensus of the committee
39 and -- but A is defeated already.
40 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay?
42 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: So everybody who
43 was in my committee room when -- when was that? --
44 Thursday? If we could meet.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You can meet in
46 my -- there.
47 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: We can meet now?
48 Okay. Anybody that was in my committee room --
49 now, can we meet on the other side of this curtain for
50 a few minutes? I don't think it will probably take too

1 long.
2 So you all remember who you were? Should
3 I come back and finish what I have or --
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Proceed to
5 your awards.
6 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. So we'll
7 meet after this.
8 Okay. Okay. Madam President, thank you for
9 this appointment. Even though I was not able to travel
10 with you everywhere, I was able to be there with all the
11 great pictures I received from the units and the
12 districts you visited.
13 Thank you all so much for the pictures you sent
14 in. Thanks to all the units who sent in pictures. With
15 these photos, I helped make Madam President a nice
16 history book for her year.
17 Madam President, could I please go on with my
18 awards?
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.
20 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. I sent out
21 a letter and a little note.
22 Okay. And I did not judge these, by the way.
23 I had three people from different districts judge these,
24 and like I said, it took us about an hour and a half.
25 So the first place unit supplemental is
26 Janice Spriggs from Unit 291.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. First
29 place district supplemental is Diane Connelly from
30 District 29.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. History
33 book, first place -- the second and third place
34 I already notified today.
35 So first place winner, Eleanor Bray from
36 Unit 694, District 28.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. First place
39 picture for -- the first place winner for the picture
40 book is Shirley Reeves from Unit 132, District 22.
41 (Applause.)
42 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Madam President,
43 that concludes -- well, not my report. Madam President,
44 that concludes my awards given.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
46 much.
47 May I request the Girls State Chairman and
48 Girls State Director to come to the stage, and our --
49 you would be next to report after Sergeant-at-Arms and
50 Marshal.

1 (Music played.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: If you are going
3 out, just go around there. Don't go through the
4 curtains.

5
6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS AND MARSHAL REPORT
7 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: As your
8 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, our duty consists of
9 putting up meeting halls, promoting flag etiquette,
10 present your colors, escort your officers and guests.
11 And could you believe it was actually okay to pass notes
12 in class? My kind of job.

13 As you could see, this was a very busy job.
14 Due to the nature of the tasks, most preparation is done
15 behind the scenes, and, if done properly, in
16 a coordinated manner, it shows as a smooth running
17 meeting or event.

18 In closing I would like to read The American's
19 Creed. A copy of it is in the flag etiquette brochure
20 available from emblem sales.

21 The American's Creed written by William Tyler
22 Page, 1917:

23 I believe in the United States of America
24 as a government of the people, by the people,
25 for the people; whose just powers are derived
26 from the consent of the governed, a democracy in
27 a republic, a sovereign nation of many sovereign
28 states; a perfect union, one and inseparable;
29 established upon those principles of freedom,
30 equality, justice, and humanity for which
31 American patriots sacrificed their lives and
32 fortunes.

33 I therefore believe it is my duty to my
34 country to love it, to support its Constitution,
35 to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to
36 defended it against all enemies.

37 This was accepted by the United States House of
38 Representatives on April 3rd, 1918.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

40 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: This
41 concludes our report.

42 May we are approach your station?

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Thanks
46 a lot, Sherry and Zana.

47 (Music played.)

48
49 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR REPORT
50 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR SCHNEIDER: Madam

1 Department President and delegates to this convention,
2 as a slightly overwhelmed 16 year old attending
3 Girls State in 1986, I could never have imagined that
4 one day I would be standing before you today as
5 a Girls State director of this outstanding leadership
6 program. Girls State is a program that has inspired and
7 changed the course of so many young women's lives. It
8 is because of the dedication of the members sitting in
9 this room, as well as the thousands of members
10 throughout the state, that thousands of young women have
11 been able to participate in this program for the past
12 70 years.

13 Girls State this year will again be held on the
14 campus of Claremont McKenna College. The dates for
15 session are Sunday, June 26th, through Saturday,
16 July 2nd. Somewhere out there Girls State delegates
17 from across the state are packing and preparing
18 themselves for the week of a lifetime. As 474 young
19 women start arriving at Claremont McKenna College Sunday
20 afternoon, the 67th session of California Girls State
21 will begin in Claremont, California. These young women
22 from around the state will converge and take over the
23 Claremont McKenna campus as they work together for
24 a week to build a society where camaraderie and
25 compromise are actually a part of politics.

26 This year, since department convention is being
27 held immediately prior to Girls State at a site
28 relatively close to the campus, we introduced an ALA
29 appreciation day at Girls State. On Monday, June 27th,
30 we invited unit members who work with the Girls State
31 program in their own units and/or districts but have
32 never had the chance to actually participate in the week
33 of Girls State to come and experience the program
34 firsthand.

35 In these tough economic times the Girls State
36 program faces the challenge of trying to maintain the
37 quality of this program while minimizing cost to ensure
38 its longevity. This has been our second year with an
39 online registration process, as well as electronic
40 mailing of the packet. As we continue to move forward
41 with this electronic process, we are working hard to
42 make sure that units that have limited computer skills
43 are not left out of the program. We need all units to
44 help us next year by encouraging the delegates and
45 alternates they select to go to the Website and fill out
46 their application online. Since the delegate packets
47 are distributed through e-mail, it is important to have
48 accurate legible information on the application forms.
49 By filling out the forms online, we can minimize the
50 errors that occur when we try to decipher the

1 handwriting of over 500 teenagers.

2 In a couple of weeks make sure you contact your
3 Girls State citizens and invite them to a unit function
4 so they can share with you, all the unit members, their
5 experiences from the amazing week they are about to
6 embark on.

7 Thank you for your time and attention.

8 That concludes my report.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
10 much.

11 (Applause.)

12

13 GIRLS STATE COMMITTEE REPORT

14 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: Girls State
15 Committee was held on June 23rd in Room 100B at the
16 Ontario Convention Center.

17 Gloria Jean Sinopoli was appointed secretary.

18 Arlene Barton offered prayer.

19 And Lucy Rocha was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

20 A total of 24 district delegates answered roll
21 call. There were nine visitors.

22 We removed Code 6 and renumbered. Number 6
23 currently reads:

24 A fee of \$200 -- sorry.

25 A fee of \$2 per Girls State citizen shall be
26 transferred by the department office to the general
27 fund. This administrative expense rendered by the
28 department office for the program shall be paid from the
29 established fund when authorized by the Department
30 Secretary/Treasurer upon prior notification of the
31 director.

32 I move we remove that from the Code.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is there a second?

34 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Seconded.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It is seconded.

36 It has been moved and seconded that candidates
37 and that members --

38 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not that one.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, Number 6.

40 Remove Number 6. I don't have the Code.

41 Okay. It has been moved and seconded we remove
42 Number 6, a fee of \$2 per Girls State citizen shall be
43 transferred by the department office to the general
44 fund. This administrative expense rendered by the
45 department office for the programs have been paid from
46 the established fund when authorized by the Department
47 Secretary/Treasurer and upon final notification of the
48 director.

49 And so any discussion?

50 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT REYES: No discussion.
2 Those in favor to remove this code say aye.
3 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?
5 (No response.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Carried.
7 You may proceed.
8 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: In committee we
9 voted to change Code 16. It currently reads:
10 Under no circumstances had or have any marital
11 status, respectively the importance of the parental
12 role, no candidate delegate who is pregnant or a parent
13 herself will be considered.
14 The committee voted to change it to read:
15 Candidates and delegates who are married,
16 pregnant, or have children shall not be considered
17 because family needs would naturally be a priority over
18 attending the conference. As a result, the conference
19 would likely not be completed or would be disrupted, and
20 the resources and benefits of the conference would be
21 wasted when other students could have attended.
22 I so move to change.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is there a second?
24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
26 moved and seconded that candidates that are married or
27 pregnant or have children shall not be considered
28 because family needs would naturally be a priority over
29 attending the conference. As a result, the conference
30 would likely not be completed or would be disrupted, and
31 the resources and benefits of the conference would be
32 wasted when others could have attended.
33 This is the change presented.
34 So any discussion?
35 (No response.)
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No discussion.
37 We go to the question. All in favor say aye.
38 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
40 (No response.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It carries.
42 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: Good morning,
43 Madam President, Past Department Presidents, and fellow
44 Auxiliary members.
45 Girls State is the most wonderful program for
46 young ladies in California. Can you imagine an
47 intensive, week-long camp that changes a woman's life
48 forever? I did not believe that could ever happen until
49 the year of 2000, my first year as a grandma at Girls
50 State. Like most of you, I have worked Girls State

1 programs from my unit in Roseville for years. Long
2 before my first year, you had to be invited to work at
3 Girls State session. It was a well-kept secret. I was
4 so excited when I got invited to Girls State session.
5 Even my dad was excited for me. He knew about the
6 secret.

7 What makes Girls State awesome are you ladies
8 working and supporting the program like you do in your
9 units. I thank you. The supplemental reports proved
10 a lot of caring and work goes on at the unit level.
11 District Chairmen worked just as hard to have the
12 orientation gatherings to be successful.

13 Adding new schools was not a big deal this
14 year. We only had five new schools. However, recycled
15 schools that might have given the unit a hard time or no
16 support to Girls State in the past were dropped. Those
17 schools were the ones that got to come back. A new
18 principal was in town or a new counselor or a pushy
19 parent wanted Girls State back in their school and got
20 the unit to take them back. We even had five units that
21 had stopped sending girls to Girls State come back this
22 year.

23 In total we had 29 districts participate with
24 100 percent reporting.

25 118 units participated.

26 480 delegates going to Girls State in 2011.

27 Unit 161, District 9, sent the most delegates,
28 12.

29 Districts 19 and 29 sent 38 delegates each.
30 (Applause.)

31 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: The
32 supplemental reports, I had nine districts report. The
33 second place was already awarded in committee.

34 The first place goes -- for district goes to
35 District 25, Chairman Sylvia Alcantar.

36 (Applause.)

37 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: Second place,
38 that was awarded in committee, was District 24.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Go to the next
40 item. You don't have to read the second.

41 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: Okay. Unit
42 supplemental report, first place, goes to Unit 291,
43 District 29, Chairman Cynthia Culp.

44 (Applause.)

45 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN MCGINNIS: Girls State
46 did have some challenges this year. With the state
47 cutbacks, some schools are closing in May to save money.
48 This minor change means it is more important that the
49 unit chairman be sure to get the copies of the
50 delegates' and the alternates' medical forms that are on

1 file with the school. If you do not and the delegate
2 cannot go at the last minute -- there were some changes
3 this week already -- the alternate now has to go out and
4 pay for a doctor to sign our medical forms stating she
5 is healthy. Please make sure you know when your schools
6 are closing for the school year.

7 It is time to plant a victory garden. Here is
8 my seed for you to think about. If your unit decides to
9 support a couple schools and turn in reservations, yet
10 when you go to interview the girls are not up to your
11 standards, you decide not to send anyone at all, you
12 have already earned the money for Girls State fees, can
13 you consider sending in a healthy donation to the Girls
14 State General Fund? This simple act of kindness would
15 help Girls State stay in the black. We had several
16 units that sent in an extra donation to the Girls State
17 Fund, and I thank you.

18 We could not have Girls State session if we did
19 not have City Moms there to wipe the tears and pass out
20 hugs when needed. The City Mom team is the best.
21 I have been very lucky to work with these ladies. Only
22 one City Mom has no e-mail because she is so far north
23 in the state that there is no Internet service. We have
24 a great nurse that is active with the girls. I am sure
25 she is checking on those girls that have come to see her
26 every time she goes to the auditorium. We would not
27 have a happy nurse if we did not have a happy nurse's
28 helper.

29 I am personally grateful for Diane DeLashmit to
30 be the helper, or I know Sherry would make me help the
31 nurse. I do not do blood.

32 We could not have a Girls State store unless
33 Esther came with her helpers. It takes three City Moms
34 to get the girls out of the airport, two City Moms to
35 carry the flags, and one City Mom to organize the
36 official city pictures. I do not know how many
37 City Moms make things at home for the girls. We even
38 have a City Mom from the local area to run errands. You
39 never know what you are going to need at Girls State.

40 One City Mom runs the copy machine every day,
41 all day. These are only a few of the jobs at
42 Girls State that help make it successful for the
43 Auxiliary and the delegates and the attendees. We even
44 give a job to the Department President telling about the
45 American Legion Auxiliary to all the girls. There are
46 girls that really do want to know what organization has
47 given them a week that changed their lives.

48 I have the greatest committee working with me
49 this year. The three-year member is Bobbie Estes. The
50 two-year member is Dona Enright. The one-year member is

1 Gloria Sinopoli. The nurse is Kat Conrad. President
2 Alternate, Judy Tabacci. Vice President Alternate,
3 Jerry Adams. Advisor, Madeline Lee. Director, Sherry
4 Schneider. Assistant Director, Mary Martin.

5 And we had the privilege of electing the
6 Division Girls State Chairman Diane DeLashmit.

7 Thank you, Madam President, for allowing me to
8 be a part of your team.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome.
10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And thank you.

12 I will be joining you at Girls State; so
13 I don't know what they have in store for me to do.

14 We will hear from your Convention Committee
15 Norma Duvall, Chairman, Cochairman Diane DeLashmit.

16 (Music played.)
17

18 CONVENTION REPORT

19 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Good morning,
20 Madam Department President.

21 The Convention Committee is a unique one this
22 year, being comprised of the 18th and the 25th District.
23 A total of 34 or 35 units are involved. And I thank
24 them very, very much for all of the work that they have
25 done in it. It really has made my job much easier.

26 I would like to introduce my Cochairman, Diane
27 DeLashmit. She is the coordinator or has coordinated
28 pretty much for the 25th District.

29 There are way too many unit members that have
30 been working on the committee to introduce everyone, but
31 we do want to recognize some of the key chairmen; so if
32 you are in the room and can run real fast, come on up
33 and -- in the front of the stage, if you could, please.

34 Ways and Means, Romaine Weber and Dona Enright.
35 The Banquet Chairman, Charlene Grant and Kathy Pipkin.
36 Candidates reception, Judy Tabacci. Committee
37 identifiers, Annette Thomas.

38 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: These
39 are our identifiers. We have kept them real quiet so
40 nobody can find them.

41 (Applause.)

42 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Ways and Means,
43 Judy Tabacci. Committee meeting, Charlene Graham.
44 Department office, Barbara. She is probably still in
45 the department office. Displays and exhibits, Deanne --
46 Dena -- excuse me -- Dena Johnson. And New Bearers,
47 District 25, Denyse Laugeson and Shelley.

48 (Applause.)

49 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: And I also --
50 well, we haven't -- I haven't seen them today, but I saw

1 a lot of them yesterday. But can you also thank
2 Big River, Unit 466, of District 25 for those fans that
3 you were using?

4 (Applause.)

5 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: They are all the
6 way out by Parker, Arizona. They couldn't come to our
7 meetings, but that did not stop them from -- that did
8 not stop them from contributing what they did. I think
9 they made about 800 of those fans.

10 Elections is Laura Bradshaw. And Flags and
11 registration, Ilona Tomas and Donna Maria Norse.
12 Flowers is Deanne Kindle and Joy Paxton. And the --
13 I know I personally want to give a special thank you, as
14 well as the entire committee, to Patty Martinez for all
15 of the banquet centerpieces that she did.

16 (Applause.)

17 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: And a huge, huge
18 thank you to her brother, Jerry Rodriguez, for the
19 gorgeous fresh flower bouquet that you see in front of
20 Department President Pilar.

21 (Applause.)

22 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The halls and
23 seating was Diane DeLashmit, Sonya Thomas. The Pages,
24 Suzanne Gallegos -- hi, Suzie. She was a Junior once
25 too; so she fell right into this, oh, with Nancy.
26 Processional was Suzie and Judy Tabacchi. Publicity,
27 Tanya Tobin and Sonya Thomas. Registration, Denyse
28 Laugeson and Donna Finelli. We had VIP gifts, Elaine
29 Gallagher. And our secretary -- thank you very much --
30 Donna Scott.

31 (Applause.)

32 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: These were the key
33 committee members, but could I ask every single person
34 in the 18th and 25th District that participated as they
35 did to please stand.

36 (Applause.)

37 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Thank you, ladies.
38 Look for this. Find Judy. She will take care
39 of you anyway.

40 Couple of key notes for your information.

41 Madam President said today that we have
42 a restroom over here and one outside. Ladies, we have
43 two. If there are any gentlemen in the room,
44 I apologize. These are women's restrooms. No restrooms
45 for the men on this side.

46 (Applause.)

47 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: I was asked
48 yesterday about food in the convention center. There
49 are three -- I believe three different places. The
50 Press Café, out where the Starbucks Coffee is. They do

1 have sandwiches and some type of snack items.
2 You see the sign here that says Ontario Café
3 and Deli Ontario. The Legion side is open from 11:30 to
4 1:00; so you can grab something to eat in there if you
5 would like. They have sandwiches, doughnuts, hotdogs,
6 pizza. I don't know what the prices are, though.

7 And every day in the north lobby, that
8 direction, they are serving a hot lunch. Today is penne
9 pasta, with soda and water. Tomorrow is a taco bar.
10 Unfortunately, it is \$10 for lunch; so -- but there are
11 choices for you for lunch, and they do have a bar set up
12 for you also.

13 So if you have any other questions, like
14 I said, my committee will help you out.

15 Thank you, ladies.

16 May we approach your station?

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank
19 you very much.

20 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Judy reminded me,
21 there were the flags that were in all of the committee
22 rooms. Those were going to be offered for a donation.
23 To anyone who would like to, see Judy in the back. Just
24 wanted to let you know also those were made by the
25 blind, and the donations that we get for them will be
26 going back to the blind.

27 So thank you for that.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
29 much. Outstanding job. Thank you so much.

30 (Applause.)

31 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: On
32 behalf of the committee, we would like to present that
33 to you.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thanks.

35 Now we would have our Past Presidents Parley
36 Chairman Sue Hooker.

37 (Music played.)

38 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Thank
39 you.

40 I was waiting for my other little --

41 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: I know.

42 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER:

43 -- soul sister song that she played for Madam President.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.

45

46 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY REPORT

47 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: The
48 Past Presidents Parley committee was called to order on
49 Thursday, June 23, 2011, in the Ontario Convention
50 Center, Ontario, California, at 11:00 a.m.

1 The statistical report of the Past Presidents
2 Parley can be found on Page 18 of the Book of Reports.
3 By consent, Norma Nordstrum of District 29 was
4 appointed Secretary.
5 Fran Ramirez of District 15 offered prayer.
6 And Lisa Stuart of District 12 served as
7 Sergeant-at-Arms and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
8 A total of 19 delegates answered roll call, and
9 there were six guests.
10 The committee agreed on the following report.
11 Regarding the 10 percent net poppy
12 distribution, PF44502, the Department Code was read and
13 approved with much discussion. The Code should be
14 drafted and discussed as 18 -- Number 18.
15 Awards and citations for second and third place
16 winners were announced, and a copy of these awards are
17 in all delegates' packages. Another list of these
18 winners is available in the department office here at
19 this convention.
20 With no further business, the meeting was
21 adjourned at 11:45 a.m.
22 Madam President, may I continue with my
23 supplemental report --
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
25 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: -- by
26 the awarding of the first place winners?
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.
28 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: It was
29 very gratifying to this chairman to learn that the
30 Past Presidents Parley program is still very much a part
31 of the majority of units and district in this
32 department. The activities and support that comes from
33 these members is wonderful. There is still 169 unit
34 Past Presidents Parleys, totalling 301 members. The
35 good news is four new ones were formed this year.
36 Mentoring is a large part of what those of us
37 who have been Presidents in the units, districts, and
38 departments should be ready and willing to do, and the
39 reports read from you this year confirms just that.
40 Training and helping new members is something that
41 happens almost without effort. It is hard sometimes to
42 judge just how to do that without sounding all knowing,
43 but the wisdom that comes from years of experience is
44 invaluable; so this is a great talent to have.
45 So much support is given to our veterans and
46 their families. In the past few years, a good deal of
47 attention has been directed to the women veterans and
48 the women in active military. Who better to do this
49 than the American Legion Auxiliary? So many reported
50 paying the first year's dues to welcome these women into

1 their units, having luncheons, teas, and dinners to
2 honor them and their service. Some have been the
3 Grand Marshal in city parades. Others have served on
4 Honor Guard and memorial teams.

5 Gifts of clothing, toiletries, cookies,
6 candies, stamps, and gift cards are given to women
7 veterans in hospitals, nursing homes, and homeless
8 shelters. I know that this support will go on. Sadly,
9 this year there were no nominations in this category.

10 However, the support for the nurses scholarship
11 is still strong. There were 14 applications, and the
12 judging was tough. Although it is easier to apply now
13 since it is available online, that sometimes is
14 a complication as well. Most of my contact before the
15 applications got to me was via e-mail. I was told on
16 more than one occasion that they had contacted a post
17 and the post knew nothing about it; so maybe a little
18 more education in that direction is needed. However, it
19 is good to know there are still intelligent,
20 kindhearted, promising people who want to enter the
21 nursing field, and we should feel very proud to be able
22 to help them do just that. Keep those donations coming.

23 Madam President, at this time I would like to
24 present the first place awards.

25 As of this morning I haven't heard from our
26 scholarship winner, but she is here and I apologize.
27 But the \$2,000 scholarship recipient is Clarissa Ann
28 Higuera, sponsored by Newport Harbor, Unit 291,
29 Mary Carolan, Unit Chairman.

30 (Applause.)

31 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: I sent
32 notes out for people to be here when I gave my report,
33 but -- okay. They are behind me.

34 First place unit supplemental goes to
35 Arlene Barton, Richard O. Reed, 777.

36 (Applause.)

37 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: First
38 place district supplemental goes to Esther Garcia,
39 District 25.

40 (Applause.)

41 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: And
42 now it is my pleasure to present to you the Auxiliary
43 member of the year, Sharon Brouse, sponsored by
44 Richard O. Reed, Unit 777, District 25.

45 (Applause.)

46 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Would
47 the Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort Sharon to
48 this stage?

49 (Processional.)

50 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: We are

1 so proud of all the wonderful things that you do for
2 your unit, your post, and your community.
3 Madam President, will you please ask the
4 Vice President to assume your station to join me here at
5 the podium?
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
7 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: I'd
8 like to give the honor of our President pinning the sash
9 on Sharon.
10 Would you care to say something here?
11 She'll do that. We'll hear more about her in
12 our luncheon.
13 Madam President, this concludes my report.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
15 (Applause.)
16 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Okay.
17 At lunch is fine. I know we are running short on time.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right.
19 I guess we need to prepare for lunch. We will be in
20 recess until -- any communications with my --
21 communications?

22
23 ANNOUNCEMENTS

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
25 Ladies, I'm going to run through this very quickly.
26 Regarding the luncheon today, I was told that
27 District 29 needs one ticket -- District 29 has one
28 ticket. The -- wait a minute. I've got, like, three
29 notes. So somebody has one? Somebody needs one?
30 Okay. Somebody in the 18th District -- Betty
31 still needs a ticket.
32 19th District needs a ticket, Dawn Brown.
33 I have District 22 needing three tickets.
34 District 19 needs one ticket.
35 And then here's the other number from
36 District 29 that says they have an extra one.
37 District 29 has two PPP tickets. This was yesterday
38 I announced it. Basically -- well, she's in
39 District 29.
40 I know that District 19, 22, and another one in
41 District 19 and one in 18 needs tickets; so if you
42 decided not to go to the luncheon, please see
43 District 29 or find someone that might have it in the
44 district. These are the only ones I have been told had
45 any or didn't have any.
46 I also need the identity to the ticketing
47 committee. Was that yesterday? Immediately after
48 discussion behind the black curtain.
49 And there were some dark-colored sunglasses
50 found that were in a peach with yellow flowers case, and

1 they are in the department office at this time.
2 Thank you, Madam President.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
4 Sorry I wasn't able to -- our ancillary member
5 being escorted.
6 Thank you, Linda.
7 Those of you who are making recommendations for
8 an office for 2011-2012, please be on stage when we
9 return from lunch.
10 And we now recess for lunch and reconvene at
11 2:00.
12 (Luncheon recess taken from
13 11:53 a.m. to 2:06 p.m.)
14
15 LUNCHEON RECESS
16
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Everyone please
18 take your seats. It's 2:00, and we are running late.
19 Is Carol here? Where is Carol?
20 I would just like to make an announcement.
21 Carol Breedlove, we know that she is celebrating her
22 50th wedding anniversary today. Let's give her a big,
23 big round of applause. I think she's from District 21.
24 (Applause.)
25 DISTRICT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. I think she
26 is from District 21.
27 All right. Okay. Is everybody here? I want
28 to see everyone seated.
29 And please don't use those curtains to exit.
30 Just take a few more steps to go around because you
31 might just tear those, and then we have to pay for those
32 curtains. Yeah. And I was told and as you know, it's
33 very disrespectful to those people working on the other
34 side and around it.
35 Those who are making nominations, please, you
36 need to be here on the stage. And you don't need to
37 be those who are giving nominations. All right. I
38 think we have less people now than this morning.
39 This convention is reconvened.
40 At this time we will proceed with the
41 nominations of department officers, Junior Member of
42 Finance, and delegates and alternates to the National
43 Convention; and so I have announced already that -- for
44 them to be up here, those making the nominations.
45 While we are in the process of nominations we
46 would like everyone to please pay attention. Keep quiet
47 so we that can run the meeting smoothly. And we are
48 kind of running late. So are those doing the
49 nominations -- District 23.
50 Okay. All right. So everybody is here.

1 If there are no objections, the chair will open
2 the nominations. The nominations are now open for the
3 office of Department President.

4 The Chair recognizes Tracy Vernal. Tracy is
5 the daughter of our incoming candidate for Department
6 President from District 16.

7
8 NOMINATION FOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

9 MS. VERNAL: Madam President, good afternoon.
10 I am Tracy Vernal, and I am from District 16.
11 Can you hear me now? Is that better?

12 Okay. Good afternoon. I am Tracy Vernal, and
13 I am from District 16, Unit 741, and I am the daughter
14 of Linda Fercho.

15 I am honored to be here today to read the
16 nomination and give you a little bit of background on my
17 mom, Linda Fercho. When I found out that I would be
18 here today to read her nomination, I was honored. But
19 after reading everything that she had done, I had to ask
20 the question, can't I just read what she hasn't done?
21 I was told emphatically, "No."

22 So here we go, ladies. Sit back and relax, and
23 we'll keep it as short as possible.

24 Linda Fercho is the daughter of Chief Petty
25 Officer John Himeline. He served in Pearl Harbor. He
26 was a survivor. She has been a member of the Camarillo
27 Unit 741 for 16 years. She was just awarded the
28 lifetime membership.

29 Her membership actually began as a Junior in
30 the Oxnard Unit 48. She is a past Chapeau and current
31 member of the Ventura Salon 277. She also does
32 Camarillo Arts Council, Camarillo Moose Lodge
33 Chapter 1957, United Methodist Church.

34 Linda was born in the state of California. She
35 was actually born at Port Hueneme Naval Base, and at the
36 age of four moved to Camarillo with her family.

37 Linda retired in 2002 after 30 years -- yes,
38 I said 30 years -- as a teacher of the School District
39 of Pleasant Valley. She was an employee specialist,
40 along with the school secretary. She is currently
41 employed part time as a financial assistant for
42 Household Group.

43 Linda has held numerous chairmanships at
44 her unit and district level. She has served as the
45 District President in 2003, 2000 -- I'm sorry.
46 2002-2003 under Nancy Brown Park. She was
47 a Park's Patriot. We had a great time that year.

48 Her first chairmanship was 2003-2004 as
49 Membership, and I don't know about you, but I still
50 remember those race cars going up and down the state of

1 California. Thanks, Linda Capels, wherever you are.

2 Also, that year, it was the first time that
3 California had made goal in 14 years. We were very
4 proud and very excited.

5 Her favorite story, and also what she calls
6 a membership tool, is at the age of 48 she found herself
7 divorced with a lot of time on her hands. She
8 remembered how rewarding it was as a Junior volunteering
9 at the Oxnard Unit 48; so with her \$20 she joined
10 Camarillo Unit 741 and receive not only her new
11 membership, but got a husband and four new children.

12 Other department level positions include
13 Vice President, Junior Conference, Chairman of Poppies,
14 Children & Youth, Americanism, Education, Veterans
15 Affairs and Rehabilitation, Leadership. Whew.

16 She has also received national awards for the
17 Junior Activities and Children & Youth programs. She
18 has also received national awards for other department
19 awards, such as Poppies, Children & Youth, Americanism,
20 Education, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs.
21 I told you that's why we all call her a little
22 overachiever.

23 Linda's husband of 13 years is Past Department
24 Commander Dennis Fercho. Together they have five
25 children: Tracy, Denny, Stevie, Debi, and Jenni. They
26 also have six grandchildren: Scott, Jaclynn, Carson,
27 Wyatt, Broxton, and Raylan. She has a son-in-law,
28 Robert, and a daughter-in-law, Natalie. The entire
29 family -- including Dennis' mom, sister, and Linda's
30 sisters and brothers -- are all Legion, Auxiliary, and
31 Sons of the American Legion. We are a true Legion
32 family.

33 At this time I would take a little personal
34 note. I don't know if any of you know, but Linda is
35 also a two-time cancer survivor. And I'll never forget
36 one day when we were at the hospital and she looked at
37 me and she said, "You need to go get my laptop."
38 I didn't really ask why. I just said, "Okay." So
39 I went and got the laptop. When I got back, I had to
40 ask the question, "Mom, what are you doing?" She simply
41 looked at me and said, "I have reports to write."
42 I realized right then and there her dedication and her
43 devotion to this wonderful organization. But not only
44 did it make me take a step back and look at her, but for
45 me to take a step back and look at each and every one of
46 you out there. We are all dedicated, and that is why
47 this is such a great organization.

48 She believes in strength and working together
49 as a Legion family. She believes in service, not self.

50 That is why I am honored to place my mom and my

1 best friend Linda Fercho's name in the nomination for
2 Department President of the State of California for the
3 American Legion Auxiliary for the years 2011-2012.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Are there any
7 further nominations for Department President?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't hear any.
10 Hearing none, nominations for Department President are
11 now closed.

12 Nominations are now open for the office of
13 Department Vice President. The chair recognizes
14 Molly Smith from District 2.

15

16 NOMINATION FOR DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT

17 DEPARTMENT MARSHAL SMITH: Good afternoon,
18 ladies.

19 Terry Mikesell is a veteran of Shasta Unit 197,
20 District 2. She has been a member of the
21 American Legion Auxiliary for 16 years. Her eligibility
22 and membership in the American Legion Auxiliary is based
23 upon three generations of service: Her grandfather,
24 father, and son.

25 Terry has faithfully served both her unit and
26 district in many capacities and has always given
27 outstanding service. She is a dedicated member of the
28 American Legion Auxiliary, serving as District President
29 from 1999 to 2001. On the department level she has
30 served as Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman, Public
31 Relations Chairman, VA&R Service Director, VA&R Field
32 Service Director, Convention Chairman, two years on the
33 Finance committee, and is currently serving as Veterans
34 Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman.

35 She has actively served and continues to serve
36 veterans and their families in the local community.
37 Where there is a need or concern for veterans and their
38 families, Terry not only jumps in to help wherever she
39 can, but she has played an instrumental and major role
40 in the success and administration of numerous
41 fundraisers for the veterans and their families, such as
42 the North Valley Stand Down Association, annual
43 three-day program for homeless veterans, and the
44 Northern California Veterans Cemetery Chapel Fundraiser,
45 which was built and dedicated on Memorial Day 2011.

46 On a personal level, Terry has served as
47 Treasurer for three organizations: The Northern Valley
48 Stand Down Association for three years, the California
49 Bow and Hunters State Archery Association for five
50 years, and State Arrow Bow Hunters for 15 years, and is

1 currently their Newsletter Chairman.
2 Terry has proven herself to be a leader and
3 a dedicated member on all levels of the American Legion
4 Auxiliary within her community.

5 Members of the Shasta Unit 197 and District 2
6 are pleased and proud to nominate Terry Mikesell
7 as candidate for the Department of California
8 Vice President for 2011-2012.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Molly.

11 Are there any further nominations for the
12 office of Vice President?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
15 nominations for the Department Vice President are now
16 closed.

17 Nominations are now open for the office of
18 Department Junior Member of Finance. The Chair
19 recognizes Diane DeLashmit from District 25.

20

21 NOMINATION FOR DEPARTMENT JUNIOR MEMBER OF FINANCE

22 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Thank
23 you, Madam President.

24 Kathie Martinez has been endorsed by Inglewood,
25 Unit 188, and the 23rd District for the office of
26 Junior Member of Finance for the year 2011-2012. She
27 has been a faithful member of the Inglewood unit for
28 33 years through the eligibility of her father,
29 Johnny W. Vaughan, a World War II veteran. She has
30 a strong sense of pride and commitment to our
31 organization through family ties with a brother as
32 a member of American Legion for 38 years, two daughters,
33 and a sister being members of the Auxiliary, two sons
34 and a grandson who are members of the Sons of the
35 American Legion.

36 Over the years she has served all unit offices
37 and President several times. She has served her
38 district as chairman of many committees and as
39 District President in 1999 and 2000. On the department
40 level, she has served as Marshal, Sergeant-at-Arms,
41 three-year member of the Junior Conference Committee,
42 and this year she is serving as the Junior Conference
43 Director.

44 Kathie received her education in accounting and
45 finance at El Camino College. She began her career with
46 a small company as a bookkeeper and has continued for
47 25 years to work for both small and large companies.
48 The past ten years she has been employed by a major
49 trucking distribution company in accounts payable and
50 accounts receivable. Her job responsibilities include

1 general ledger and journal posting, account
2 reconciliation, and balancing. Her work ethic,
3 attention to detail, and her commitment to accuracy and
4 excellence are assets that will serve the Department
5 well as a member of the Finance committee.

6 It is with great pride I nominate
7 Kathie Martinez for the office of Junior Member of
8 Finance.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

11 Are there any other nominations for Department
12 Junior Member of Finance?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none, the
15 nominations for Department Junior Member of Finance are
16 now closed.

17 Are there any endorsements for National
18 officers? Okay. We will hear that later.

19 We will now proceed with the nominations for
20 delegates to the National Convention.

21 Is Doris -- oh, she is coming.

22

23 NOMINATIONS FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I would like to
25 verify with Doris about the number of delegates we need
26 for charter and -- yeah. I have here five delegates and
27 18 for the amount of our membership; so can you give
28 us the -- oh, 17. All right. So we will need five
29 delegates for charter and 17 for membership, for a total
30 number of 22. And at this time I think we are only
31 going to have to nominate -- oh, okay. So we are --

32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 Madam President, this year we are allowed five delegates
34 for our department chapter, one additional delegate for
35 each 1500 members or each major fraction thereof. We
36 have a current membership count of 25,619 members, which
37 makes us allowed 22 delegates and one alternate for each
38 delegate. We can only nominate or elect 17 delegates
39 due to our Constitutional Bylaw changes last year,
40 giving us the first five delegates of those officers and
41 our National Chairmen.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

43 Nominations are now open for delegates for the
44 National Convention. Please read the names of the
45 nominees.

46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
47 Ladies, I have very few sheets that came into the
48 office.

49 District 1, no sheet.

50 And as I call your district, would you please

1 come to the microphone and tell me if you have
2 a nominated delegate -- or an elected delegate from your
3 district or you are passing.
4 District 1.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: District 1, do you
6 pass?
7 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Is Kat in the
8 building?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Kat Conrad?
10 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: What are you
11 doing over there?
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 I need the District President to come to the microphone
14 and tell me whether you pass or you have an elected
15 delegate.
16 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: We have
17 Kat Conrad, District 1.
18 This is Pat Lindley, Unit 205, District 1.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
20 you.
21 District 2, pass. Has none; is that correct,
22 District 2?
23 2ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT SMITH: Yes, Doris.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 District 3 -- I have no papers for District 3.
26 Will the District 3 President please come to
27 a microphone? We don't have a District 3. Okay.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is anyone here for
29 District 3? Do we have anyone --
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
31 need representatives.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So they pass.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
34 Passing.
35 District 4, passed?
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excuse me, Doris.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We have two
39 microphones, and I would like to request all District
40 Presidents to line up at the close -- microphone close
41 to you. There is one there, and there is one there; so
42 we have -- and so that we can speed this up. Okay.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
44 District 5, nominated delegate or elected delegate,
45 Doris Kilkenny.
46 Is that correct, District 5?
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: District 4 passed?
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.
49 District 6 has passed.
50 Is there a change?

1 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Pass.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Pass.
3 Thank you.
4 District 7?
5 7TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT UHAZI: District 7
6 President Uhazi.
7 We have one, Bonnie Bradbury.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 Bonnie Bradbury for District 7.
11 District 8.
12 8TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MANINI: No
13 representation, Madam President.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, good.
15 So pass?
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.
17 District 9, no paperwork; is that correct?
18 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Yes, we do.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 Please go to the microphone so we can hear. The court
21 reporter has to be able to hear you.
22 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Connie
23 Clement, District 9.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
25 pass?
26 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: We have one.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
28 Sorry.
29 Name, please?
30 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Janet Wilson.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
32 Janet Wilson?
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Janet Wilson.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
35 you.
36 District 10, Emily Magwili?
37 10TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MAGWILI: That's
38 correct.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 District 11, no paperwork.
41 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: Laura
42 Barghorn, District President.
43 We have elected Grace Huston, H-u-s-t-o-n.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
45 you. Grace Huston, District 11.
46 District 12, no paperwork.
47 12TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT STUART: District 12
48 has elected Cathy Smith.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 Cathy Smith. Thank you. Cathy Smith for District 12.

1 District 13, Sandy Jacob.
2 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: That's correct.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 District 14, no paperwork.
5 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: We have
6 elected Sandy Urban.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: The
8 name again?
9 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: Sandy or
10 Sandra.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
12 Sandy?
13 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: S-a-n-d-y
14 U-r-b-a-n.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
16 U-r-b-a-n?
17 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: Yes, ma'am.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 Sandy Urban.
20 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: Yes.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Thank you.
22 District 15.
23 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: Harriet
24 Clendenin, declined.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Do
26 you have a delegate? 15 is passing?
27 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: Yes.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
29 you.
30 District 16, Linda Fercho.
31 District 18, Tamara Messersmith.
32 District 19, C.J. Reyes.
33 District 20, Linda Hayes.
34 District 21, Marge Rye.
35 District 22, Midge Farrar.
36 22ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT FARRAR: Correct.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
38 District 23, Wantu Robinson.
39 23RD DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROBINSON: That's
40 correct.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
42 District 24, Delores Artis.
43 24TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHANSEN: That's
44 correct.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
46 District 25, Diane DeLashmit.
47 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Correct.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 District 26, Linda Workman.
50 26TH DISTRICT MEMBER CAPAZZI: Correct.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
2 District 27, LuAnn Capazzi.
3 27TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT WINKLER-RING: Correct.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 District 28, no name?
6 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT RAYA: Yes, we do.
7 Rosie Eskridge.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 Rosie.
10 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT RAYA: Eskridge,
11 E-s-k-r-i-d-g.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 Right?
14 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT RAYA: Yes.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
16 you.
17 District 29, Marian Carroll?
18 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: That's
19 correct.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 District 30, no paperwork.
22 30TH DISTRICT PRESENT TELFORD: Pass.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 District 30, pass.
25 I have 22.
26 Could the Parliamentarian concur? I have 22.
27 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Pardon
28 me? I understand that you are going to be the
29 Convention Secretary; is that correct?
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Have
31 I been appointed?
32 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I think
33 you are being appointed now.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
35 Then apparently I am.
36 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: So you
37 would delete yourself as District 5, but then is
38 Genevieve Sarciapone going to be moved up as delegate,
39 or is she going to remain as your alternate?
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 Ginny?
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We want to hear
43 from Ginny?
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Are
45 we going to move Ginny up from alternate to delegate?
46 Okay. Then District 5 needs to pass; is that
47 correct? We have no other delegates or alternates;
48 correct? District 5 passes.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have 21?
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.

1 We have 21.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We need one more.
3 Oh, okay. Okay. We have enough.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
5 Ladies, I'm going to ask on behalf of the Department of
6 California if you actually are going to go to National
7 Convention -- it is in Minneapolis, Minnesota -- and
8 this will spare us a lot of elections here. If you are
9 not going to go, please let us know now, if you may --
10 if you will.
11 So all of you that were elected are going to go
12 to Minneapolis; correct? That were nominated. I'm
13 sorry.
14 Does that mean you are going to send your
15 alternate to delegate?
16 Somebody needs to come to a microphone, please.
17 19TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ: District 19
18 wants to pass.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
20 pass, too?
21 19TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ: We pass.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
23 District 19.
24 19TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ: Passes.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
26 Passes.
27 On both delegate and alternate; correct?
28 19TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ: Yes.
29 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: And
30 District 18 --
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
32 District 18?
33 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: Denyse
34 Laugeson, District 18, President.
35 We have a question. We understood you only
36 need 17.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Is
38 that correct?
39 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: So you are
40 bringing the count down; correct?
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: The
42 elections really should be for only those actual persons
43 that are going to be in attendance in Minneapolis.
44 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: Yes.
45 But the count is for 17 --
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 Right.
48 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: -- correct?
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 Correct.

1 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: Okay.
2 Pamela Dixon Hicks and Lynn Garcia are both passing --
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
4 you.
5 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: -- to bring
6 the count down.
7 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY:
8 Madam Chairman, District 14 would like to pass, as well.
9 District 14 will not be able to attend National. We
10 will pass.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
12 So District 14 is passing?
13 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: Yes. Thank
14 you.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have to
16 understand that if you decline, we will need more, you
17 know, replacements, and then we will have to go through
18 a vote, and that will really take a lot of time. So
19 please be sure that you are not declining or be sure
20 that you are going. And we don't want to hear at the
21 last minute that someone is declining or passing.
22 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: We need
23 only 17.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 I need one more. I have 18. We can have 17 delegates.
26 I'm sorry.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing
28 District 11.
29 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: Laura
30 Barghorn of District 11 --
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes,
32 District 11.
33 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: -- will
34 pass. No alternate.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
36 you.
37 There's your 17.
38 (Applause.)
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
40 Now we need the same amount of count for the alternates.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Nominations
42 are now open for alternates.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
44 District 1, do you have an alternate?
45 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: No. Pass.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: District
47 Presidents, please, back to the microphone.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 I need the -- I'm sorry. I need the following districts
50 to line up at the microphone, please.

1 District 7, District 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 20, 21,
2 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29.
3 District 7 alternate, please.
4 7TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT UHAZI: The alternate is
5 Josephine Handy.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
7 you.
8 Josephine Handy, alternate for District 7.
9 District 9, do we have an alternate?
10 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: We pass. No
11 alternate.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
13 you. Excuse me.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Listen to
15 the explanation.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
17 going to ask for confirmation. Based upon our
18 Constitution and Bylaws it is the President --
19 Department President for the first five; correct? It is
20 the President, the Department Vice President --
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That is correct.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
23 -- the Department Secretary, and the National Chairman,
24 which would be Nancy and Melanie. Am I correct?
25 Okay. So we need to elect 17 delegates, and
26 one of those 17 is Linda Fercho. She needs -- she will
27 be moved up to that first five.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we need someone
29 else.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: So
31 when we get to District 16 -- I have to go back to
32 District 16, and we move --
33 16TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROMBAUGH: I'm here.
34 Here.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
36 Okay. So are you willing to move -- will Madeline leave
37 from alternate to delegate?
38 16TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROMBAUGH: Yes.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good.
40 Good.
41 Okay. All right. Now we can continue with the
42 alternates.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Nominations
44 for --
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
46 We're on District 10, girls.
47 District 10 for alternate.
48 10TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MAGWILI: Yes. She is
49 still going.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

1 District 12.
2 12TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT STUART: No alternate.
3 Pass.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 District 13. I have Theresa Jacob.
6 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: I'm removing
7 myself as an alternate.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
9 cannot.
10 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: I'm not going.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
12 No alternate for District 13.
13 District 16, do you have an alternate?
14 16TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROMBAUGH: No. We do
15 not.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
17 you.
18 16TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROMBAUGH: You're
19 welcome.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 District 20, I have Bobbie Estes; is that correct?
22 20TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRELLON: Yes, it
23 is.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
25 you.
26 District 21, I have Joann Evans.
27 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: That is
28 correct.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
30 you.
31 District 22, I have Susanne Tozier.
32 22ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT FARRAR: Correct.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 District 23, I have Anita Biggs.
35 23RD DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROBINSON: Correct.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
37 District 24, Alternate Ruth Hackney.
38 24TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHANSEN: Correct.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 District 25, Alternate Dawn Scott.
41 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Correct.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
43 District 26, Alternate Lou Thompson.
44 26th DISTRICT MEMBER CAPAZZI: Correct.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
46 District 27, Alternate Pat Sweeney.
47 27TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT WINKLER-RING: Correct.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 District 28, do you have an alternate?
50 28th DISTRICT PRESIDENT RAYA: Pass.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
2 you.
3 District 29, Kendall Madsen, Alternate.
4 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: That's
5 the wrong paperwork. It is Janice Spriggs.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Still going.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
9 heard it there first.
10 Okay. And District 30 passed.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do you have
12 a count?
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: They
14 passed. Oh, I'm sorry.
15 Okay. Okay. For the alternates:
16 District 1 passed.
17 District 2 passed.
18 District 3 passed.
19 District 4 passed.
20 District 5 passed.
21 District 6 passed.
22 7, Josephine Handy.
23 8 passed.
24 9 passed.
25 10, Leoni Estevoi.
26 11 passed.
27 12 passed.
28 13 passed.
29 14 passed.
30 15 passed.
31 16, 18, 19, all pass.
32 20, Bobbie Estes.
33 21, Joann Evans.
34 22, Susanne Tozier.
35 23, Anita Biggs.
36 24, Ruth Hackney.
37 25, Donna Scott.
38 26, Lou Thompson.
39 27, Pat Sweeney.
40 28, pass.
41 29, Janice Spriggs.
42 30, pass.
43 That's your alternates.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do we have enough?
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
46 only -- we're okay.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We need six more;
48 so we need to go for the five lowest.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.
50 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Madam President --

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Janet Wilson.
2 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: -- I have a
3 question. Because I belong to the Legion and I spend
4 90 percent of my time at the convention on the Legion
5 side and I voted for my district, should I put my name
6 as an alternate? If I do, that way it frees up a seat
7 for somebody who wants to spend their entire time
8 dedicated to the Auxiliary side.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.
10 Is that correct?
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So you are
12 removing your name as an alternate?
13 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: No. Somebody who
14 wants to sit on the floor will be there for the floor --
15 for the hoopla on your side while I'm on the other side.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
17 know you are missing out on the best part.
18 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: I like the hoopla
19 part.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Well, Madam
21 Secretary, we do -- clarify how many we need for
22 delegates.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 Janet, can you remove your name?
25 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Yes. Janet
26 Wilson, 9th District, Unit 161, remove myself as
27 delegate. Now Janet Wilson alternate.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We need one more.
29 This is for delegate.
30 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: No. I'm --
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. We took out
32 your name already.
33 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Okay.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have to ask
35 someone else.
36 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Okay.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Delegate.
38 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: Madam
39 President, Pamela Hicks would like to be a delegate.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. That takes
41 care of it.
42 Thank you.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That takes care of
45 it, Doris.
46 Now recognizing Sherry from District 10.
47 10TH DISTRICT MEMBER SCHNEIDER: Leoni Estevoi
48 has decided to remove her name as an alternate, and no
49 one is -- no one is replacing her from our district.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Leoni? May

1 I speak to Leoni? You already have a plane reservation,
2 and it is paid for. It is paid for, so....
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 Sounds like are you going to go, Leoni.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You need to go.
6 Your foot will be better at that time. Someone has to
7 carry her. She can hardly walk.
8 10TH DISTRICT MEMBER ESTEVOI: Madam President,
9 I would be honored to be an alternate.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You want to be the
11 delegate?
12 10TH DISTRICT MEMBER ESTEVOI: No.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Well, we need
14 a delegate. Don't remove her as a delegate. She has to
15 be -- and you can't change your mind because you already
16 have a plane reservation.
17 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: She's
18 going.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She's going.
20 (Applause.)
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You need an
22 escort. You need to stay up here because you have
23 personal space.
24 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
25 See that chair right there? That is yours.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We're
27 going to go by membership strength, and we need ten more
28 alternates.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, my God. We
30 need more alternates, and we won't get out of here until
31 we solve that. And I -- those who should be reporting,
32 you --
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 Membership strength, we start with District 29.
35 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Kendall
36 Madsen, Alternate.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Pardon?
38 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Kendall
39 Madsen, Alternate.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So five more.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Now
42 we go to District 22.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: District 22.
44 22ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT FARRAR: Jergy
45 Gogstein.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 District 22.
48 22ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT FARRAR: Correct.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 District 25?

1 District 21. Do you have an alternate with
2 District 21? Oh, I'm sorry. Joann Evans is already on
3 as a alternate. Due to membership strength, we have
4 the right to elect another one -- nominate another. No?
5 District 21 passes.
6 District 19. District 19? Dorothy.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those that have
8 declined as delegates, please be alternates. Please.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
10 might -- you might want to consider being an alternate
11 if you decline as a delegate.
12 19TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ: Okay.
13 District 19, could you please put me down as an
14 alternate?
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
16 you, Dorothy-Anne Chavez.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Dorothy-Anne
18 Chavez.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 I have 16.
21 16TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROMBAUGH: Jerine Adams
22 as District 16.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
24 you.
25 District 28. Come on, Connie. District 18.
26 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: Denyse
27 Laugeson, District 18 President.
28 Lynn Garcia will go back as an alternate.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
30 you.
31 District 23.
32 23RD DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROBINSON: District 23,
33 Lucille Taylor as alternate was elected also.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
35 Lucille Taylor for District 23.
36 District 5, pass; right, Peggy? We don't have
37 anybody.
38 District 11.
39 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: District 11
40 would like to nominate Grace Huston, H-u-s-t-o-n.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
42 need 22 for this group of alternates. They do not
43 include the five that we have in our bylaws.
44 Grace Huston.
45 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: Yes.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
47 you.
48 District 20. Anyone? District 20.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: District 20.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

1 I need you to come to a microphone, please. That's
2 okay. I can wait.
3 20TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRELLON: This is
4 for the first alternate? second alternate?
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yes.
6 District 20.
7 20TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRELLON: Veronica
8 McGough.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
10 you.
11 District 14 is next, District 15, District 27.
12 District 14.
13 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: District 15.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: 14.
15 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: District 14
16 will send Sandy Urban as an alternate.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: What
18 was the name again? Sandy Urban?
19 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: Yes, ma'am.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Sandy
21 Urban out of 14.
22 District 15.
23 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: District 15
24 would like to put Harriet Clendenin.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
26 Harriet Clendenin.
27 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Madam
28 Chairman.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: One
30 moment, please. We have our 22.
31 Thank you, ladies.
32 (Applause.)
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: These
34 are your alternates for National Convention.
35 I have Josephine Handy.
36 Janet Wilson.
37 Bobbie Estes -- oh, that is right.
38 You are going, Leoni. She pretty much told me
39 that. I'm sorry.
40 Josephine Handy.
41 Janet Wilson.
42 Leonarda Estevoi, whether she wants to or not.
43 Bobbie Estes.
44 Joann Evans.
45 Susanne Tozier.
46 Anita Biggs.
47 Ruth Hackney.
48 Donna Scott.
49 Lou Thompson.
50 Pat Sweeney.

1 Janice Spriggs.
2 Kendall Madsen.
3 Jergy Gogstein.
4 Dorothy-Anne Chavez.
5 Jerine Adams.
6 Lynn Garcia.
7 Lucille Taylor.
8 Grace Huston.
9 Veronica McGough.
10 Sandy Urban.
11 Harriet Clendenin.
12 Do you concur, Parliamentarian?
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We have
14 difficulties.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
16 Everybody has 22 except Diane?
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do we have the
18 right --
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
20 have 22 alternates.
21 (Applause.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Nominations are
23 now closed for alternates for National Convention.
24 Thank you. Thank you.
25 Will the candidates nominated for Department
26 office please come to the stage? Linda Fercho for
27 Vice President.
28 Terry Mikesell -- where is Terry Mikesell?
29 Come back here.
30 And Kathie Martinez. Where is Kathie Martinez?
31 District 23. There she is.
32 Ladies of the Auxiliary, these are our
33 candidates for the Department of California.
34 For President: Linda Fercho.
35 For Vice President: Terry Mikesell.
36 Junior Member of Finance: Kathie Martinez.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Congratulations,
39 ladies.
40 Okay. Thank you. We have to continue with our
41 reports. Thanks so much. It only took two hours for
42 those nominations. I'm just kidding. We did very well.
43 We'll now continue with the Department Chairmen
44 reports. We will have an endorsement for National
45 later; so we will have a special time for that.
46 Okay. We will go back to Legislative,
47 Community Service, Constitution and Bylaws at the stage,
48 please. And the next ones will be Junior Conference
49 Director, Junior Activities Chairman, and the -- so
50 those ladies that I have called, please come to the

1 stage.

2 (Music played.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Dance your way up
4 here.

5 Thank you, Janet.

6 Can you hear me?

7

8 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

9 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: The convention
10 committee on Legislative met on June 23rd, 2011, in the
11 Ontario Convention Center, Room 107B, in Ontario,
12 California.

13 The statistical report of this chairman appears
14 on Page 14 of the Book of Reports.

15 The certificates for 100 percent reporting was
16 given to 26 districts.

17 Gigi Gebart was appointed Secretary,

18 District 20.

19 Judith Allen was appointed Chaplain, from

20 District 23.

21 And Susie Harper was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms
22 for District 21.

23 A total of 15 district delegates answered roll
24 call. There were 13 visitors present.

25 The committee agreed upon the following report.

26 The Code was read and there were no changes.

27 There was one resolution, Resolution Number 1,
28 for recommendation, which was passed unanimously by the
29 convention committee.

30 Awards were handed out for second and third
31 place, and the list of awards will be posted in the
32 department office at the conclusion of this report.

33 Madam Department President, this concludes the
34 report of the Legislative Convention Committee meeting.

35 Madam Department President, may I continue with
36 my supplemental report and presentation of the first
37 place awards?

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Just a second. We
39 kindly waive.

40 The Parliamentarian has something to say. She
41 is putting her act together.

42 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Okay. Yes.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She was asking if
44 the resolution has something to do with a code change.

45 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: No. It does
46 not. It doesn't.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It doesn't.

48 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: I was told
49 there was no code change to the Legislative. This was
50 just a resolution, and we did not have a code change.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. You need to
2 read the resolution. You have to read the whole part.

3 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Okay. This is
4 Resolution Number 1. This was submitted by Pilar Reyes,
5 Linda Fercho, Norma DuVall, Doris Kilkenny, Diane
6 DeLashmit, Odette Cuccaro, Linda Workman, Ruby Kapsalis.
7 Subject: National security attendance and awareness
8 Assembly 02.

9 Whereas, the Department has attempted to reduce
10 their budget; and

11 Whereas, traditionally 500 to \$1,000 has been
12 budgeted for the Department Legislative to attend the
13 American Legion Auxiliary Awareness Assembly in
14 Washington D.C.; and

15 Whereas, the National Executive Committeewoman
16 was called to attend the NECP, which is held in
17 conjunction with the Awareness Assembly, and the
18 National organization pays for the transportation to and
19 from Washington D.C., plus one night lodging; and

20 Whereas, there is a proposed Constitution and
21 Bylaws change that the National Executive Committeewoman
22 be appointed the Legislative Chairmanship for National
23 Security.

24 And it passed.

25 And, therefore, these are that the funds of the
26 National Security Chairman should no longer be budgeted
27 for her attendance at the Awareness Assembly.

28 And be it further resolved that the National
29 Security Code that reads the Department National
30 Security Chairman should be privileged to attend the
31 American Legion Auxiliary Awareness Assembly. She
32 should be reimbursed \$150 for one night's accommodations
33 be deleted in its entirety; and

34 Be it further resolved that the Legislative
35 Code reads that the Department Chairman may attend the
36 Awareness Assembly sponsored by the National
37 Organization if approved by the Department President.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Can you hear her?

39 ALL PRESENT: Yes.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Come closer to the
41 microphone.

42 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: And if funds
43 are available and adopted, and an annual budget be
44 changed by the committee, if funds are available in the
45 annual budget, and the request for funds not to exceed
46 \$125 per diem for four days should be budgeted annually
47 to help defray the cost of attending the Awareness
48 Assembly.

49 Madam President, I move that Legislative Code
50 Number 2 be adopted.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
2 moved that Legislative Code Number 2, which reads:
3 The Department Chairman may attend the
4 Awareness Assembly sponsored by the National
5 Organization if approved by the Department President and
6 if funds are available and adopted in the annual budget
7 be changed by deleting if funds are available in the
8 annual budget and replaced with funds not to exceed \$125
9 per diem for four days shall be budgeted annually to
10 help defray the costs of attending the Awareness
11 Assembly.

12 Is there a second?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been
15 seconded -- the motion has been seconded, and I read the
16 motion.

17 Any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Any
20 discussion?

21 Yeah. Our Parliamentarian has something to
22 say.

23 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: The only
24 thing I would like to change --

25 Diane DeLashmit, Parliamentarian.

26 The only thing I would like to change on that
27 is three days rather than four if the National
28 Organization pays for one day. They pay for Saturday.
29 If there is Sunday, Monday, Tuesday -- they go home on
30 Wednesday; so I don't see the need for four days.

31 So I move to amend that to three days.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Any more
33 discussion?

34 (No response.)

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. We have
36 to -- it is suggested that we make an amendment to the
37 motion.

38 Would you make -- would you like to make an
39 amendment to that?

40 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Yes.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. That was --
42 yeah. And it was already seconded.

43 That we change four to three, only a number;
44 so any discussion? Any more discussion? The wise
45 Advisory Committee, you have any suggestion? It was
46 suggested -- there was an amendment that we have to
47 change four days to three days for the per diem
48 allowance, stay four nights.

49 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam
50 Department President -- well, if we leave it -- if we

1 leave it as Diane amended, National pays one day and the
2 Department pays three anyway; so there is four days. So
3 I -- I --
4 Did anybody second your amendment?
5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: National is paying
7 one day.
8 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Right.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And so that's
10 four. That will make it five because our department
11 makes it four; so if we change the Department to three,
12 then that will make it four, including National.
13 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS:
14 Exactly, Madam Department President. I am very sorry,
15 but as we go over the budget -- we are going to be
16 \$10,000 in the deficit --
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh.
18 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: -- when
19 we go over the budget.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, I thought
21 I was lessening.
22 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: No.
23 Madam President. At the Finance Committee meeting it
24 was \$10,000 -- over \$10,000 in the red; so I don't
25 think -- I don't know where we will get this additional
26 day that you are talking about.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We are reducing --
28 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS:
29 Reducing it a day. We'll go -- all right. We'll go
30 \$100 less than what we originally said.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes. I am
32 reducing it, Madam Advisor. I will be the Legislative
33 Chairman next year, and so that will take off 125 for my
34 allowance. But that -- that is what we have. And we
35 are reducing it. We are reducing it for three days.
36 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Okay.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That saves the
38 Department \$125; so all right? The amendment?
39 Okay. There is an amendment, and we -- before
40 we vote on a motion, we have to revote on the amendment.
41 The amendment is changed, four days to three days; that
42 is saving the department one day allowance.
43 So any discussion? I think we have enough
44 discussion already.
45 So questions?
46 (Applause.)
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
48 aye.
49 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Now, go
3 back to the motion and read the amendment -- the amended
4 motion.
5 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: I vote that we
6 adopt the Code Number 2 --
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Great.
8 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: -- as amended.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
10 moved.
11 Anybody second it?
12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second it.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
14 and seconded that we adopt the amended motion; so
15 instead of four regular stuff, if you have this stuff,
16 to three.
17 And those in favor -- I don't want any more
18 discussion.
19 Those in favor of the motion say aye.
20 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those opposed, no.
22 (No response.)
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Thank you,
24 Gloria.
25 (Applause.)
26 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Now, may
27 I continue, Madam Department President?
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
29 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: The "Fiddlers"
30 serving the Legislative program have been engaged in
31 listening attentively, rehearsing feverishly in the
32 promotion of legislative issues through grassroots
33 lobbying efforts. Your theme, M.U.S.I.C. -- Membership
34 United in Service, Ideals, and Commitment -- is and
35 continues to be a key element for reaching the masses.
36 Our Legislative Fiddlers have done an
37 exceptional job in promoting the Legislative program.
38 For many members who do not have access to the Internet,
39 the dispatch has been an important communicative
40 resource. Units reported that 623 members subscribe to
41 the dispatch. A total of 2,151 letters were written to
42 U.S. Senators, Representatives, state and local
43 officials. Units reported receiving 505 replies. The
44 White House received 56 letters from units, and
45 12 replies were received.
46 Our Department Legislative chairmen have made
47 a total of 671 personal visits to U.S. Senators,
48 U.S. representatives, state and local officials to lobby
49 for veterans and their families. Districts reported
50 23 units have promoted absentee voting through e-mailing

1 members, encouraging their family service members to
2 get involved.

3 One member has made 14 trips to Washington D.C.
4 to personally lobby for the Flag Amendment Bill.
5 Members came together at their post to mail ballots to
6 troops overseas, organize community forums, erect a wall
7 of heroes, and have taken a special interest in military
8 women.

9 One unit is providing a dual handicapped
10 member, a mother of five with no husband, a second
11 chance to a college education to become a nurse. She is
12 supported by the post and the unit. A dinner fundraiser
13 was initiated by the post and unit, raising \$800.

14 Another unit has submitted their activities to
15 the Congressional Record regarding a 90-year-old World
16 War II female veteran survivor. Other units promoted
17 the woman veteran through their post, held memorials in
18 honor of female veterans. One unit held a wedding for
19 their female veteran.

20 Hospitalized veteran women have not been
21 forgotten. Comfort kits, blankets, shoes, and clothing
22 are just a few of the items provided for these special
23 women.

24 Units reported 436 members subscribe to the
25 Auxiliary eNews. This informative Internet publication
26 informs our members about current and upcoming
27 legislation. The American Legion Legislative division
28 provides weekly updates on bills and legislative focus
29 for the week. Information and dissemination concerning
30 these important legislative tools were included in this
31 chairperson's monthly bulletins and is being used by
32 many members throughout our state.

33 In March of this year this chairman, along with
34 several other Department Auxiliary and Legion members,
35 was privileged to attend an Awareness Assembly in
36 Washington D.C. This was this chairman's first trip to
37 D.C., and it was such a positive and exciting event --
38 one that I hope to experience again.

39 Visiting the Arlington National Cemetery was an
40 incredible experience. There are no words that can
41 describe the elation to walk the hill, meet, discuss,
42 and promote the current American Legion veteran
43 legislative issues.

44 Thirty-seven American Legion priority sheets
45 were left with Senate and Congress representatives. One
46 scheduled appointment included a meeting with Ariana
47 Reks, Senator Boxer's legislative assistant; and Ryan
48 O'Reilly, Military Legislative Fellow; Madam President
49 Pilar; Nancy Brown Park, National Children & Youth
50 Chairman. Her husband, Jim Park, and I met close to one

1 hour discussing the American Legion legislative policy
2 priorities. Ms. Reks was very attentive and assured us
3 that the Senator is lobbying for many of the
4 American Legion legislative veteran issues listed in the
5 priority sheets.
6 Madam President, may I proceed with presenting
7 the first place awards?
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
9 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Here we go.
10 Thank you.
11 District ordering the most dispatches,
12 District 21 with 217.
13 (Applause.)
14 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: The most
15 letters to officials goes to District 19 with
16 259 letters.
17 (Applause.)
18 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Now to get
19 to -- the best unit supplemental report goes to
20 Danielle White, District 27. This report goes to
21 National.
22 (Applause.)
23 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: The best
24 district supplemental report goes to Danielle White,
25 District 27. Of course, I have to give her some love
26 first.
27 Madam President, your Legislative Fiddlers are
28 energized and taking very seriously the legislative
29 issues that affect our veterans and their families. It
30 has been an honor for me to represent the Department of
31 California as Legislative Chairman. Thank you very much
32 for this opportunity.
33 Madam President Pilar, this concludes my
34 supplemental report.
35 May I approach your station for a personal
36 presentation?
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may. And
38 the mood orchestra.
39 Thank you. Thank you.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We will now hear
42 from our Constitution & Bylaws Chairman Odette Cuccaro.
43
44 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS REPORT
45 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Madam
46 Department President, the convention committee on
47 Constitution & Bylaws met on June 23rd, 2011, in
48 Room 107B of the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario,
49 California.
50 The statistical report of this chairman appears

1 on Page 14 of the Book of Reports.
2 Carol Fuqua, District 25, was appointed
3 secretary.
4 Barbara Ross, District 7, offered prayer.
5 And Mary Warner, District 6, was appointed
6 Sergeant-at-Arms.
7 A total of 19 district delegates answered roll
8 call. There were four visitors present.
9 The committee agreed upon the following report.
10 The Code was read and there were no changes.
11 The following bylaw changes were read.
12 Article V, Section 6, installation of officers,
13 and it now reads:
14 Elective department officers, Junior Member of
15 Finance Committee, District Presidents, District
16 Vice Presidents shall be installed prior to and take
17 office upon adjournment of the department convention at
18 which they were elected, ratified; and serve until the
19 adjournment of the succeeding Department convention.
20 The proposed change would read:
21 Elective department officers, Junior Member of
22 Finance Committee, District Presidents, District
23 Vice Presidents, and appointed department officers shall
24 be installed prior to and take office upon adjournment
25 of the department convention at which they were elected,
26 ratified, or appointed; and serve until the adjournment
27 of the succeeding department convention.
28 By direction of the convention committee I move
29 for the Bylaws change.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is there a second?
31 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We don't need
33 a second on this provision change because it has been
34 approved by the committee; so the change is just to add
35 appointed department officers to be included in the
36 installation. No further discussion because that has
37 been --
38 Those in favor?
39 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do you want to
41 hear discussion, any discussion?
42 (No response.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Hearing
44 none, we are going to question.
45 Those in favor say aye.
46 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those opposed say
48 no.
49 (No response.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It is

1 carried. Okay. Approved.
2 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO:
3 Article V, Section 8B, Department President, Department
4 Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer and how it is
5 filled. As it now reads:
6 In case of vacancies in the offices of
7 Department President, Department Vice President, and
8 Department Secretary/Treasurer simultaneously, the
9 Junior Past Department President, Department
10 Parliamentarian, and the Department Finance Committee
11 Chairman shall call an emergency meeting of the
12 Department Executive Committee within 30 days of such
13 vacancies. This meeting shall be held in the department
14 headquarters of the American Legion Auxiliary.
15 The proposed change would read:
16 In case of vacancies in the offices of
17 Department President, Department Vice President, and
18 Department Secretary/Treasurer simultaneously, the
19 Junior Past Department President, Department
20 Parliamentarian, and the Department Finance Committee
21 Chairman shall call an emergency meeting of the
22 Department Executive Committee within 30 days -- within
23 30 days of such vacancies. This meeting shall be held
24 in the department headquarters of the American Legion
25 Auxiliary or by electronic means.
26 And then the -- the rationale is this:
27 In the event that this would happen, it would
28 be very expensive to have all of the Department
29 Executive Committee to -- approximately 50 people go to
30 the department headquarters. Bylaws Article II,
31 Section 3A was changed last year, and that would put
32 these two articles in sync.
33 By the direction of the Convention Committee,
34 I move the adoption of this bylaw change.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
36 to adopt the bylaw change. It is only adding the words
37 "or by electronic means."
38 Those in favor of the motion say aye.
39 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We are still
41 calling for discussion.
42 Any discussion?
43 (No response.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't hear any
45 discussion.
46 Those in favor say aye.
47 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed.
49 (No response.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It is carried.

1 Okay.
2 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: As it
3 now reads:
4 Article V, Section 10, Delegates and Alternates
5 to National Convention Elected.
6 Delegates and alternates to National Convention
7 shall be elected at department convention as prescribed
8 by the national organization. The Department President
9 and Department President Elect, Department
10 Secretary/Treasurer, or the individual called by the
11 Department President to serve as the Delegation
12 Secretary to the National Convention and National
13 Chairman shall be the first nominated delegates, if they
14 are attending the National Convention. Each district
15 will present names of the elected delegates and
16 alternates for ratification. The privilege of further
17 nominations, provided the number of delegates and/or
18 alternates is under the designated number, shall be
19 given by numerical membership strength.
20 Okay. I don't have any paper.
21 Delegates to the national -- let me see.
22 Delegates and alternates -- this is the way it
23 should read -- shall be elected at department convention
24 as prescribed by the national organization. The
25 Department President, Department President Elect, and
26 the National Chairman shall be the first nominated
27 delegates if they are attending the National Convention.
28 Each district will present names of the elected
29 delegates and alternates for ratification. The
30 privilege of further nominations, provided the number of
31 delegates and alternates is under the designated number,
32 shall be given by the districts' numerical membership
33 strength. The Department President shall call on one of
34 the elected delegates to serve as National Convention
35 Secretary and Treasurer at the convention.
36 And this bylaw change was rejected in
37 committee. And I hope you all understand it was put in
38 there to save money; however, it was rejected by the
39 convention committee.
40 Article VI, National Delegates Expense,
41 Section 1:
42 The Department President and Junior Past
43 Department President shall be allowed plane fare --
44 economy, if possible -- and travel allowance as approved
45 in the department annual budget while serving as
46 delegates and attending the National Convention. The
47 Finance committee shall properly budget for such
48 expense.
49 The proposed change would now read:
50 Section 1, Department President, Department --

1 Past Department President, Junior Past Department
2 President, and Convention Secretary shall be allowed
3 plane fare -- economy, if possible -- and travel
4 allowance as approved in the department annual budget
5 while serving as delegates and attending the National
6 Convention. The Finance committee shall properly budget
7 for such expense.

8 The rationale:

9 Compensation has been given but not written
10 into the Bylaws. The Convention Secretary has to arrive
11 to the -- prior to the other delegates and alternates,
12 usually a day early, to obtain information and material
13 in order to have delegates and alternates registered.

14 By direction of the convention committee,
15 I move the adoption of this Bylaws change.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is there a second?
17 We don't need the second. We need to adopt. This is
18 for adoption.

19 The change would be Department President,
20 Junior Past Department President, and Convention
21 Secretary shall be allowed plane fare and travel
22 allowance as approved in the department annual budget
23 while serving as delegates and attending the National
24 Convention. Now, the Finance committee shall properly
25 budget for such expense.

26 So we just added the secretary -- the
27 Convention Secretary.

28 Any discussion?

29 (No response.)

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No. I don't hear
31 any.

32 Those in favor of the motion say aye.

33 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed.

35 (No response.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It is
37 adopted.

38 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: As it
39 now reads:

40 Article V, Section 12, National Executive
41 Committeewoman.

42 The retiring Department President shall
43 automatically become the National Executive
44 Committeewoman and National Security Chairman, and the
45 Department President her alternate. In case of
46 a vacancy in the office of National Executive
47 Committeewoman or alternate, her successor, with the
48 unexpired term, shall be chosen by the Department
49 Executive Committee.

50 And the proposed change would now read:

1 The retiring Department President shall
2 automatically become the National Executive
3 Committeewoman and Legislative Chairman and the
4 Department President her alternate. In case of vacancy
5 in the office of National Executive Committeewoman or
6 alternate, her successor for the unexpired term shall be
7 chosen by Department Executive Committee.

8 By direction of the convention committee,
9 I move the adoption of this bylaw change.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: The motion is for
11 the retiring Department President shall automatically
12 become the National Executive Committeewoman and
13 Legislative Chairman and the Department President her
14 alternate. In case of vacancy in office of National
15 Executive Committeewoman or alternate, her successor for
16 the unexpired term shall be chosen by the Department
17 Executive Committee.

18 Any discussion?
19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't hear any.
21 Let's go vote. Those in favor say aye.

22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.

26 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Thank
27 you, Madam President.

28 Bylaws, as it now reads, Section A,
29 Compensation.

30 Subsidiary organization of the Department of
31 California shall be the 8 et 40 departmental, county
32 councils, and all other groups as may be organized under
33 the name and jurisdiction of the Department of
34 California.

35 And the proposed change would now read:

36 Subsidiary organization in the Department of
37 California shall be the county councils and all other
38 groups as may be organized under the name and
39 jurisdiction of the Department of California.

40 By direction of the Convention Committee,
41 I move the adoption of this constitutional change.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
43 that subsidiary organization in the Department of
44 California shall be the county councils and all other
45 groups as may be organized under the name and
46 jurisdiction of the Department of California.

47 Any discussion?
48 (No response.)

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't hear any;
50 so those in favor say aye.

1 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those opposed?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
5 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Thank
6 you, Madam President.
7 Article 1, Section 3, Department
8 Secretary/Treasurer, and they are all outlined for you
9 on Pages 6 and 7 of the original Constitution and Bylaws
10 changes. They were rejected in committee, and so we
11 won't change those -- Article 1, Section 3. We'll leave
12 them as they were.
13 As it now reads:
14 Article 1, Section 1: It shall be the duty of
15 the President to preside at all meetings of the
16 department convention assembled, and the Department
17 Executive Committee to enforce strict observation --
18 observance of the Constitution and Bylaws, except as
19 herein after in (D), and with the exception of the
20 National Security Chairman to appoint chairmen of
21 standing committees, hospital representatives and their
22 deputies, hospital chairmen and their deputies in nonVA
23 hospitals when requested by the district or districts
24 involved and the poppy production managers, and create
25 such other special committees and appoint members
26 thereof as she deems advisable and perform such other
27 duties as custom and parliamentary usage requires.
28 And the proposed change would now read:
29 It shall be the duty of the President to
30 preside at all meetings of the department convention
31 assembled and the Department Executive Committee to
32 enforce strict observance of the Constitution and
33 Bylaws, except as hereinafter provided in (D), and with
34 the exception of the Legislative Chairman to appoint
35 chairmen of standing committees, hospital
36 representatives, their deputies, hospital chairmen and
37 their deputies in nonVA hospitals when requested by the
38 district or districts involved, and the poppy production
39 managers, and create such other special committees and
40 appoint members thereof as she deems advisable, and
41 perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary
42 usage requires.
43 And this rationale is the same as Constitution
44 Article V, Section 12.
45 By direction of the convention committee,
46 I move the adoption of this bylaws change.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
48 to adopt the change. The change can only be removing
49 national security, replacing it with Legislative
50 Chairman.

1 Any discussion?
2 (No response.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor of
4 the motion please say aye.
5 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?
7 (No response.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: This is approved.
9 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Thank
10 you, Madam President.
11 As it now reads:
12 Article 1, Section 1, Department President.
13 It shall be the duty of the President to
14 preside at all meetings of the department convention
15 assembled and the Department Executive Committee; to
16 enforce strict observance of the Constitution and
17 Bylaws, except as hereinafter in (D), and with the
18 exception of the National Security Chairman.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excuse me. This
20 is what we have approved already; so you have to go
21 forward to the next.
22 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Oh,
23 yes. Thank you. I'm sorry. I'm rereading some of
24 this.
25 Okay. Bylaws as it now reads:
26 Article 3, Section 1, Finance and Security.
27 And now the finance and national security
28 proposed change would read:
29 Article 3, Section 1, Finance and Legislative.
30 Finance and legislative would be the rationale
31 to see Constitutional -- or Constitution Article V,
32 Section 12.
33 I move the adoption of this Constitution
34 change.
35 Thank you.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. The
37 proposed -- I am looking for the proposed change.
38 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Right
39 here.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. The
41 proposed change is the Department President shall
42 appoint the following standing committee chairman and --
43 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: That's
44 the third one. That's Article 3, Section 2.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.
46 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO:
47 Article 5, Section 12.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh. I'm sorry.
49 I went ahead of you.
50 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: That's

1 all right. It's in Section 1, Finance and Legislative.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So it is just
3 changing finance and national security finance.
4 And let's just make it.
5 Any discussion?
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
8 those in favor say aye.
9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
11 (No response.)
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Adopted.
13 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Thank
14 you.
15 Article 3, Section 2, Appointment of
16 Standing -- of Chairman of Standing Committees.
17 The Department President shall appoint the
18 following standing committee chairmen: Americanism,
19 Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Children & Youth, Community
20 Service, Constitution & Bylaws, Convention Commission,
21 Editor, Education, Girls State, Junior Activities,
22 Leadership, Legislative, Membership, Past Presidents,
23 Poppy, Public Relations, Veterans Affairs and
24 Rehabilitation.
25 The proposed change would now read:
26 Article III, Section 2, Appointment of Chairman
27 of Standing Committees.
28 The Department President shall appoint the
29 following standing committee chairmen: Americanism,
30 Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Children & Youth, Community
31 Service, Constitution & Bylaws, Convention Commission,
32 Editor, Education, Girls State, Junior Activities,
33 Leadership, Membership, National Security, Past
34 Presidents Parley, Poppy, Public Relations, Veterans
35 Affairs and Rehabilitation.
36 By direction of the Convention Committee,
37 I move the adoption of this Constitution change.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. The
39 motion -- the change involves only replacing national
40 security, interchanging with Legislative.
41 So any discussion?
42 (No response.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
44 those in favor say aye.
45 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?
47 (No response.)
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
49 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO:
50 Article VII, Section 1, Personnel and Powers of.

1 And they -- that was rejected in committee, and
2 it was giving the Department Secretary/Treasurer, if she
3 became a nonsalaried employee, a salaried position. She
4 would be able to have voting privileges. That was
5 rejected because they did not change the direction of
6 how we would hire a secretary.

7 And Article V -- no.
8 Article VII, Section 5, Nomination of
9 Department Secretary/Treasurer. This portion of the
10 Bylaws was rejected and, therefore, it doesn't have
11 a change.

12 Madam Department President, this concludes my
13 report.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I didn't think it
16 would be that easy.

17 Thank you very much, Madam Constitution &
18 Bylaws Chairman.

19 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: May
20 I continue with the supplemental?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. You may.

22 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: This
23 Fiddler had a very busy year with the rewriting and
24 amendments of three districts and 28 unit Bylaws. It
25 was truly a learning and interesting experience. The
26 Constitution & Bylaws Committee is asked to inform and
27 educate members on the importance of properly written
28 and updated documents, policies, and procedures.
29 Basically, we tried to instill in our membership the
30 true meaning of why Constitution & Bylaws are vital to
31 our organization. Our districts and units are all in
32 musical concert with updated current bylaws, making
33 beautiful music with a knowledge of Membership, United
34 in Service, Ideals, and Commitment.

35 Awards were presented at the committee meeting.

36 Now for the first place winners.

37 First place unit supplemental goes to
38 Nancy Hansen, J.B. Clark, Unit 149, District 22.

39 (Applause.)

40 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: First
41 place district supplemental goes to Carol Fuqua of
42 District 25.

43 (Applause.)

44 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Thank
45 you, Madam President, for this appointment. It was
46 a privilege to serve both you and the Department of
47 California.

48 Madam President, this concludes my report.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
50 much, Odette.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I think we need to
3 take a break so you can stretch and, you know, do what
4 you want to do. In ten minutes I want you to be back
5 here right away.

6 (Short recess taken from
7 3:46 p.m. to 3:54 p.m.)

8
9 AFTERNOON RECESS

10
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I would like to
12 let you know there will be a parade at 5:00, and the
13 parade would be number three. And for those interested
14 in joining in the parade, it will be at 5:00; so just
15 for your information.

16 Okay. I would like to move on. Please take
17 your seats. And I would like to move on.
18 Community Service Chairman Michelle Soares of
19 District 28.

20
21 COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

22 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:
23 Madam Department President, the convention committee on
24 Community Service met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 107C
25 of the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California.

26 The statistical report of this chairman appears
27 on Page 14 of the Book of Reports.

28 Susan Baker from District 28 was appointed
29 Secretary.

30 Jerry Darnelle from District 4 offered prayer.
31 And Lula Gooden from District 19 was appointed
32 Sergeant-at-Arms and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

33 A total of 24 district delegates answered roll
34 call, and we had nine visitors plus one male
35 Legionnaire.

36 The committee agreed on the following report.

37 The Department Code was read, and no code
38 changes are recommended at this time.

39 All second, third, and any program specific
40 awards were given in this committee, as well as
41 100 percent reporting awards to Districts 1, 5, 6, 7, 9,
42 10, 11, 14, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 30.

43 This concludes this committee report.

44 May I continue with my supplemental and first
45 place awards?

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

47 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:
48 Madam Department President, the Auxiliary of California,
49 in concert with other members of the American Legion
50 family, embraced the National Plan of Action this year.

1 There were many units who participated in National Days
2 of Service.

3 9/11, now known as Patriot Day, was of
4 particular interest, with many ceremonies being held in
5 remembrance of those that lost their lives in the
6 attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the
7 heroism of those that perished in a Pennsylvania field.

8 Make a Difference Day had many units donating
9 items to military outreach programs, veteran's recovery
10 programs, clothes closets, food pantries, and homeless
11 shelters.

12 On Family Volunteer Day, families pitched in
13 and helped pick up trash in and around their respective
14 communities. They also cleaned and repaired homes for
15 the elderly, including veterans who are on a fixed or
16 low income.

17 Veteran's Day ceremonies were held at most post
18 homes, with the Auxiliary helping out with many of them
19 helping set up, clean up, cooking, serving, and even
20 giving speeches.

21 Martin Luther King Day was celebrated with
22 parades and service in homeless shelters. As one in
23 four homeless men are veterans, this service is of
24 particular importance, not only on Martin Luther King
25 Day but every day.

26 While some of the Community Service National
27 Plan mirrored activities of the VA&R program, Auxiliary
28 members reported some of the following items under
29 Community Service. Homeless veterans activities were
30 planned and implemented in the following ways:
31 Providing a hot meal once a week. This particular
32 shelter only offers cold sandwiches; so to provide a hot
33 meal is especially appreciated. In addition, members
34 gathered clothing, shoes, blankets, and socks, and
35 simply talked to the homeless. 285 members volunteered
36 a total of 8,685 hours with \$9,500 in cash donations
37 given and donated goods with a value of \$20,598. As is
38 evident by the numbers, the Department of California
39 takes this matter very seriously and will continue to do
40 what we can to eradicate the homelessness that plagues
41 our veterans and our fellow Americans.

42 In addition, one group of ladies known as the
43 Happy Hookers -- I didn't make it up; I couldn't have
44 made that up -- the Happy Hookers knitted hats and
45 scarves for veterans, as do many other members and
46 nonaffiliated friends.

47 The Auxiliary members of California found
48 several ways to be innovative in their approach to
49 community service.

50 Graffiti cleanup days were held in many

1 communities. With paintbrushes in hand, Auxiliary
2 members set out to beautify their communities by
3 covering as much graffiti as they could find within
4 their assigned areas. This task is innovative in that
5 it is a different approach to serving the community.
6 Graffiti can be an eyesore, and when it's cleaned up
7 people can feel good about where they live and
8 oftentimes can move them into action themselves.

9 Another idea I thought was innovative was the
10 distribution of condoms and information on HIV and AIDS
11 at various music festivals, community concerts, veterans
12 transition centers, and homeless shelters. Not many
13 people would have the nerve to approach someone with
14 a condom and a pamphlet in hand, but this is not so with
15 the Auxiliary. We face challenges, especially when
16 there is a need for it in the community, and we tackle
17 the challenge head on.

18 STDs within the military community is still
19 relatively common, as it was years ago; however, today,
20 the diseases we face can kill you. I applaud the
21 efforts of this Auxiliary to education our communities
22 on such matters that may be uncomfortable to talk about.

23 Several members regularly help out and donate
24 items, such as food and medicine, to local animal
25 shelters. When military families move, oftentimes they
26 have to leave their animals behind. These members care
27 for the animals, and a few members take many animals
28 home until a proper and loving home can be found for
29 them. I believe this to be an innovative idea because
30 we oftentimes are so focused on the actual veteran and
31 their family that we often forget the extended family we
32 have with our animals, who need our love and our care.

33 The numbers -- the statistical numbers in the
34 units report reflect only the National Plan of Action
35 activity of reports that I received by the deadline
36 date. I did continue to receive reports well into the
37 month of June, but, unfortunately, the report to
38 National had already been sent in.

39 Our members were also hard at work in food
40 banks, senior centers, homeless shelters, nonmilitary
41 medical clinics, women's outreach programs, nursing
42 homes, libraries, museums, and other outreach programs.
43 They also donated blood and organized actual blood
44 drives. They recycled, planted gardens, participated in
45 cancer awareness, and beautified their communities.
46 Additionally, they helped out at schools, Habitat for
47 Humanity, and various other charitable organizations.
48 In total, an astounding 129,742 hours were reported just
49 to those activities.

50 California Auxiliary members are a force to

1 behold. When we see a need, we try our very best to
2 fulfill that need. And if we can't do it ourselves, we
3 will find someone that can.

4 I would like to mention briefly, which is --
5 sorry, ladies --

6 One of our Junior members from District 19,
7 Amanda O'Donnell.

8 (Applause.)

9 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:

10 I just want to mention that she -- she had a goal to
11 send Girl Scout cookies to the troops, and she set out
12 on that goal, and she received \$4400 to purchase
13 1,100 boxes of Girl Scout cookies for our troops.

14 (Applause.)

15 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:

16 Community service is a broad subject, and it's
17 impossible to put everything into five minutes -- I'm
18 sure I already went over my five minutes -- but I hope
19 you are proud of the dedicated service of the Department
20 of California members.

21 And I thank you, Madam Department President,
22 for this appointment.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome.

24 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:

25 That concludes my report.

26 May I continue with my first place awards?

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

28 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:

29 My first place -- my first place --

30 Your first place unit supplemental goes to
31 Cynthia Mayfield of Unit 716, District 29.

32 (Applause.)

33 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:

34 First place district supplemental goes to Lois Cornish,
35 District 22.

36 (Applause.)

37 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:

38 Now for a lot of the most prestigious awards we have in
39 Community Service, and that is the senior member
40 volunteer of the year. I hate the word "senior." It
41 makes it sound like we are so -- adult member -- adult
42 member volunteer of the year. She has been a member of
43 her unit for ten years, the last five of those years she
44 has chaired Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation. She
45 regularly visits VA hospitals and retirement homes. She
46 takes books, puzzles, toiletries, lap robes, and hats on
47 her visits. The most important thing is she takes her
48 ears, as she does a lot of listening and enjoys talking
49 with the veterans. She also donates time and clothing
50 to a homeless shelter, in addition to the time and food

1 she provides to a food pantry.

2 The list of her accomplishments is long; so in
3 the interest of time and without further ado, the
4 Department of California Volunteer of the Year is
5 Carol J. Robbins from Harold W. Hyland, Unit 53,
6 District 21.

7 (Applause.)

8 COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SOARES:
9 Madam President, this concludes my report.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
11 much, Michelle.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Next, the Junior
14 Activity.

15 (Music played.)

16

17 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES REPORT

18 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: Madam
19 President Pilar, the Junior Activities committee was
20 called to order on Thursday, June 23rd, 2011, in the
21 Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, California, at
22 10:00 a.m.

23 By consent, Sue Hooker of District 15 was
24 appointed Secretary.

25 Jackie Cleveland of District 23 was -- offered
26 the prayer.

27 Talia Avaina of District 21, who was also one
28 of our Juniors, served as Sergeant-at-Arms and led the
29 Pledge of Allegiance.

30 A total of 21 delegates answered roll call, and
31 there were eight guests.

32 The committee agreed on the following report.

33 The Code was read and no action taken.

34 Awards and citations, second and third place
35 winners were announced, and copies of these awards were
36 in all delegates' packets. Another list of the winners
37 is available at the department office here at the
38 convention.

39 With no further business, the meeting was
40 adjourned at 10:45.

41 Madam President, may I continue with my
42 supplemental report, followed by the awarding of the
43 first place winners?

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

45 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: Our Juniors
46 have been busy all year long. They started raising
47 money for Junior Conference before the final gavel fell
48 in Fresno. Even with their assigned duties as pages,
49 they still managed to raise a little over \$300 before
50 leaving Fresno. That was a great start for the annual

1 ticket sales for Junior Conference.

2 We had a total of 179 units purchasing tickets,
3 and we raised \$5,096. Just think of how much we could
4 have done if every unit had purchased just one book. We
5 had four districts that had 100 percent purchasing
6 tickets.

7 Thank you, ladies, for your hard work.

8 The winning tickets were drawn at Junior
9 Conference, and the winners were:

10 \$75 winner to Orcutt, Unit 432, District 16.

11 \$50 winner Clifford Harder, Unit 163,
12 District 3.

13 And \$25 winner, our own Melanie Taylor.

14 (Applause.)

15 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: Throughout
16 the state, our Juniors were busy promoting the
17 American Legion Auxiliary. The energy these young
18 ladies put into the activities is amazing. They
19 attended workshops, helped serve luncheons and dinners
20 at local posts, helped in their communities in
21 conjunction with other organizations, volunteered at
22 church camps, helped put flags up for Veterans Day and
23 Memorial Day, sent cards on Veterans Day and Memorial
24 Day and many other holidays, conducted interviews with
25 veterans, volunteered at VA clinics, and were very
26 active with the Operation Military Kids.

27 Our Juniors were also very busy helping --
28 excuse me -- helping tiny tots with their activities,
29 and then going all the way to the other side with those
30 older members with the new technologies.

31 That was -- one of the largest patches, ladies,
32 that was earned with the patch program was the
33 technology patch.

34 They helped with Twitter, texting, e-mailing,
35 surfing the net, and Facebooking. Again, this was a new
36 program, and the Juniors enjoyed teaching those of us
37 who don't know how to do it.

38 156 Juniors volunteered a total of \$3,388 at
39 a cost of \$6,360, and they had 171 service projects.

40 We had one entry for the Junior Member Past
41 Department President Scholarship. Her name is
42 Ashlee Meyer, Charter Cove, Unit 755, District 18, and
43 it is my pleasure to present her with a scholarship.

44 (Applause.)

45 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: At this
46 time I would like to present my first place awards.

47 District 29, Chairman Stephanie Janji.

48 (Applause.)

49 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: And my
50 first place award for best unit supplemental is

1 Debra Driscoll, Unit 716, District 29.

2 (Applause.)

3 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: Junior
4 Conference was a great success, and I will now let the
5 Junior Conference Director, Kathie Martinez, give you
6 the highlights and the excitement of the whole weekend
7 in San Bernardino mountains in April.

8 Madam President, thank you for this
9 appointment.

10 This concludes my report.

11 (Applause.)

12

13 JUNIOR CONFERENCE REPORT

14 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Thank
15 you, Genie.

16 Madam President, in keeping with President
17 Pilar's theme, M.U.S.I.C., Membership United in Service,
18 Ideals, and Commitment, our Junior Conference Concert
19 Under the Stars went off without too many hitches. I'm
20 not sure if our Junior Conference has ever been
21 blanketed in snow, but we had it this year. In spite of
22 the assurances received from the facilities of "No. We
23 rarely have snow in April," we had snow, and it was
24 beautiful.

25 For six long months it had been all about
26 getting the forms ready; putting the Junior books
27 together; making the reservation list; room assignments;
28 arranging for the counselors; working with the facility;
29 getting the supplies ready for our bonfire, craft time,
30 and elections; making sure we were entertained. We were
31 finally ready for a wonderful weekend.

32 A total of 64 Juniors, only three less than
33 last year, attended this year's conference, which
34 included 21 new Juniors and six new counselors. Our
35 Juniors and their Senior counselors played in the snow,
36 threw snowballs, made snow angels, and performed
37 a wonderful concert of music and dance.

38 Although the Friday Night Flag Retirement
39 Ceremony was precluded due to weather -- it was
40 snowing -- our Americanism Chairman Kathleen Conrad
41 informed our Juniors on the proper way to retire the
42 colors in addition to recapping the history of our flag
43 and what the stars and stripes stand for.

44 Our Saturday workshops gave our Juniors the
45 opportunity to learn and participate in working our
46 Auxiliary programs with the assistance of our department
47 chairman. Education Chairman Harriet Clendenin assisted
48 our Juniors in assembling "Give 10 to Education" packs,
49 which were delivered to local schools.

50 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman

1 Terry Mikesell, while informing our Juniors of all that,
2 is included in the program that had the Juniors making
3 a rainbow of hands for the veterans, which will be
4 displayed in the veterans home in Lancaster. This is
5 their -- their rainbow.

6 (Applause.)

7 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Berney
8 DeLaCruz from Operation Military Kids (OMK) spoke to our
9 Juniors on what goes into a HERO pack, while our Juniors
10 began packing them. In addition to the HERO packs,
11 Berney spoke about upcoming opportunities for our
12 Juniors to work with OMK here in Southern California.

13 Saturday evening brought about our
14 entertainment and our election results. Congratulations
15 to our honorary Junior officers for the year 2011-2012:

16 President Elaina Gutierrez, Unit 252,
17 District 23.

18 Vice President Alayna Johnson, Unit 310,
19 District 22.

20 Secretary Jillian Infusino, Unit 272,
21 District 19.

22 Chaplain Dominique Campbell, Unit 252,
23 District 23.

24 Historian Samantha Garcia, Unit 716,
25 District 29.

26 Sergeant-at-Arms Katie Culver, Unit 496,
27 District 19.

28 Marshal Quanita Lynch, Unit 310, District 22.
29 (Applause.)

30 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: We know
31 that these young ladies will represent our Department
32 Juniors well and will have many accomplishments to
33 report on at their Junior Conference in 2012.

34 Our delegate to National Convention in
35 Minneapolis, Minnesota, is Chantel Muro of Unit 277,
36 District 19, and our --

37 AUDIENCE MEMBER: 29.

38 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ:
39 I apologize.

40 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

41 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: I will
42 correct that.

43 And our alternate is Deja'Nae Trimble of
44 Unit 578, District 23. I know that these two young
45 ladies will do the Department of California proud.

46 Conference culminated on Sunday with the
47 graduation of four Juniors to our Senior ranks:

48 Jamiyah Sparks, Unit 252, District 23.

49 Chantel Muro, Unit 277, District 29.

50 Prescilla Perry, Unit 252, District 23.

1 Raychelle Trimble, Unit 578, District 23.
2 I know that all the members of the Department
3 of California wish them well as they embark upon new
4 opportunities that will be opening up for them, not only
5 in life but as a senior member of the American Legion
6 Auxiliary.

7 Although the memorial service is a very somber
8 service which serves to remember those Juniors which
9 were taken from us this past year, it was also the
10 fitting end to a weekend made of new friends and new
11 memories.

12 I cannot say enough about our counselors.
13 Their dedication not only to this organization but to
14 our Juniors was very evident at the Junior Conference.
15 We had counselors who drove up to 12 hours to be there
16 or to bring the Juniors from their district. Others got
17 on a plane to get there. I could not have asked to work
18 with a better group of women. A sincere thank you to
19 all of you. You ladies were wonderful.

20 At this time I would like to introduce the
21 Junior Conference Committee for 2010-2011:

22 Our advisor, Veronica McGough.
23 (Applause.)

24 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Our
25 one-year member, Jackie Cleveland.

26 (Applause.)

27 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Our
28 two-year member, Stacy Platt, is unable to be with us.

29 And neither is our three-year member,
30 Betty Shelton.

31 A special thank you to these ladies who helped
32 make Junior Conference 2011 a great success.

33 New people, new places, new opportunities,
34 treasured moments and memories, that's what we had at
35 the 2011 Junior conference in Forest Fall.

36 Thank you, Madam President Pilar, for allowing
37 me to serve the Department of California as the Junior
38 Conference Director for 2010-2011. It was an
39 opportunity I will hold in my memories for many, many
40 years.

41 Thank you.

42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
44 much. And this will be the last report for today.

45 (Music played.)

46

47

AMERICANISM REPORT

48 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: I've got to
49 regroup here. I thought I was on for tomorrow.

50 Can you guys hear me?

1 The convention committee for Americanism met on
2 June 23rd, Room 107C, Ontario Convention Center, and
3 convened at 11:12.
4 The statistical report of this chairman appears
5 on Page 12 of the Book of Reports.
6 Molly D. Smith from District 2 was appointed
7 Secretary.
8 Barbara LaDoucer offered prayer from
9 District 4.
10 And Susan Peters served as Sergeant-at-Arms
11 from District 10.
12 There were nine visitors present. A total of
13 20 district delegates answered roll call. No Juniors
14 were present.
15 The committee agreed on the following report.
16 By the direction of the committee, I move to
17 make the following changes to the Department Code, which
18 is Number 9 and Number 10, which I handed out to these
19 ladies because it pertains to -- I'll read them.
20 Contributions Number 9 is:
21 Contributions to the department fund for the
22 Freedoms Foundation Americanism Youth Conference shall
23 be forwarded to the department office. Contributions
24 received after December 15th shall be held for the
25 following year.
26 That was in 1989. Sorry.
27 And we move to delete this as the Freedoms
28 Foundation is not a program that is sponsored anymore by
29 a pronounceable organization.
30 So we have also deleted Number 10, which is
31 units --
32 I move to accept the removal of Number 9 from
33 the Department Americanism Code by the direction of the
34 Americanism committee. Sorry.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do you have any
36 committee report copies for us?
37 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Here.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, there it is.
39 Oh.
40 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: You
41 don't have any either?
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I have one.
43 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Shall I continue?
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Proceed.
45 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So by the
46 direction of the Americanism Committee, I move to make
47 the following changes: To delete Number 9 and
48 Number 10 -- no. Number 9.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have to do
50 them one by one.

1 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So I move to
2 delete Number 9 from the Americanism Code.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. What is the
4 change?
5 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: The change is to
6 delete Number 9.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
8 moved to delete Number 9 of the Americanism Code, and
9 I -- this concerns the contributions to the Department
10 fund for Americanism Youth Conference and so on and so
11 forth. We don't have any more Americanism Youth
12 Conference.
13 So any discussion?
14 (No response.)
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none, we
16 will vote on it.
17 Those in favor to delete Code Number 9 say aye.
18 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?
20 (No response.)
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted. So
22 delete Number 9.
23 Okay. You may continue.
24 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So by direction
25 of the Americanism Committee, we also move to delete
26 Number 10, which pertains to the Freedom Foundation as
27 well because what it says is that units desiring to
28 sponsor a teacher for the Freedoms Foundation seminar
29 shall contact Freedoms Foundation directly for an
30 application. The department chairman shall include the
31 address of Freedoms Foundation in her bulletin. 2009.
32 And we move to delete that as well since we
33 don't sponsor that.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. And because
35 we move to delete Number 10, it is related to Number 9;
36 since we have deleted Number 9, it is moving to delete
37 Number 10.
38 Any discussion?
39 (No response.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Madam
41 Parliamentarian? Yeah. I asked for discussion.
42 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Diane
43 DeLashmit.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing
45 Diane DeLashmit.
46 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I am
47 just wondering, has the Freedoms Foundation seminar
48 sponsoring an event something that is cut out because
49 some units still sponsor teachers to Freedoms
50 Foundation? It doesn't necessarily have to be a program

1 of the Auxiliary. It is saying units desiring to
2 sponsor a teacher to Freedoms Foundation. I'm not sure
3 that program has been deleted per se.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. So maybe --
5 Nancy is the Children & Youth Chairman.
6 So she has --
7 NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN BROWN PARK:
8 Nancy Brown Park, Past Department President.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing
10 Nancy Brown Park.
11 NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN BROWN PARK:
12 Thank you.
13 This is no longer a project of the American
14 Legion Auxiliary. I would assume that if a unit wants
15 to sponsor a teacher, it is not -- it is not a part of
16 the program of the American Legion Auxiliary; so that
17 would be something for you if you want to do it.
18 Whether or not it could be part of the code, I don't
19 think it needs to be part of the code.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Nancy.
21 Any other discussion?
22 22ND DISTRICT MS. CORNISH: Madam President,
23 Lois Cornish, District 22.
24 I sat in that meeting yesterday, and we
25 discussed that. And we were unsure as to whether the
26 training of teachers had been cut out. We were aware
27 that the Freedoms Foundation for youth is no longer
28 supported, but I think we were going to look into -- be
29 looked into before we chose to eliminate it.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: The authority on
31 that, Children & Youth Chairman.
32 NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN BROWN PARK:
33 Well, the program still exists, although the Auxiliary
34 is no longer a part of it. It was a financial decision,
35 as well as a participation decision, and that's why it
36 still exists. It is still there, but the
37 American Legion Auxiliary no longer participates.
38 22ND DISTRICT MS. CORNISH: I understand that,
39 but in the committee meeting we first said we were going
40 to delete -- request deleting to get both of them out,
41 and then someone recommended maybe we should look into
42 it to see if it is also no longer supported. That's all
43 I am saying.
44 NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN BROWN PARK:
45 That's what we needed to say. The Auxiliary no longer
46 supports the teacher education. They still have teacher
47 education, but it is not a sanctioned program of the
48 American Legion Auxiliary.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Nancy.
50 Okay. Now I think that, you know, it is up to

1 us, the community program, but it has nothing to do with
2 National. And let's vote on this.

3 Is there any additional discussion?

4 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: I have to call
5 our committee back together this afternoon.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Kat, you have to
7 meet with your committee again if we will consider
8 deleting this Number 10 or because it is no longer
9 a part of the National, and it is up to us if we want to
10 continue it. But it is up to your committee if they
11 will reject this or approve this and then present it
12 again.

13 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Tomorrow?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Is that right?

15 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Yeah. My
16 committee -- preconvention committee members will meet
17 with me after this meeting, and we can discuss that.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

19 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Okay. Here we
20 go.

21 So a total of 17 units had 100 percent
22 reporting certificates that were presented to them in
23 their pamphlets. I awarded all second and third place
24 awards during the committee meeting, and they will be
25 posted in the office -- the department office at the
26 conclusion of my report.

27 With no further business, the meeting was
28 adjourned with prayer.

29 This completes the report of the Americanism
30 committee. I move for its acceptance.

31 Madam Department President, may I present you
32 with the supplemental report and the Americanism essay
33 winners and best district and unit supplementals?

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. You may.

35 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Madam President,
36 our Auxiliary did an amazing job of perpetuating the
37 principles of Americanism ideals and educating
38 communities, youth groups, and the general public by
39 demonstrating proper flag etiquette, participating in
40 patriotic holidays, sending care packages to troops
41 overseas, and a variety of activities that promoted
42 citizenship and basic understanding of our Constitution.
43 Local community members who showed a love of country by
44 flying the flag were recognized with certificates of
45 appreciation, and the children in their communities had
46 unique opportunities in learning how to raise and lower
47 the flag and learn the value of what our flag represents
48 to our country and learn what it means to be a proud
49 American.

50 82 units reported some sort of flag

1 presentations to community and schools and purchased
2 flags as well and sent over 3,138 pocket flags to our
3 service men and women, with at least \$3,000 spent on
4 flags.

5 Many units participated in Get Out the Vote
6 projects with schools and youth and helped elders in
7 their communities get to and from polling places.
8 \$16,030.77 was spent on patriotic holidays and parades
9 to show spirit for the Red, White, and Blue, and over
10 50 essays were received from all age groups.

11 More than 10,869 volunteer hours were reported
12 from units and districts for a wide variety of projects.
13 So there were seventeen 100 percent reporting
14 certificates submitted.

15 It has been a pleasure and a privilege for this
16 chairman to promote patriotism and a love of country for
17 America, Home of the Brave and Land of the Free, and
18 reinforce the ideals and principles of which our great
19 nation was founded upon.

20 All matters pertaining to the flag were
21 demonstrated, and two supplementals were forwarded to
22 National, along with this chairman's report of what
23 California does for all age groups, young and old, to
24 exemplify the interest we show in our country, our
25 communities, and sincere appreciation for our service
26 men and women.

27 Thank you to all who participated this year and
28 shared their accomplishments and their struggles.
29 A listing of awards will be posted in this office -- in
30 the department office.

31 Okay. So if I may hand out -- I did send
32 out -- oh, here they are. They are all here.

33 Okay. So best overall supplementals by
34 district was reported to National, along with my report
35 for consideration. It goes to District 25, Carol Fuqua.

36 (Applause.)

37 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So the best unit
38 supplemental goes to Danielle White from Inyo 118,
39 District 27, and that was one of them that I forwarded
40 to National, as well.

41 (Applause.)

42 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: I'm getting all
43 misty eyed up here.

44 Okay. The Americanism essay winners are as
45 follows. Second and third place certificates were
46 handed out at the preconvention committee meeting,
47 except for Grades 4, 11, and 12, and these are awards
48 that come from the Department; so I understand that the
49 checks for the second place were in the mail as of
50 yesterday, Doris told me, and they should be here today.

1 So for Group 1 first place is awarded to
2 District 2, Natalie Wong, a fourth grader for "Veterans,
3 who are they?"
4 (Applause.)
5 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So Group 2, first
6 place is awarded to District 14, Allison Dyke, who is
7 a sixth grader, "What we need to do to protect our
8 environment."
9 (Applause.)
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No pictures at
11 this moment, but pictures will be taken after the report
12 by the flags.
13 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So Group 3, first
14 place will be awarded to District 18, Kristen Verstork
15 Hayes, I guess -- I hope I'm not mispronouncing her
16 name -- an eighth grader, "What being a patriot means to
17 me."
18 (Applause.)
19 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: All right. So
20 I'm getting there.
21 Okay. So Group 4, which is the high schoolers,
22 first place went to District 14, Marina Trisick, an
23 eleventh grader, "How the Constitutional amendments
24 affected my life."
25 It's funny, but I picked her essay at first
26 because she was one of the two that were handwritten in
27 that age group, and I really didn't like the looks of
28 the essay when I first saw it. But I read it and read
29 it and that was the winner, so....
30 (Applause.)
31 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: And then for
32 Group 2 -- or Group 4, the second place came from
33 District 25, Ariel Holly, who attends San Bernardino
34 High School.
35 (Applause.)
36 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Okay. And then
37 third place for that Group 4 is awarded to District 15,
38 Ashley Romeria. She's an eleventh grader.
39 (Applause.)
40 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Okay. So that
41 was it for the high schoolers.
42 Then I also had three from Group 5, children
43 with exceptional needs. "How can I be a better
44 citizen?" And first place in the age group 14 to 20
45 goes to District 14 for A.J. Gonzalez, who is a tenth
46 grader.
47 (Applause.)
48 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: It was no easy
49 feat keeping all these separated, I tell you.
50 Okay. Let's see. And then in Group 5 -- or --

1 yeah, Group 5, age 11 to 14, District 4, David
2 Gutierrez, eighth grade; and also second place was
3 Emily Watson, also District 4.

4 (Applause.)

5 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So Madam
6 President and Auxiliary members, I think that -- oh,
7 wait. I need to hand out my presents. One second.
8 Sorry.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now, if you want
10 to have pictures taken by the flag, you may, but please
11 keep quiet.

12 And before we adjourn, our Department Secretary
13 has some communications.

14 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: And I'll post all
15 of these as soon as we are done here.

16 Madam President, thank you once again for this
17 appointment.

18 And I will meet with my committee to work on
19 those.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
21 much.

22 (Applause.)

23

24 ANNOUNCEMENTS

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
26 Ladies, I need you to listen very carefully. We are
27 going to go through these rather quickly because I know
28 Madam President wants to recess the session.

29 I need District 1 President and District 29
30 President to meet Margaret Quiñones immediately
31 following the session right here at the end of the
32 stage.

33 I also need to announce again that the
34 Education committee that met yesterday is to meet with
35 the Education Chairman, Harriet Clendenin, immediately
36 following the session. It is necessary that she meets
37 with you behind these curtains as soon as we close.

38 I have a cell phone. I have a black button.

39 I want to let everyone know the Ways & Means
40 drawing is going to be held Saturday afternoon around
41 3:30 p.m., and anyone wishing to purchase tickets,
42 please do so by 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, and please
43 deposit all of your tickets at that time.

44 Readiness and hospitality groups will be in
45 Room 112 at Ayres Boutique Suites from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

46 For the PDPs, Virginia Gandy's Legionnaires,
47 Judy Lloyd's Editors, and Diane DeLashmit's Circus Act
48 will be meeting Saturday at noon in the convention
49 center lobby.

50 All right. What did I do?

1 Norma's Birds of Paradise will meet at Ayres
2 Hotel, Room 3302, at the lunch recess on Saturday.
3 Okay. District 5 has two dinner tickets for
4 tomorrow evening available.
5 Again, there is the dark-colored sunglasses in
6 the office.
7 District 29 has one ticket available for the
8 banquet tomorrow night.
9 And I don't have the rest of the PDPs. Hold
10 it. I know I have the Classic people. I already did
11 that one. No?
12 Odette, didn't I have the Classic Penguins?
13 Hold on.
14 Linda's Workmen and Park's Patriots will be
15 meeting with Sandy's Colonels.
16 Sandy, are you in the room?
17 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Yes, ma'am.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Where
19 are you meeting, dear?
20 AUXILIARY MEMBER: 3356.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Room
22 3356 at the DoubleTree at noon. And Bonnie's Princesses
23 at noon.
24 Everybody understand that?
25 Odette, you did give me your Classic Penguins;
26 is that correct? At noon?
27 Okay. The Classic Penguins will meet along
28 with the Peachy Performers -- whew. These are tongue
29 twisters. The Peachy Performers and the Classic --
30 Classy Penguins will meet in our department office,
31 Room 104A at noon tomorrow.
32 Were there any other, ladies?
33 Linda Capels? You haven't given it to me yet?
34 Okay. What?
35 Ship's Captains are meeting tomorrow morning
36 for breakfast in the DoubleTree Hotel restaurant next to
37 the Starbucks 7:00 a.m. Early risers. Should have
38 known. She is a Navy person.
39 Okay. Sue's Lighthouses, Melanie's Hot Air
40 Balloonists, breakfast tomorrow at 0700 -- Navy person
41 too -- DoubleTree Hotel at the Citrus West Restaurant.
42 It's next to Starbucks in the lobby.
43 All right. Linda's Racers will meet today
44 during the noon -- no -- tomorrow during the noon lunch
45 recess at the tables in the hall by the exit doors and
46 the lunch buffet. You guys know where that is.
47 Okay?
48 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: This is
49 too much to repeat.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank

1 you.
2 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS:
3 Shelby's Actresses -- did I forget anybody, Margaret? --
4 and our All Stars are meeting in Margaret's and my room
5 in the Ayres Boutique at lunch tomorrow, Room 117. But
6 we are planning on trying to get a shuttle from the
7 hotel and meet somewhere out here, which we'll give you
8 the directions tomorrow what you need and what door it
9 will be and drive you over there and back because it is
10 too hot to walk. We'll meet tomorrow at noon -- at the
11 close of the convention at lunch. We recess at lunch.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
13 Did I get all of you PDPs that want their lunches
14 announced?
15 And I just have a real quick -- Bev?
16 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: Did you
17 announce mine earlier? I sent you a note.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 I know.
20 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
21 She can't find it.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Where
23 are you meeting?
24 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I don't
25 know.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Oh,
27 you said you didn't know where you were meeting, but you
28 are going to meet tomorrow; right?
29 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: We are
30 going to meet tomorrow and do what we can. Where?
31 Where the luncheon buffet is.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Where
33 the luncheon buffet outside the Starbuck's, in that
34 area?
35 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: Yeah.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: With
37 Madeline. Okay. What was Madeline's -- Madeline's,
38 what, Princesses? No. They weren't princesses.
39 I don't know.
40 For all of you District Presidents that were
41 District Presidents more than one year, how do you make
42 all these lunches?
43 Okay. Did I get everybody? What?
44 Oh, yes. Delores, 7:00 a.m. tomorrow morning
45 for the District Presidents to meet with Credentials in
46 the department office. I believe she stated 7:00 a.m.
47 What time do we convene tomorrow, 8:30?
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: 8:30.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
50 convene at 8:30 tomorrow morning; so I assume she meant

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/24/2011

1 7:00 a.m.
2 Any others that I missed?
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I have a reminder
4 for the Past Department Presidents. We will have dinner
5 tonight, and you will all come to my room around 5:30 so
6 we can all get drunk.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
9 Whoever this cell phone belongs to, it's ringing.
10 Hello? No. Who are you calling? Well, this
11 happens to be the American Legion Auxiliary Department
12 Secretary. Who is this? Altus? Okay. Altus has lost
13 her cell phone, and I have it; so I need to know --
14 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
15 District 25.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
17 I'll have her call you back, sir.
18 (Applause.)
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Altus
20 is going to pay. Hers is \$10.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Another reminder.
22 Those who want to the participate in the
23 parade, the dance after -- before the closing and bring
24 your -- anything musical outfit that -- you will all
25 wear your attire. So it will be a fun day tomorrow to
26 release our you know what.
27 So we are adjourned until 8:30 tomorrow.
28 (4:48 p.m.)

29
30 ADJOURNMENT
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

1) ss.
2 COUNTY OF KERN)
3
4

5 I, B. Suzanne Hull, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate
7 Number 13495, do hereby certify that the American Legion
8 Auxiliary Convention was taken Friday, June 24, 2011, at
9 the time and place set forth on the first page hereof.

10 That upon the taking of the convention, the
11 words of the American Legion Auxiliary members were
12 written down by me in stenotypy and thereafter
13 transcribed by computer under my supervision; that the
14 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the
15 testimony given by the American Legion Auxiliary
16 members.

17 I further certify that I am neither counsel for
18 nor in any way related to any party to said action, nor
19 in any way interested in the result or outcome thereof.

20 Dated this 7th day of July, 2011, at
21 Bakersfield, California.

22
23
24 B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2011
ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER
ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME II of III
SINGLE SPACE TRANSCRIPT
50 LINES PER PAGE

Reported by: B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

	PAGE
1	
2	
3	Call to Order (Pilar Reyes) 118
4	Invocation (Sylvia Alcantar) 118
5	Roll Call (Doris Kilkenny) 118
6	Americanism Report (Continued) (Kat Conrad) 128
7	Historian Report (Rosemary Weber) 128
8	Education Report (Harriet Clendenin) 130
9	Public Relations Report (Linda Farriss) 137
10	Department Editor Report (Estella Avina) 140
11	Morning Recess 143
12	Credentials Chairman (Dolores Ryan) 143
13	Elections Report (Marge Rye) 144
14	Election of Department President 2011-2012 152
15	(Pilar Reyes)
16	Election of Department Vice President 2011-2012 152
17	(Pilar Reyes)
18	Election of Junior Member of Finance 2011-2012 153
19	(Pilar Reyes)
20	Election of Delegates and Alternates for 153
21	National Convention (Doris Kilkenny)
22	Ratification of Election of District Presidents 154
23	(Doris Kilkenny)
24	Ratification of Election of District First Vice 156
25	Presidents (Doris Kilkenny)
26	Ratification of Election of District Second 157
27	Vice Presidents (Doris Kilkenny)
28	Announcement of Elected Officers 2011-2012 159
29	(Pilar Reyes)
30	Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Report 159
31	(Terry Mikesell)
32	Director of Volunteer Services Rex Jennings 167
33	Big Mike Neiderberger 171
34	Membership Report (Alzora Carter) 178
35	Department Commander Mark Foxworthy 185
36	Announcements (Doris Kilkenny) 187
37	Luncheon Recess 188
38	A Hero's Hero (Sylvia Alcantar) 188
39	Membership Awards (Alzora Carter) 188
40	New Charters (Doris Kilkenny) 190
41	Poppy Report (Loretta Marsh) 191
42	National Security Report (Norma DuVall) 199
43	Donations (Doris Kilkenny) 204
44	Auxiliary Emergency Fund Report 206
45	(Lucille Taylor)
46	Convention Commission Report (Beverly Sparks) 208
47	Children & Youth Report (Anita Biggs) 210
48	Leadership Report (Linda Fercho) 214
49	
50	

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

	TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)	PAGE
1		
2		
3	Finance Report (Linda Diebel)	218
4	Finance Budget (Linda Diebel, Susie Tozier,	225
5	Norma Billings)	
6	Advisory Report (Ruby Kapsalis)	239
7	Distinguished Guest Report (Linda Workman)	239
8	Announcements (Doris Kilkenney)	242
9	Adjournment	244
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		
39		
40		
41		
42		
43		
44		
45		
46		
47		
48		
49		
50		

1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2011; 8:41 A.M.
3 ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER
4 ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA
5
6 CALL TO ORDER
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Everyone, please
8 take your seats.
9 Before I start, I want to let you know that it
10 would be kind if you would not go through the curtains
11 over there because it disturbs the people on the other
12 side; so please don't go through the curtains.
13 This convention session is reconvened.
14 Sylvia Alcantar, Department Chaplain, will
15 offer the invocation.
16
17 INVOCATION
18 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Let us pray.
19 Holy Spirit of wisdom, refresh us with Your
20 lifesaving power. You have entrusted us. Help us to
21 share ideas and plans with each other. Keep us kind and
22 courteous to one another. Give us insight to the work
23 at hand that we may further Your causes and benefit many
24 people. Help us to resist any temptation to dominate,
25 control, or forget the needs of all. We ask this
26 through Your Name.
27 Amen.
28 ALL PRESENT: Amen.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Amen.
30 The Department Secretary, Doris Kilkenny, will
31 call the roll call of officers, chairmen, and the
32 District Presidents.
33 (Music played.)
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: This is the drunk
35 crew. I drink to that. This is a great, great group.
36 No Pilar rules. Oh, my gosh. I won't rule.
37 (Singing "Show Me the Way To Go Home.")
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, ladies.
39
40 ROLL CALL
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: All
42 the Past Department Presidents are present.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Now you can
44 take your stations.
45 All right. We will hear the roll call.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
47 Madam President, last night, told me that they were
48 going to go back to her room and get drunk. I really
49 didn't believe them, but now I do.
50 Madam Department President Pilar Reyes.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, present.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
3 Department Vice President Linda Fercho.
4 LEADERSHIP CHAIRPERSON FERCHO: Present.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
6 you.
7 Secretary Doris Kilkenny, present.
8 NEC Woman Norma DuVall.
9 Do you have a hangover?
10 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRPERSON KAPSALIS:
11 She's not admitting it.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Is
13 that really apple juice, orange juice, or mimosas?
14 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRPERSON KAPSALIS: It's
15 water.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: The
17 only reason I'm asking is because I'm jealous.
18 Chaplain Sylvia Alcantar.
19 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Present.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 Historian Rosemary Weber.
22 Did I do Historian? Where is she? Rosemary?
23 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Here.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We didn't hear
25 you.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
27 Well, you know, with all these half drunks up here, it
28 is kind of hard to hear.
29 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit.
30 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Present.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
32 Musician Janet Wilson.
33 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN WILSON: Singing praises.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
35 Sergeant-at-Arms Zana Chaney.
36 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: Here.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
38 Marshal Molly Smith.
39 DEPARTMENT MARSHAL SMITH: Here.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 Finance Committee Chairman Linda Diebel.
42 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
43 Counting the money.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 Finance Committee - Senior Member Susie Tozier.
46 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
47 TOZIER: Looking for the money.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 Finance Committee - Junior Member Norma Billings.
50 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR MEMBER

1 BILLINGS: Money, money, money, money.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
3 Advisory Chairman Ruby Kapsalis.
4 Sober -- sober or not sober?
5 Ruby Kapsalis.
6 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
7 KAPSALIS: Hi, everybody.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She has
9 a hangover.
10 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
11 KAPSALIS: I'm not admitting that.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 Advisory Committee Margaret Quiñones.
14 Are you sober?
15 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
16 QUIÑONES: Glad to be here.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
18 Advisory Committee Willie Burke.
19 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BURKE:
20 I still can't find my glasses.
21 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRPERSON
22 TAYLOR: They're on your head, honey.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Past
24 National President Josie Melgard.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
27 probably glad she's not seeing this.
28 Americanism Kat Conrad.
29 AMERICANISM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Here.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Lucille Taylor.
32 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
33 TAYLOR: Here.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
35 Children & Youth Anita Biggs.
36 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:
37 Good morning.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
39 morning.
40 Community Service Michelle Soares.
41 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOARES: Here.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: You
43 weren't with these ladies last night, were you?
44 Constitution & Bylaws Odette Cuccaro.
45 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
46 CUCCARO: I'm here.
47 Good morning, Doris.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
49 Convention Chairman - Ontario - Norma DuVall.
50 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Good morning,

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 Doris.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
3 morning.
4 Convention Commission Chairman Beverly Sparks.
5 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I'll
6 drink to that.
7 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
8 KAPSALIS: Give her one more.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 Credentials, Dolores Ryan.
11 CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYAN: Here.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 Distinguished Guest Chairman Linda Workman.
14 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Not so
15 loud.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 Editor Estella Avina.
18 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Present.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 Education, Harriet Clendenin.
21 EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Good
22 morning.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
24 morning.
25 Elections, Marge Rye.
26 ELECTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYE: Looking for
27 the Past Presidents' bottle.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
29 I think it is empty.
30 Girls State Chairman Jean McGinnis.
31 Are they gone?
32 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's at Girls State.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Girls
35 State Director Sherry Schneider.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
38 Junior Activities Geniecca Risner.
39 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: Good
40 morning, Doris.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
42 morning.
43 Did I say it right?
44 Okay. Junior Conference Director Kathie
45 Martinez.
46 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Good
47 morning, Doris.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
49 morning.
50 Leadership, Linda Fercho.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Here.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
3 You're going to fit right in, eventually.
4 Legislative, Gloria Williams.
5 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Here.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Did
7 I hear her?
8 Okay. Membership Alzora Carter.
9 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CARTER: Good
10 morning, Doris.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
12 morning.
13 National Security Norma DuVall.
14 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:
15 Here.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Past
17 Presidents Parley, Sue Hooker.
18 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Here.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 Poppy, Loretta Marsh.
21 POPPY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MARSH: Still in the
22 building.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 Public Relations, Linda Farriss.
25 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
26 Present.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
28 Resolutions, Margaret Quiñones.
29 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON
30 QUIÑONES: Oh, I'm here.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
32 Just checking.
33 Rules, Barbara LaDoucer.
34 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Good
35 morning.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
37 morning.
38 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Terry
39 Mikesell.
40 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
41 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Present.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Ways
43 and Means Chairman Jean Cooley-Desmeules.
44 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
45 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Don't forget to stop by my table.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 District Presidents.
48 District 1, Patricia Lindley.
49 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Good morning.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 morning.
2 District 2, Molly Smith.
3 2ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT SMITH: Present.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 District 3, reporting only.
6 3RD DISTRICT MEMBERS: Here.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
8 District 4, Kristi McFee.
9 4TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT McFEE: Here.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
11 District 5, Peggy Grabski.
12 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: Good morning.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
14 District 6, Alice Cameron, First Vice.
15 6TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning. We are
16 here.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
18 morning.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 District 7, Lynn Uhazi.
22 DISTRICT 7: It's still a beautiful
23 day/morning.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 District 8, Tammy Manini.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
28 District 9, Connie Clement.
29 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Present.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 District 10, Emily Magwili.
32 10TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MAGWILI: Good morning.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
34 morning to you.
35 10TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing) Good
36 morning, good morning, good morning to you, our day is
37 beginning, and there is so much to do. Good morning,
38 good morning, good morning to you.
39 (Applause.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That's my
41 district.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
43 District 11, Laura Barghorn.
44 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: Here.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
46 District 12 -- oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Say it again.
47 Did you guys have something you were going to do?
48 11TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Here.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
50 Never mind. I had nothing to do last night. I should

1 have.
2 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
3 KAPSALIS: I don't believe you.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I did
5 not. Maybe in an hour. I don't know.
6 District 12, Lisa Stuart.
7 12TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing) Hey,
8 Madam President. District 12 is here, on this jingle
9 jangle morning, we'll come following you.
10 Doris, you are awesome. Are you sure you don't
11 want to reconsider?
12 (Applause.)
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'll
14 tell you when we are done with Finance.
15 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
16 KAPSALIS: Oh, wow.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: But
18 no.
19 District 13, Theresa Jacob.
20 13TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 District 14, Martha Sweeney.
23 DISTRICT 14 MEMBERS: District 14 says we're
24 swinging.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 District 15, Zana Chaney.
28 15TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning. We don't
29 know where our President is. Our President is lost.
30 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRPERSON
31 TAYLOR: She wasn't with us last night.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 District 16, Carol Rombaugh.
34 16TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing) You took us
35 on a sentimental journey. Sweet 16 enjoyed the ride.
36 Good morning.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: "Sentimental
38 Journey."
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: All
40 righty then.
41 District 18, Denyse Laugeson.
42 18TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning.
43 Oh, what a beautiful morning. Oh, what a
44 beautiful day. We are here to stay. They are working
45 membership your way.
46 Good morning, Madam President Pilar.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yahoo. Good
48 morning.
49 (Applause.)
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 District 19, Dorothy-Anne Chavez.
2 19TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning,
3 Madam President.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
5 Good morning.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
7 District 20, Maria Castrellon.
8 20TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: We are willing. We are
9 proud.
10 Good morning, Madam President.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 District 21, Cheryl Hathaway.
14 21ST DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 District 22, Midge Farrar.
18 22ND DISTRICT MEMBERS: District 22,
19 100 percent.
20 (Applause.)
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 District 23, Wantu Robinson.
23 23RD DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing)
24 Unforgettable, that's who you are. Unforgettable,
25 Madam President Pilar.
26 Good morning, Madam President.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
29 District 24, Susie Johansen.
30 24TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Good morning,
31 Madam President.
32 We are singing and we are swinging.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yahoo. Good
34 morning.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
36 District 25, Shannon Mendez.
37 25TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Another year of
38 membership united in service we stand. Our ideals and
39 commitment strengthened as we all work hand in hand.
40 Good morning.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
42 Good morning.
43 I love that.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 District 26, reporting only.
46 26TH DISTRICT MEMBER: Good morning.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
48 morning.
49 District 27, Jean Winkler-Ring.
50 27TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: Here.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
2 District 28, Connie Raya.
3 28TH DISTRICT: Good morning. Good morning.
4 Good morning. Good morning to you.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
6 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
7 KAPSALIS: You forgot to give me one.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: It's
9 okay, Connie. She's hung over anyway.
10 Karen Karanickolas, District 29.
11 29TH DISTRICT MEMBERS: (Singing) Singing our
12 way through the day.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
14 District 30, Belen Telford.
15 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: Here.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
17 Ladies, I hate really to break this news to you, but
18 I don't think we would make "American Idol," and I don't
19 think we'll make "America's Most Talented," but we sure
20 have a lot of fun.
21 VA&R Hospital Rep Veronica Spence.
22 Excused, Madam President?
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Pardon me. I'm
24 thinking of -- excused.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Wendy
26 O'Brien, Northern California/Sacramento.
27 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE O'BRIEN: Good
28 morning, Doris.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
30 morning.
31 Mary Sinopoli, Central California/Fresno.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Pat
34 Klang, Palo Alto.
35 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KLANG: Here.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Ruth
37 Briggs, Livermore.
38 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE BRIGGS: Here.
39 Good morning.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 Phyllis Holmberg, WAVE Clinic, San Diego.
42 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HOLMBERG: Good
43 morning.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 Mavis Kanka, Loma Linda, Jerry L. Pettis.
46 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KANKA: Present.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Pat
48 Alvarez, Long Beach.
49 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ALVAREZ: Good
50 morning.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
2 Earlean Paige, Greater Los Angeles.
3 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE PAIGE: Good
4 morning. I am here.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
6 Hermine Fosmark, Santa Barbara.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 Evangeline Acosta, Barstow.
10 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA: Good
11 morning, Doris.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
13 morning.
14 Lois Cornish, Chula Vista.
15 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: Here.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Peggy
17 Grabski, Yountville.
18 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE GRABSKI: Here.
19 Good morning.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 Veronica McGough, Lancaster.
22 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE MCGOUGH: Here.
23 Good morning, Doris.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 Madeline Lee, Ventura.
26 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE LEE: Good morning.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
28 morning.
29 Dolores Artis, West L.A.
30 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ARTIS: Good
31 morning, Doris.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
33 morning.
34 Madam President, that is your roll call.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
36 Now we continue on our reports. I would like
37 to call on the Education Chairman Harriet Clendenin;
38 Linda Farriss, National Security; Alzora Carter, Editor.
39 Please be on the stage.
40 And before you report, I would like to have
41 Kat Conrad.
42 Where is Rosemary -- are you there? -- to
43 please come.
44 And Sue Hooker, please come to the stage to
45 make some clarifications on your report, and please make
46 it fast because we --
47 (Music played.)
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may continue.
49 Kat, please proceed.
50

1 AMERICANISM REPORT (CONTINUED)
2 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Madam President,
3 the pre convention committee for Americanism remet
4 06/24/11, following the general meeting session to
5 further discuss and vote on deleting Number 10 from the
6 Americanism Code. By the direction of the committee,
7 I move to make the following change to the Americanism
8 Code, and that is to delete Number 10.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
10 moved to delete Number 10.
11 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Okay.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Will you please
13 read the code.
14 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: So Number 10 is
15 units deciding to sponsor a teacher to Freedoms
16 Foundation seminar shall contact the Freedoms Foundation
17 directly with the application. The department chairman
18 shall include the address of the Freedoms Foundation in
19 her bulletin.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Any discussion?
21 (No response.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Hearing
23 nothing; so let's vote.
24 Those in favor to adopt -- to delete Number 10
25 say aye.
26 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
28 (No response.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We adopt ten.
30 Thank you.
31 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN CONRAD: I would like to
32 say for all my essay winners and the first, second, and
33 third, I would like to have a photo opportunity after
34 the meeting closes this morning.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Thank you.
36 Next. Rosemary.
37
38 HISTORIAN REPORT
39 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: The Historian
40 Committee reconvened Friday, June 24th, to discuss the
41 changes.
42 Okay. Code reads next -- Code Number 6 now
43 reads:
44 Unit and Junior Historians entered into
45 competition shall forward their entries to the District
46 Historian for judging. The District Historian shall
47 select three Auxiliary members as judges. No more than
48 two shall be from the same unit, and if their unit has
49 an entry, they may not serve as a judge.
50 A. Judges on district and department levels

1 shall be provided with individual scoring sheets for
2 each entry. Scores shall be recorded for each category
3 by the judges, signed, and given to the
4 District/Department Historian, who will transfer the
5 scores to tally sheets and compute the averages.
6 Accuracy shall be verified by the judges,
7 district/department signing the tally sheets.

8 B. All first entries received from the
9 districts and entered in the competition shall be on
10 display at convention.

11 Motion was made by the committee to totally
12 delete Number 6 in its entirety and renumbering the code
13 accordingly.

14 I would like to make a motion to accept this
15 change.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
17 to have a change, change Number 6.

18 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: To delete it.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: To delete it.

20 Any discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't hear any;
23 so those in favor say aye.

24 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?

26 (No response.)

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.

28 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. Also,
29 Code 7, because we are getting rid of Number 6, we need
30 to -- originally need Code 7 read.

31 District's entries will be judged at the
32 department convention by three judges appointed by the
33 Department Historian. Awards to be first, second, and
34 third.

35 What we are doing is changing the word
36 "district" at the beginning to say "all" entries will be
37 judged at department convention by three judges
38 appointed by the Department Historian.

39 (Applause.)

40 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Awards shall be
41 first, second, and third.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. You
43 heard -- you heard the motion to change "district" to
44 "all."

45 Any discussion?

46 (No response.)

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No discussion.

48 Let's vote. All in favor say aye.

49 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
3 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Okay. I want to
4 thank my committee, but also I want to remind you ladies
5 be sure to look at the rules before you enter your books
6 this year. And the Historian does have a phone number
7 and a Website.
8 Thank you.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
10 much.
11 (Applause.)
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Next is Harriet
13 Clendenin, Education.
14 (Music played.)
15
16 EDUCATION REPORT
17 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Good morning.
18 The convention committee on Education met on
19 June 23rd, 2011, in Room 100B of the Ontario Convention
20 Center, Ontario, California.
21 The statistical report of this chairman appears
22 on Page 14 of the Book of Reports.
23 Danielle White, District 27, was appointed
24 Secretary.
25 Ella Wallace, District 23, offered prayer.
26 And Geri Fitzpatrick, District 4, was appointed
27 Sergeant-at-Arms and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
28 A total of 22 district delegates answered roll
29 call. There were five visitors present.
30 The committee agreed upon the following report.
31 The Code was read and the following proposed
32 changes.
33 Number 2 now reads:
34 The funds to be awarded to the education
35 scholarship recipients by the Education Chairman shall
36 depend on voluntary unit and district contributions and
37 poppy sale proceeds that are received by the department
38 by the close of books of the current year. The
39 Department of Education Chairman shall contact the
40 department office prior to awarding any scholarship.
41 Amounts budgeted shall include a minimum of \$3,000, one
42 2,000 E21 scholarship, and one 1,000 E21C Mel Feronda
43 Memorial scholarship, with a maximum of \$13,000, as
44 shown in Code 11. Awards shall be based upon the funds
45 available at the time of issuance by the Education
46 Chairman. The units and districts shall be urged to
47 make donations to the Department Education Fund.
48 The proposed code would now read:
49 The budget for the Department Education
50 Committee and scholarships shall depend upon voluntary

1 donations and poppy sale proceeds received by the
2 department office and administered by the Department
3 Chairman. All donations received during the current
4 year shall be used for the following year's budget.
5 Interest income from the welfare investment account and
6 10 percent of net receipts received from unit poppy
7 distribution shall be divided equally amongst welfare
8 accounts, except when a deficit exists in any of these
9 accounts. When a deficit exists, the interest income
10 and 10 percent of PF44502, poppy distribution from
11 poppy -- shall be distributed to these accounts to
12 offset the deficits. Donations shall be sent directly
13 to the department office and made payable to the
14 Department of California, ALA, and earmarked for
15 education. The units and districts shall be urged to
16 make donations to the Department Education Fund.

17 Madam President, by the direction of the
18 committee I move for the acceptance of this code change.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved.
20 Is there a second?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. This is by
23 direction of the committee. No need for a second. You
24 heard the proposed change. I don't have to read it
25 because it is very long.

26 So any discussion?

27 (No response.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't hear any.
29 Those in favor of the change, please, say aye.

30 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?

32 (No response.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.

34 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you very
35 much.

36 Number 3 now reads:

37 The Department shall purchase poppy seals from
38 National and offer to the units \$10 per thousand, and
39 the net profit derived from these sales shall be placed
40 in the Department of Education -- I'm sorry. Department
41 Welfare Fund for educational grants.

42 The proposed code would now read:

43 The department shall purchase poppy seals from
44 National and offer to the units and districts at \$2
45 a sheet of 100, and the net profit derived from these
46 sales be placed in the Department Welfare Fund for
47 educational grants.

48 Madam President, by the direction of the
49 committee I move for the acceptance of this code change.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved

1 that we adopt the change that was presented.
2 Any discussion?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
5 let's vote.
6 Those in favor say aye.
7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
9 (No response.)
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No. So it is
11 adopted.
12 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you.
13 Number 6 now reads:
14 The units and districts shall be urged to make
15 greater use of the booklet Need a Lift and shall be
16 encouraged to distribute the booklet to all junior and
17 senior high schools, colleges, and junior colleges
18 within their community, and their Girls State citizens,
19 as well as the Junior Conference attendees between the
20 ages of 15 and 18.
21 The proposed code would now read:
22 The units and districts shall be urged to make
23 greater use of the CD "Need a Lift" or the Website
24 www.needalift.org, and shall be encouraged to distribute
25 information to all junior and senior high schools,
26 colleges, and junior colleges within their community,
27 and their Girls State citizens, as well as the Junior
28 Conference attendees between the ages of 15 and 18.
29 Madam President, by the direction of the
30 committee I move for the acceptance of this code change.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
32 to accept the accepted change -- the proposed change.
33 Any discussion?
34 (No response.)
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
36 those in favor say aye.
37 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those opposed say
39 no.
40 (No response.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
42 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you,
43 Madam President.
44 Number 7 now reads:
45 Rules for the scholarship shall be made
46 available to the unit prior to the opening of the
47 school -- fall school term or as soon thereafter as
48 possible. Units shall be urged to provide copies to the
49 schools and their communities. Eligibility for all
50 educational scholarships to be awarded by the Department

1 of California shall be granted only to students
2 attending schools in California. All chairmen shall
3 keep educational assistance applications confidential
4 unless written permission is granted before release.
5 The proposed code shall now read:
6 Rules for scholarships shall be made available
7 to the units prior to the opening of the fall school
8 term or as soon thereafter as possible. Units shall be
9 urged to provide copies to the schools in their
10 communities. Eligibility for all educational
11 scholarships to be awarded by the Department of
12 California shall be granted only to students attending
13 schools in California and who is a veteran or son,
14 daughter, or spouse of a veteran. All chairmen shall
15 keep educational assistance applications confidential
16 unless written permission is granted for release.
17 Madam President, by the direction of the
18 committee I move for the acceptance of this code change.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
20 to accept the change of adding "who is a son or daughter
21 or spouse of a veteran."
22 Any discussion?
23 (No response.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
25 those in favor say aye.
26 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
28 (No response.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
30 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you.
31 Okay. I would like to propose a new Number 8:
32 The winning applications and all related
33 material shall be scanned and downloaded to a memory
34 stick/disc and be kept with the procedure books and in
35 the department office to ensure history of the
36 scholarship applicants and recipients.
37 Change -- and then change numbers accordingly
38 throughout the rest of the Code.
39 Madam President -- I'm sorry -- by the
40 direction of the committee, I move for the acceptance of
41 this code change.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
43 to accept this change.
44 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Code change.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Discussion?
46 (No response.)
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
48 those in favor say aye.
49 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.

3 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you very
4 much.

5 On Number 12 we just have a slight housekeeping
6 issue because in the Code it is referring to a number
7 that now has been changed; so I just want to bring that
8 to your attention.

9 Okay. Okay. Certificates for second and third
10 place and units and districts who donated \$50 or more
11 and units who participated in the Give 10 project were
12 presented. A copy of these winners have been posted in
13 the department office.

14 100 percent reporting certificates were
15 presented to Districts 10, 11, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23,
16 24, 25, 27, 28, 29.

17 There were no resolutions nor any
18 recommendations.

19 With no further business, the meeting adjourned
20 at 12:00.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It's okay. She's
23 been working so hard. We all are.

24 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Well,
25 Madam President, may I continue with my supplemental?

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Sure.

27 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

29 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you.

30 Good morning, Madam President, ladies.

31 Up and down the Department of California the
32 Education Fiddlers have been busy working the program.

33 The Give 10 program is easy for even very small
34 units, and the numbers reflect this. Over 10,000 items
35 have been donated, and units spent a whopping \$15,000
36 supporting our classrooms and our schools. Units
37 reported donating the basics, such as pens, paper,
38 erasers, and rulers, to name a few. Another big
39 donation is the box tops for education and the soup
40 labels. Schools can turn these little tabs into money
41 for needed supplies.

42 The Juniors also got involved with this part of
43 the education program. While at Junior Conference the
44 girls put together over 60 Ziploc baggies with at least
45 ten items in each bag. The items were donated to
46 Igo Elementary School in Redding. With the economic
47 status as it is, I am sure teachers and administrators
48 appreciate all of our efforts. All units and Juniors
49 that participated did receive certificates.

50 The veterans in the classroom is a big success,

1 as well. I have quoted Andy Rooney, "The best classroom
2 in the world is at the feet of an elderly person." And
3 this is a fine example of just that. Besides giving
4 a history lesson by our veterans, units report that this
5 is a terrific way to establish a relationship with the
6 educators. By making this connection, units have been
7 successful getting participation in other projects, such
8 as the Americanism essay contests and poppy poster
9 contests. At this time units discuss a variety of other
10 topics, such as flag etiquette and bullying.

11 Also reported are the donations of comic books
12 or flags.

13 How simple it is to unlock a door and give
14 a history lesson, as well. Many thanks go out to our
15 veteran counterparts who aid us in making this
16 connection.

17 American Education Week is also an opportunity
18 units took -- took advantage of to open up doors to the
19 schools, not only thanking administrators or teachers,
20 but janitors and cafeteria workers and even bus drivers.
21 31 units spent \$313. I can only imagine that this week
22 will become more and more successful as the word gets
23 out.

24 Literacy projects happened across the
25 department. Units reported donating dictionaries, adult
26 literacy guides, donations of books to the school
27 libraries, and National Geographic Readers. Units
28 report helping teachers by tutoring or reading to the
29 younger children. Even in the preschools, members have
30 gone in and promoted the Pledge of Allegiance and proper
31 flag etiquette.

32 United Through Reading has participation.
33 20 units reported over 3400 hours, giving the children
34 of deployed service members an opportunity to read along
35 with Mom or Dad while they are away.

36 And, of course -- the biggest part of the
37 education program is, of course, our scholarships.
38 California students received over \$95,000 worth of
39 scholarship money to further their education.

40 (Applause.)

41 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Included in this
42 total is national Choose our Department Spirit of Youth
43 applicant with \$4,000, Thelma Renee Schneider, Unit 369,
44 District 2; and the President's Western Division
45 applicant won 2500. It is Jennifer Lynn Arbaugh,
46 Unit 604, District 6.

47 (Applause.)

48 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Also included is
49 the \$9,000 Department scholarships. I can only imagine
50 how many of you agonized over who would ultimately

1 receive your hard-earned money. Units reported unique
2 ways of raising these funds, such as bake sales and
3 opportunity drives, just as I have done by raffling off
4 the quilt this weekend. So far the education program
5 has profited over \$700, which many of you tell me has
6 your name on it. Sorry, ladies. It only has one, and
7 that person will be decided by Pilar on Sunday morning.

8 There have been very interesting projects
9 reported to me. District 27 reports a book club
10 actually to be done by a Junior member and her mom.
11 District 12 reports distribution of a DVD titled A More
12 Perfect Union and pocket-sized copies of the
13 Constitution.

14 District 16 reports a video they hand out
15 called "Honoring All Who Serve," and they recycle the
16 American Legion Auxiliary magazine by donating them to
17 local care centers.

18 Unit 291, District 29, reports working with the
19 Marine Corps base Camp Pendleton with their
20 back-to-school project and donated \$500 to buy school
21 supplies, and that district reports giving out good
22 citizenship certificates.

23 District 21 reports units donating to the
24 Marine and Navy ROTC at their high schools.

25 Unit 283, District 24, reports that they
26 have -- they are using their Ralph's club card, and
27 4 percent of their purchases go to a local school.

28 District 28 sent out a bulletin advising their
29 units to use the Auxiliary Website for procuring
30 applications.

31 And Unit 252, District 23, made a flier that
32 they distributed. Their theme was M.U.S.I.C., We Must
33 Unite Schools, Individuals, and Children. Why? Because
34 a mind is a terrible thing to waste.

35 Madam President, thank you for this very
36 educational program. In keeping with your theme of
37 M.U.S.I.C., Membership United through Service, Ideals,
38 and Commitment, you can be sure the education --
39 Education Fiddlers have embraced your theme.

40 This concludes my report.

41 My I continue with my first place awards?

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

43 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you.

44 I left my certificates down there.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Have you advised
46 your recipients to be by the stage?

47 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Sorry?

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Have you advised
49 your recipients to be by the --

50 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Oh, yeah.

1 Okay. District 23 -- I'm sorry. I forgot your
2 unit. 252, Joyce Patent, unit first place award.
3 (Applause.)
4 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Danielle White
5 won best district for education.
6 (Applause.)
7 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you,
8 Madam President.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
10 much.
11 Next we will hear from our Public Relations,
12 Linda Farriss.
13 (Music played.)
14
15 PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT
16 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: I thought
17 my song should be "Go Tell It On the Mountain."
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That's a great
19 song.
20 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: The
21 American Legion Auxiliary is here, alive and well. I am
22 stalling. I lost my copy. Pretend it is here.
23 The convention committee on Public Relations
24 met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 100A of the Ontario
25 Convention Center in Ontario, California.
26 The statistical report of this chairman appears
27 on Page 18 and 19 of the Book of Reports.
28 Am I talking too loudly?
29 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Louder.
30 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: Okay. Is
31 this better?
32 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.
33 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRIS: The first
34 part was boring anyway.
35 Margaret Martinez was appointed Secretary.
36 Donna Linnex offered prayer.
37 And Melanie Archer was appointed
38 Sergeant-at-Arms.
39 A total of 16 district delegates answered roll
40 call. There were five visitors present.
41 The committee agreed on the following report.
42 The Code was read -- drum roll -- no changes.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yay.
45 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: No
46 resolutions.
47 (Applause.)
48 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: We did make
49 a recommendation. In the future the Public Relations
50 Chairman set and distribute rules for press book

1 competition since National has discontinued this award;
2 so if we want to do it at the department level, we've
3 got to make up our own.
4 And the awards were presented.
5 Madam President, may I continue with my awards?
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
7 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: My
8 supplemental first.
9 Madam President, your Public Relations Fiddlers
10 have been fiddling up a storm to promote our
11 organization through our Membership United Through
12 Service, Ideals, and Commitment. We used newspapers,
13 radio, television, including cable, Websites, and
14 e-mails, as well as newspapers.
15 Our members rose to the challenge given this
16 year to increase eNews subscriptions and to order gift
17 subscriptions to Auxiliary magazines. Two of our
18 districts with a mass e-mail base sent word of these
19 challenges and included a direct link to subscribe.
20 55 new subscribers signed up.
21 Our ever-active units received media coverage
22 of many events: Patriotic parades, Veterans Day and
23 Memorial Day ceremonies, hospital activities,
24 Ride2Recovery, Christmas care boxes to our troops and
25 homeless and hospitalized veterans. Poppy week
26 proclamations were issued in several communities. Some
27 units participated in welcome home Vietnam veterans
28 events, Music for Young People, and one unit holds an
29 annual candlelight service remembering our POW/MIAs.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Kindly slow down.
31 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: Okay. I'll
32 talk slower. I only have five minutes.
33 Proclamations, POW/MIAs.
34 Highlighting our work with our young people,
35 several units received press coverage regarding Girls
36 State delegates, Junior Conference, the oratorical
37 contest, and the Americanism essay contest.
38 Is that better?
39 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.
40 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: Showing the
41 power of one, our Public Relations Chairman reached out
42 into the community to partner with other nonprofit
43 organizations. To name a few, local colleges, veterans
44 centers, yellow ribbon reintegration, historical
45 societies, Chambers of Commerce, and by sponsoring
46 Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops and veteran councils in
47 several cities. One of our members was named Woman of
48 the Year in her city. She used the coverage of this
49 honor to promote our Auxiliary.
50 Aware of the importance of personal touch, we

1 met with military wives, explaining that we have
2 programs that can help them and their children. We held
3 an ice cream social where potential members were invited
4 to partake in this old-fashioned treat while learning of
5 our organization.

6 Fundraisers were to promote our programs by
7 emphasizing for what we were raising money. And I think
8 this is really important. When you make up your fliers,
9 don't just say Unit 123 is holding a raffle or holding
10 a garage sale at Post 123, period, and give the address.
11 Say you are raising money for our hospitalized veterans
12 or our Girls State or whatever program it is. It seems
13 to evoke a better response.

14 Not just -- not just how you are raising the
15 money but why you are raising the money. There was
16 a golf tournament, weekly Bingo games, boutiques,
17 fashion shows, community fairs, a horse racing event.
18 The horse racing track will give you a group event, and
19 it will include a meal and entrance. And we can all sit
20 together, and they will put in the program your
21 Auxiliary unit. Auxiliary 123 sponsors this race. And
22 you can charge a little more for the tickets and make
23 some money. We made a couple hundred dollars at our
24 event. It is one of the easiest ones you will do.

25 Craft shows, dinners, breakfasts, luncheons all
26 told our story. When one unit could not get the print
27 space, they bought advertising space telling of the
28 event and for what they were raising money. One of our
29 members participated in a charity Walk-a-thon in a shirt
30 promoting our American Legion family. Indeed, many of
31 us wear apparel showing our proud membership.

32 The most important thing we did for Public
33 Relations was to keep harmony in our units. We invited
34 women to attend our meetings, where we found fellowship
35 with like-minded people, and we talked about our
36 organization with everyone we met.

37 I would like to close my remarks with a quote
38 from Margaret Mead. "Never doubt that a small group of
39 thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.
40 Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

41 Thanks to all that sent in reports and
42 supplementals.

43 May I announce my winners at this time,
44 Madam President?

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

46 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: I would
47 like to announce the winners of the supplemental report,
48 and, of course, I have the certificates back there.

49 Unit report is Lakewood, Unit 496,
50 Tammy Sallazzo, Chairman.

1 (Applause.)
2 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: And with
3 the certificate, she is also receiving one of these
4 outstanding American Legion bags, which are available
5 for only \$10 at the Ways and Means table.
6 (Applause.)
7 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: And first
8 place district report, also with one of these fantastic
9 bags, is Margaret "Peggy" McIntosh, District 18
10 Chairman.
11 (Applause.)
12 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: And now for
13 the press book competition. On Wednesday, June 22nd,
14 2011, Donna Scott, Gigi Manno, and Estella Avina judged
15 the press books. The winner of the press book
16 competition for units is Jo Maus, Unit 416, District 22.
17 (Applause.)
18 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: And the
19 winner of the district press book was Peggy McIntosh,
20 District 18.
21 (Applause.)
22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Peggy is a dual member, and
23 she is working Public Relations next door.
24 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
25 Madam President, that concludes my remarks.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
27 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: May
28 I approach your station?
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
30 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
31 Madam President, I am happy to present to you your press
32 book clippings throughout the state.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wow. Wow.
34 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN FARRISS: And there
35 were so many things sent and so many wonderful
36 newsletters sent, I have a separate book for you with
37 just our newspapers and fliers.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Another one?
39 (Applause.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Estella Avina, our
41 editor.
42
43 DEPARTMENT EDITOR REPORT
44 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Good morning.
45 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
46 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Oh, come on.
47 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
48 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: All right. The
49 convention committee on Editor/Public Relations met on
50 June 23rd, 2011, in Room 100A of the Ontario Convention

1 Center, Ontario, California.
2 There is no statistical report for Editor.
3 Margaret Martinez, District 19, was appointed
4 Secretary.
5 Donna Linnex, District 11, offered prayer.
6 And Melanie Archer, District 16, was appointed
7 Sergeant-at-Arms.
8 A total of 15 district delegates answered roll
9 call, and there were five visitors present.
10 The committee agreed on the following report.
11 The Department Code was read with the following
12 changes.
13 Code 7 now reads:
14 The issue prior to the convention shall carry
15 announcements of candidate delegates for delegate office
16 or department office. If candidates desire to publish
17 a picture, they shall either pay or furnish the cut.
18 Candidates are to submit their picture and article for
19 publication by April 15th of each year to the Editor.
20 With the change, the code will now read:
21 The issue prior to convention shall carry
22 announcements for candidates for department office. If
23 candidates desire to publish a picture, they shall
24 either pay or furnish the cut. Candidates are to submit
25 their picture and article for publication by the date
26 determined by the Editor.
27 And the reason for that would be the fact that
28 now that we are only doing three issues the date would
29 change, and then, if it went back to four, it would
30 change again; so this would leave it open with, you
31 know, one to three or maybe four, depending on our
32 finances.
33 So by the direction of the committee I move
34 that we accept these changes.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
36 to accept the change, just taking out April 15th and
37 replacing it with a date to be determined.
38 Any discussion?
39 (No response.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
41 those in favor say aye.
42 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
44 (No response.)
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
46 Thank you.
47 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Code 9 now reads:
48 In addition to her responsibilities as
49 a department chairman, the Editor shall serve as an
50 independent contractor with a monthly remuneration set

1 by the Finance committee.
2 This was -- in English -- reimbursed
3 remuneration set by the Finance committee. This
4 remuneration -- anyway, it lets us reimburse to cover
5 the actual preparation of the California Auxiliary News
6 for publication. An appropriate independent contractor
7 agreement shall be on file in the department office.
8 Expenses incidental to the chairmanship will be -- also
9 be included in the Editor's budget in an amount set by
10 the Finance committee. Said expenses will not be
11 considered a part of the amount agreed upon in the
12 independent contractor's agreement.
13 And this was in 1987 that this was put in.
14 Madam President, by the direction of the
15 committee I move that we delete Code 9 completely.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
17 to accept to remove Code Number 9 in its entirety.
18 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: And that is because
19 we are no longer considered independent contractors.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Any discussion?
21 (No response.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
23 let's vote. All those in favor say aye.
24 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
26 (No response).
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
28 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: After a short
29 question-and-answer session the meeting was adjourned at
30 11:00.
31 Madam President, this concludes my committee
32 report.
33 May I continue with my short report?
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
35 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Madam President
36 Pilar, I am proud to say that this year things went very
37 smoothly. With the new system of assigning chairmen
38 specific issues and a quick reminder, all articles were
39 on time. We were all able to fill our three two-page
40 issues.
41 A total of 39 articles were submitted and
42 printed. Due to finances, we will continue with just
43 three issues.
44 I would like to take this time to thank the
45 officers and chairmen for their cooperation with this
46 new system. This does not mean that others cannot
47 submit articles. We encourage anyone who has newsworthy
48 articles to submit their articles for consideration.
49 Madam President Pilar, thank you for your
50 confidence in me in this appointment.

1 May I please approach your station?
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.
3 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Madam President,
4 because you are our Number one Conductor, I also have
5 a medal for you. You gave us all a medal, but I have
6 a medal for you. I also have your book, and I'm waiting
7 for Dave. I'm going to get ahold of him, and then
8 you'll get it before the week is over.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We will now recess
12 for 15 minutes to prepare for elections.

13 And is your guest here already? But, please,
14 after election. All right?

15 Thank you.
16 We will recess.

17 I did -- our Distinguished Guest Chairman,
18 please escort me to the Legion; so I will take the time
19 to visit the Legion right now. It will be about
20 15 minutes.

21 (Short recess taken from
22 9:42 a.m. to 9:57 a.m.)

23
24 MORNING RECESS

25
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hello. We are
27 resuming our session. All return to their districts,
28 and in a minute I will give instructions to close the
29 door. Only those who will be voting will be allowed to
30 be inside.

31 (Short recess taken from
32 9:58 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please be seated.
34 Remember that only delegates and alternates
35 taking the place of delegates will be allowed to be in
36 the room for reelection.

37 Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal -- are
38 you here? -- please see that everyone who is allowed in
39 knows that the doors are being closed for the election,
40 and if they want to come in to do so immediately. You
41 have to check their badges and then close the door.

42 Are the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal here?
43 They are. So please do what I have asked. Remember, no
44 one will be admitted or permitted to enter.

45 Our Credential Chairman will come forward at
46 this time. Dolores. Dolores Ryan.

47
48 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN

49 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN RYAN: Good morning,
50 ladies.

1 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
2 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN RYAN: Good morning.
3 We have our Secretary and the District
4 Presidents.
5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: We can't hear you.
6 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN RYAN: You mean I have to
7 get up like this?
8 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yes.
9 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN RYAN: I thought everybody
10 could hear me.
11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: No.
12 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN RYAN: We went over the
13 procedures on what is expected. There was questions
14 that were answered. We hope to have a smooth election.
15 My sincere thank you to our Department
16 Secretary Doris, Past Department President Odette
17 Cuccaro, Anita Newell, and all the ladies who worked
18 registration. A special thanks to Carol Fuqua, who
19 assisted me on Wednesday evening.
20 The total voting strength of this convention is
21 649. We divide this in half. It is 325, and adding one
22 shows that we need 326 to elect.
23 Madam President, thank you for the honor of
24 serving you and the Department of California in this
25 chairmanship. It was a learning experience.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
27 There is a correction.
28 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN RYAN: Since it was 324
29 and a half, we don't have to add the extra one; so it is
30 going to be 325 to elect.
31 Thank you.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We will now hear
33 from our Elections Chairman, Marge Rye.
34
35 ELECTIONS REPORT
36 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN RYE: Good morning,
37 Madam President.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
39 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have to be
41 closer to the microphone.
42 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN RYE: Excuse me for
43 a moment. Thank you.
44 Okay. The election rules are starting at
45 Number 25 on Page 11 of the Book of Reports.
46 The election of department officers, Junior
47 Member of Finance National, national candidates,
48 department delegates and alternates to the National
49 Convention shall be held on Saturday morning, June 25th,
50 2011. The doors of the convention hall shall be closed

1 during the entire election procedure, and no one shall
2 leave or enter the hall until the Chair states that the
3 election is concluded. The exception to this shall be
4 that in an emergency a member may leave, and if her
5 absence affects the voting strength the District
6 President shall immediately notify the presiding
7 officer.

8 Number 27: When there is but one nominee for
9 all department offices and but one nominee for Junior
10 Member of Finance, the nominee shall be elected viva
11 voce. That's Article V, Section 3, of the Department
12 Constitution.

13 Upon roll call, the District Presidents shall
14 report the number of units partially or wholly
15 represented by duly-elected delegates or alternates
16 present in the delegation at the time of roll call.
17 This is to determine that there is a quorum of units
18 present at the time of the election.

19 Number 28: When there is more than one nominee
20 for the department offices or Junior Member of Finance
21 of national office, elections shall be by written
22 ballot. The District Presidents shall, when they are
23 instructed by the Chair, take a roll of their respective
24 delegations to ascertain the total voting strength of
25 their district for the election, reporting the same to
26 the Chair.

27 When there is but one nominee for the office of
28 Junior Member of Finance, the ballot may be dispensed
29 with and a nominee elected viva voce.

30 Number 29: When there are three or more
31 nominees for an office or Junior Member of Finance,
32 unless one nominee receives the majority vote on the
33 first ballot, the nominee receiving the lowest number of
34 votes shall be automatically dropped before proceeding
35 with the next ballot.

36 Number 30: Each District President and
37 district member of the Elections committee shall
38 distribute and collect the votes cast by the district
39 delegation and deliver them to the Department Chairman
40 of Elections.

41 Number 31: Department officers, chairmen,
42 committee members, and Past Department Presidents shall
43 vote with their respective districts.

44 Number 32: Each delegate shall be entitled to
45 one vote of an -- the vote of an absent unit delegate
46 not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the
47 majority of the delegates from the unit. When two
48 delegates represent three votes, the chairman of the
49 unit delegation shall cast the third vote.

50 Number 33: A majority of all votes cast shall

1 elect, except that in the election of national delegates
2 and alternates a plurality shall elect.

3 Number 34: These convention rules may be
4 amended during the convention by a two-thirds vote.

5 Number 35: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly
6 Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all
7 points not covered by these rules, the Department
8 Constitution, Bylaws, and mandates.

9 Madam President, that concludes -- that is the
10 election rules.

11 May I proceed with my report?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

13 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN RYE: Okay. The Elections
14 committee met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 102 of the
15 Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, California.

16 The statistical report of this chairman does
17 not appear in the report -- the Book of Reports. There
18 is no statistical report.

19 Marie Whigham, District 23, was appointed
20 Secretary.

21 Chris DeLaRosa, District 28, offered prayer.

22 And Vergie Goffney of District 22 was appointed
23 Sergeant-at-Arms.

24 A total of 13 district delegates answered roll
25 call. There was one visitor present.

26 The committee agreed upon the following report.
27 This is short and sweet.

28 The meeting opened at 10:11 a.m. with a flag
29 salute and prayer. A roll call was taken, and the
30 election rules were read. Election procedures were
31 discussed. There were no changes, and the meeting
32 closed with prayer at 10:40 a.m.

33 May I proceed with my supplemental?

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

35 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN RYE: Madam Department
36 President Pilar, I would like to thank you for this
37 appointment.

38 When I was appointed as Elections Chairman,
39 I thought about what I would be doing and what I needed
40 to know. I decided that the hardest part of my job
41 would be the unfolding of ballots and catching up on my
42 reading. I never realized how many ways you can fold
43 a ballot or how small it could be folded, nor did
44 I realize how big Robert's Rules of Order is; so after
45 months of practice folding and unfolding little squares
46 of paper and soaking in all the information I could on
47 elections, I find that my fingers got blisters and
48 I think I am going blind.

49 But seriously, Madam President, even though it
50 has been a real -- it has been a real pleasure to serve

1 you, and I thank you very much.
2 And that concludes my report.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
4 Will all the District Presidents please line up
5 at the microphone close to you.
6 And Department Secretary, please read -- close
7 the door.
8 Department Secretary Doris, call the roll call
9 for districts.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
11 District 1.
12 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: District 1 is
13 always -- whatever happens, don't do it my way. We have
14 two units.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Two
16 votes?
17 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Two votes.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 District 2.
20 2ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT SMITH: Twelve votes.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 District 3.
23 3RD DISTRICT MEMBER: Three votes.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 District 4.
26 4TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT McFEE: Seven.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
28 District 5.
29 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: Twenty-one.
30 179 is not present. They have two votes.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
32 Could you please see Dolores. Not right now.
33 District 6.
34 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Thirteen votes.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Who
36 left? Did someone leave?
37 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Yeah.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
39 District 7.
40 7TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT UHAZI: Fourteen.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
42 District 8 -- excuse me. Sorry.
43 District 9.
44 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Eight. One
45 left.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 Please come to the --
48 District 10.
49 10TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MAGWILI: Twelve.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

1 Please come to see Dolores.
2 District 11.
3 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: Twenty-two.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 Someone is here? Can you come see Dolores, please.
6 District 12.
7 12TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT STUART: Five.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 District 13.
10 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: We have nine.
11 Unit 791 left.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
13 They have 12 for you.
14 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Yeah. No.
15 I lost -- one of my units left; so I have nine.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
17 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Unit 791 left.
18 They had three.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yeah.
20 They have three.
21 Okay. District 14.
22 14TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT SWEENEY: Sixteen
23 votes.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 District 15.
26 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: We have 15.
27 Unit 94 didn't show up, so....
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
29 how many votes?
30 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: Fifteen.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: They
32 had three?
33 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: They had
34 three.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
36 you.
37 District 16.
38 16TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROMBAUGH:
39 Thirty-eight.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 District 18.
42 (Applause.)
43 18TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT LAUGESON: District 18,
44 we had 49 votes. I have two units with three each that
45 did not show. This leaves me 43 votes.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
47 you.
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 District 19.

1 19TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ: Forty-five
2 votes.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 District 20.
5 (Applause.)
6 20TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRELLON: Fifteen
7 votes.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 District 21.
10 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: Fifty-three
11 votes.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 Someone left?
14 (Applause.)
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Can
16 you please see Dolores.
17 District 22.
18 22ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT FARRAR: Forty-nine.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 District 23.
21 23RD DISTRICT PRESIDENT ROBINSON:
22 Thirty-seven.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 District 24.
25 24TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHANSEN: Nine.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 District 25.
28 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: We have
29 64 delegates, and we have two units that left, 106 and
30 879.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
32 how many votes did that total?
33 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Sixty-four.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: So
35 how many left?
36 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: Unit 106 --
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Could
38 you repeat --
39 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: -- had five --
40 106 had five, and 879 has two.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
42 you.
43 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: You're
44 welcome.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: What
46 was the second unit? I'm sorry.
47 Okay. Thank you.
48 25TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT MENDEZ: 879.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
50 Thank you.

1 District 26.
2 26TH DISTRICT: Six. Unit 82 is not here with
3 three votes, and Sherry left with Girls State.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: So it
5 is off by four? Six, you said?
6 District 27.
7 27TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT WINKLER-RING: Twelve.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 District 28.
10 28TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT RAYA: Twenty-five
11 votes.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 District 29.
14 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: We had
15 58. We lost two units of three delegates each.
16 Unit 295, Cypress, for three delegates; Unit 555,
17 Albert Schwab, for three delegates, giving us a total of
18 52.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: What
20 was the first unit that left?
21 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: 295,
22 Cypress.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: They
24 had three votes; correct?
25 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Yes.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
27 555 had two votes.
28 District 30.
29 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: We have
30 three.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Who
32 left?
33 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: We have
34 somebody here from Bombay.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
36 they had how many votes, two?
37 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: They had two.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
39 what is Bombay's unit number, please?
40 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: 801.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: 801?
42 30TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT TELFORD: Yes.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: So
44 you have three?
45 Okay. District 11, 21 votes. Thank you.
46 District 5. I need District 5, District 6, and
47 District 21, please.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those that have
49 corrections please go to the microphone.
50 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: Five has

1 21 votes.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
3 you.
4 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: That proves
5 I'm as smart as a fifth grader.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
7 Pardon me?
8 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: That proves
9 I'm as smart as a fifth grader.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Who
11 is left? Peggy. Peggy, who left or who are we not
12 counting?
13 5TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT GRABSKI: 179, with the
14 two votes.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
16 you.
17 District 6.
18 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: We have 13.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
20 Who left?
21 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: 604, 832.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: 832
23 had one vote?
24 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Three, instead
25 of four.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
27 You had 14 on this paper.
28 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Yeah. But now
29 we have 13.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
31 So someone left with one vote. The District President?
32 Okay. Thank you.
33 6TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CASTRO: Counting them
34 as two instead of one.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
36 District 21.
37 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: Fifty-six
38 votes.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
40 And District 9.
41 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: Eight.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
43 who left?
44 9TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CLEMENT: District
45 President.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
47 you.
48 Five has 21.
49 Can we have some music, please? Made her go
50 with her delegation.

1 You did very well. Thank you.
2 Or you guys could sing. I will talk to Simon;
3 though I don't think you'll make it.
4 (Music played.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
6 I thought they were done.
7 (Music played.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: C'mon, dance,
9 everybody.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
11 Sorry. We need to get you out of here.
12 Okay. Ladies, the count has come to 612 for
13 the voting strength, plus 1 gives you 613, divided in
14 half is 307 total; correct? No?
15 I hate it when the Parliamentarian is right.
16 How many times have I said that?
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: They don't know
18 how to divide.
19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's because we are united.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
21 I stand corrected. The total is 612. Half of that is
22 306 plus one for 307.
23 (Applause.)
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Glad
25 I don't have to redo that.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. Okay.
27 Now we are going to proceed finally.
28 (Applause.)
29
30 ELECTION OF DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT 2011-2012
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We are going to
32 vote now. There is but one nominee for the office of
33 Department of California President -- for President,
34 Linda Fercho.
35 (Applause.)
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All those in favor
37 of electing Linda Fercho for Department President
38 signify by saying aye.
39 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
41 (No response.)
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wow.
43 Linda Fercho is the Department President for
44 2011-2012.
45 (Applause.)
46
47 ELECTION OF DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT 2011-2012
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Election of
49 Department Vice President. There is but one nominee
50 for the office of Department Vice President. It is

1 Terry Mikesell.
2 All those in favor of electing Terry Mikesell
3 for Department Vice President signify by saying aye.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Terry Mikesell is
8 Vice President. She is Vice President for 2011-2012.
9 (Applause.)
10
11 ELECTION OF JUNIOR MEMBER OF FINANCE 2011-2012
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Election of Junior
13 Member of Finance, there is but one nominee for the
14 office, Kathie Martinez.
15 All those in favor of electing Kathie Martinez
16 as Junior Member of Finance signify by saying aye.
17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Kathie Martinez is
21 elected Junior Member of Finance for 2011-2012.
22 (Applause.)
23
24 ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES FOR NATIONAL
25 CONVENTION
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We will now
27 proceed to the election of delegates and alternates for
28 National Convention.
29 The Secretary will now read the nominees.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 Madam President, the nominees for delegates to National
32 Convention are Pilar Reyes, Linda Fercho, Doris
33 Kilkenney, Nancy Brown Park, Melanie Taylor, Kat Conrad,
34 Bonnie Bradbury, Emily Magwili, Cathy Smith, Sandy
35 Jacob, Madeline Lee, Pamela Dixon Hicks, Linda Hayes,
36 Marge Rye, Midge Farrar, Wantu Robinson, Delores Artis,
37 Diane DeLashmit, Linda Workman, LuAnn Capazzi, Rosie
38 Eskridge, Mary Carroll.
39 Madam President, I move the election of these
40 delegates to National Convention for 2011.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
42 and seconded to elect the delegates as read.
43 Is there any discussion?
44 (No response.)
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No discussion.
46 All of those in favor say aye.
47 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
49 (No response.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: They are elected.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: The Secretary will
3 now read the list of nominees for alternates for
4 National Convention.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Your
6 alternate nominees for National Convention: Janice
7 Spriggs, Susanne Tozier, Donna Scott, Joann Likens,
8 Dorothy-Anne Chavez, Jerine Adams, Lynn Garcia, Anita
9 Biggs, Grace Huston, Bobbie Estes, Sandy Urban, Harriet
10 Clendenin, Pat Sweeney, Lou Thompson, Josephine Handy,
11 Leonarda Estigoy, Ruth Hackney, Janet Wilson, Kendall
12 Madsen, Vergie Goffney, Lucille Taylor, Veronica
13 McGough.
14 Madam President, I move the election of these
15 alternates to National Convention.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
17 and seconded to elect the alternates as read.
18 Is there any discussion?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All those in favor
21 say aye.
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have elected
26 the alternates for the National Convention.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All elected
29 delegates and alternates, you need to pick up your
30 packets in the department headquarters, and you have to
31 sign for them.
32
33 RATIFICATION OF ELECTION OF DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
34 DISTRICT PRESIDENT REYES: We will now proceed
35 to ratify the election of District Presidents and
36 Vice Presidents.
37 Madam Secretary, please read the names of the
38 District Presidents Elect.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 District 1, President Elect Patricia Lindley.
41 District 2, Nancy Johnson.
42 District 3, no report.
43 District 4, Barbara LaDoucer.
44 District 5, Virginia McQueen.
45 District 6, Wendy O'Brien.
46 District 7, Beverly Chapman.
47 District 8, Tammy Manini.
48 District 9, Helaine Rios.
49 District 10, Susan Peters.
50 District 11, Joann -- Joan Cannon.

1 District 12, no report.
2 District 3, Joyce McLeod. Oh, I'm sorry.
3 District 13. I didn't say that.
4 District 14, Martha Sweeney.
5 District 15, Karen Herrera.
6 District 16, Rosemary Weber.
7 District 18, Kathy Pipkin.
8 (Applause.)
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 District 19, Diana Moreno.
11 (Applause.)
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 District 20, Linda Hayes.
14 District 21, Cheryl Hathaway.
15 District 22, Gigi Manno.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
18 District 23, Denise Coleman.
19 (Applause.)
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 District 24, Susie Johansen.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 District 25, Donna Mattox.
25 (Applause.)
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 District 26, Lou Thompson.
28 District 27, Danielle White.
29 District 28, Renee -- Yaqub? Did I say it
30 right?
31 District 29, Tami Bell.
32 (Applause.)
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 District 30, Belen Telford.
35 Madam President, I move the ratification of
36 these District Presidents for the year 2011 to 2012.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
38 and seconded that we ratify the election of the District
39 Presidents.
40 Any discussion?
41 (No response.)
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none, all
43 those in favor say aye.
44 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
46 (No response.)
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have ratified
48 the election of the District Presidents.
49 (Applause.)
50

1 District 26, Jerry Heskett.
2 District 27, Sharlotte Collins.
3 District 28, Elizabeth Doidge.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
6 District 29, Cheryl -- is it Neiffer.
7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Neiffer.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 Neiffer.
10 (Applause.)
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
12 District 30, Kim Vincent.
13 Madam President, I move the ratification of
14 these First Vice Presidents for the year 2011-2012.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
16 and seconded that we ratify the election of District
17 First Vice Presidents.
18 Any discussion?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
21 those in favor say aye.
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have ratified
26 the election of First Vice Presidents.
27 (Applause.)
28
29 RATIFICATION OF ELECTION OF DISTRICT SECOND VICE
30 PRESIDENTS
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Madam Secretary,
32 please read the list of Second Vice Presidents Elect.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 Second Vice President ratification:
35 District 1, Kat Conrad.
36 District 2, Pat Carey.
37 District 3, no report.
38 District 4, Elsa Johnson.
39 District 5, Sandy Paxton.
40 District 6, Glenda Schultz.
41 (Applause.)
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
43 District 7, Lynn Uhazi.
44 District 8, Teresa -- oh my gosh. Canonizado.
45 She'll kill me.
46 Okay. District 9, Janet Wilson.
47 District 10, Leonarda Estigoy.
48 District 11, Toni Domondon.
49 District 12, no report.
50 District 13, Barbara Thompson.

1 District 14, Sharon McGhan.
2 District 15, Kathy Faria -- Faria.
3 District 16, Connie Bigger.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
6 District 18, Judy Forrest.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 District 19 -- District 19, Tammy Sallazzo.
10 (Applause.)
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
12 District 20, Kathy Gosling.
13 District 21, Jennifer Bieger -- Bieger.
14 (Applause.)
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
16 District 22, Pacita West.
17 (Applause.)
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 District 23, Sharon Moore.
20 (Applause.)
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 District 24, Judith Urich.
23 (Applause.)
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 District 25, Debbie Fletcher.
26 (Applause.)
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
28 District 26, Arlene Mueller.
29 District 27, Jean Winkler-Ring.
30 District 28, Robin Knowles.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 District 29, Naoko Gorsuch.
34 (Applause.)
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Did
36 I get it?
37 District 30, JoAnn Likens.
38 Madam President, I move for the ratification of
39 the Second Vice Presidents for the year 2011-2012.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
41 and seconded to ratify the election of District Second
42 Vice Presidents.
43 Any discussion?
44 (No response.)
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
46 those in favor say aye.
47 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
49 (No response.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You have ratified

1 the election of the District Second Vice Presidents.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: This concludes the
4 elections, and the pages may open the door.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Will the elected
7 department officers please come to the stage to be
8 presented.
9 Department President Linda Fercho.
10 (Music played.)
11
12 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTED OFFICERS 2011-2012
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Ladies, it gives
14 me great pleasure to present to you the newly elected
15 department officers for the year 2011-2012.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Department
18 President Linda Fercho, District 16.
19 (Applause.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Department
21 Vice President Terry Mikesell, District 2, Unit 197.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Kathie Martinez,
24 District 23, Unit 188, Junior Member of Finance.
25 (Applause.)
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: A big, big hand
27 for our new department leaders.
28 (Applause.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, ladies.
30 Okay. We need to proceed to our new reports.
31 Okay. Quickly, the next chairman I will call,
32 please come to the stage to do your report.
33 Terry Mikesell, the newly elected
34 Vice President. Terry and Membership Chairman, National
35 Security, Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Yeah. I want you
36 all up here so you don't have to walk later. Membership
37 is here already. Anita is here already. And
38 convention.
39 Okay. Please proceed to your report, Terry.
40 (Music played.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: A little quiet,
42 please.
43
44 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION REPORT
45 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
46 MIKESSELL: The convention committee of Veterans Affairs
47 and Rehabilitation met in Room 105 of the Ontario
48 Convention Center, Ontario, California.
49 The statistical report of this chairman appears
50 on Page 19 of the Book of Reports.

1 Glenda Schultz, District 6, was appointed
2 Secretary.
3 Delores Artis, District 24, offered prayer.
4 And Stacy Platt, District 20, was appointed
5 Sergeant-at-Arms.
6 A total of 20 district delegates answered roll
7 call. There were 19 visitors present.
8 And on that note I have to say that we have our
9 new Honorary Junior VA&R Chairman, Hannah Janji.
10 Thank you.
11 (Applause.)
12 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
13 MIKESELL: The committee agreed on the following report.
14 The code was read with the following proposed
15 changes.
16 Code 2 currently reads:
17 The budget for the Department Veterans Affairs
18 and Rehabilitation Committee will be dependent upon
19 voluntary unit contributions and poppy proceeds
20 forwarded to the department office and administered in
21 accordance with the annual recommendations approved by
22 the Finance committee. Donations shall be sent directly
23 to the department office and made payable to the
24 Department of California, ALA, and earmarked for VA&R.
25 The proposed change would read:
26 The budget for the Department Veterans Affairs
27 and Rehabilitation Committee shall depend upon voluntary
28 donations received by the department office and
29 administered by the department chairman. All donations
30 reserved -- received during the current year shall be
31 used for the following year's budget. Interest income
32 from the Welfare Investment Account and 10 percent of
33 the net receipts received from unit poppy distribution
34 shall be divided equally amongst welfare accounts,
35 except when a deficit exists in any of these accounts.
36 When a deficit exists, the interest income and 10
37 percent of the net receipts from poppy distributions
38 shall be distributed to these accounts to offset the
39 deficits. Donations shall be sent directly to the
40 department office and made payable to the Department of
41 California, ALA, and earmarked for VA&R.
42 Madam President, by the direction of the
43 committee I move the adoption of this code change.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved.
45 Is there a second? Oh. It has been moved to
46 adopt the presented proposed changes.
47 Any discussion?
48 (No response.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
50 aye.

1 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No? Adopted.
5 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
6 MIKESELL: Thank you.
7 Code that is currently 8 reads:
8 The department office shall provide stationery
9 to medical center representatives, CBOC deputies, and
10 hospital chairmen. The department office shall solicit
11 an inventory sheet and provide the items as requested.
12 We would like to remove that code as it is no
13 longer needed and renumber the remaining 9 through 12.
14 Madam Department President, by direction of the
15 committee I move the adoption of this code change.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
17 to adopt the presented code change.
18 Any discussion?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
21 aye.
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
26 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
27 MIKESELL: Thank you.
28 The next proposed code change under medical
29 center representatives, Code 8, has been reworded and
30 broken into subparagraphs for clarity. The only change
31 is bank statements shall be sent to the department
32 chairman instead of the department office semiannually,
33 instead of monthly; and the department chairman will
34 review and forward to the department office.
35 Code 8 currently reads:
36 All funds from all sources by medical center
37 representatives will be kept in a separate account
38 established for that purpose by the representatives.
39 Representatives who do not receive any monies will send
40 a letter to the Department Secretary/Treasurer stating
41 no other funds are received other than department
42 allowances, and it is not cost effective for them to
43 open a bank account. The Department Secretary/Treasurer
44 and a deputy or individual appointed by the district
45 shall be included as signatories on the account. Bank
46 statements will be submitted to the department office
47 monthly, with a final accounting due to the department
48 by May 1st. A record of receipts, to include the
49 source, and disbursements by check, to include amount
50 and items purchased, will be forwarded to the department

1 chairman with annual hospital report.
2 The proposed change would read:
3 Medical center representatives who receive
4 donations directly from any source, other than
5 department allowance, shall open a bank account and keep
6 all funds from all sources in the account. The
7 Department Secretary and a deputy or an individual
8 appointed by the district shall be included as
9 a signatory on the account.

10 A. Representatives shall keep a record of
11 receipts, to include source, and disbursements by check,
12 to include amount and items purchased. Representatives
13 shall send copies of bank statements, record of
14 receipts, and disbursements to department chairman
15 semiannually, December 1st and May 1st, who will review
16 and forward to the department office.

17 B. Representatives who don't receive any
18 moneys from any source other than the department
19 allowances will send a letter to the Department
20 Secretary/Treasurer and Department VA&R Chairman stating
21 no other funds are received and it is not cost effective
22 for them to open a bank account.

23 Madam Department President, by the direction of
24 the committee I move the adoption of this code change.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
26 to adopt the two code changes.

27 Discussion?

28 (No response.)

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
30 aye.

31 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?

33 (No response.)

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.

35 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN

36 MIKESELL: Thank you.

37 And we would like to add an additional Code 9
38 to read:

39 Application for rehabilitation aid, casework
40 from hospital representatives or community-based
41 outpatient clinics, CBOC, shall be completed and signed
42 by the hospital representative/CBOC deputy. Checks for
43 temporary financial assistance shall be made payable to
44 the medical center representative or the CBOC deputy.
45 Additional checks shall not be issued until receipts for
46 previous expenditures have been received by the
47 department chairman.

48 Madam Department President, by direction of the
49 committee I move adoption of this addition to the code.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved

1 to adopt the presented additional code.
2 Any discussion?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
5 aye.
6 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
8 (No response.)
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
10 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
11 MIKESELL: Thank you.
12 Certificates for second and third place in
13 units who doubled their donations or donated at least
14 a dollar per member were presented. A copy of these
15 winners has been posted in the department office.
16 100 percent reporting certificates were
17 presented to Districts 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 18, 21,
18 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, and 30.
19 There were no resolutions nor recommendations.
20 With no further business, the meeting adjourned
21 at 9:55 a.m.
22 Madam Department President, may I continue with
23 my supplemental and first place awards?
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
25 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
26 MIKESELL: Before I start that, I have to state that
27 LuAnn Capazzi, our National Western Division VA&R
28 Chairman, has some art for us, 9/11 commemorative pins
29 for \$5. She is showing us she has about 30 left.
30 Madam Department President Pilar, thank you for
31 this appointment. It has been a truly amazing year.
32 The tours and the opportunity to meet so many wonderful
33 people has been a learning and very enjoyable
34 experience.
35 Members from the Department of California have
36 done an outstanding job meeting the needs and improving
37 the quality of life for 38,779 veterans and their
38 families. Their care for our veterans exemplifies the
39 meaning of service, not self. A total of 9,388
40 volunteers accumulated \$143,985, donated \$139,884.20,
41 and items valued at \$130,109.75.
42 Members reached out, made a difference for
43 at-risk and homeless veterans. Temporary and financial
44 assistance was provided to veterans paying for storage
45 fees, apartment security deposits, rent, gas, and food.
46 Stand Downs were held at VA facilities and in five major
47 cities. Units worked with social workers from 13 VA
48 facilities coordinating Stand Downs. Their immediate
49 needs were addressed. Information and assistance for
50 claims, money, and items was provided.

1 Our hospital representatives, deputies, and
2 volunteers have done a tremendous job for our veterans,
3 helping with Ride2Recovery, national veterans creative
4 arts, Bingos, parties, and the list goes on. Truly
5 loving, charitable hearts have been giving of themselves
6 up and down the state.

7 Donations to Madam President Pilar's special
8 project raised over \$28,000.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

11 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN

12 MIKESELL: A very moving article was recently published
13 in the L.A. Times about those veterans who are receiving
14 care at Palo Alto and briefly covered the family support
15 that is so important to these veterans during their
16 long-term rehabilitation and healing.

17 With the Department President's approval, some
18 baskets -- Carol Fuqua -- are going to be passed around
19 the room to give everyone the last opportunity to donate
20 to this very special project. Your generosity is very
21 much appreciated and will make a tremendous difference
22 in the lives of the TBI patients and their families,
23 knowing funds are available to help them through some
24 very difficult and trying times.

25 Sixty-seven Juniors at Junior Conference made
26 a beautiful rainbow of hands on vinyl that was presented
27 to the new state veterans home at Lancaster.

28 One unit hosted a drive-thru fundraiser for
29 a chapel at their new veterans cemetery. They networked
30 with veteran groups and community, who provided
31 volunteers and donations. Within 12 hours they raised
32 over \$25,000. Local radio and television stations
33 provided updates throughout the community.

34 Volunteerism and meeting the needs of our
35 veterans and their families has been a top priority and
36 a labor of love for the Legion family. The power of one
37 has taken a firm root in the units, and members have put
38 the power of volunteering to work by reaching out and
39 enriching our veterans and families. And the credit
40 is yours, the members, volunteers, hospital
41 representatives, and deputies. Thanks to each of you
42 for a job well done.

43 At this time I would like to present the first
44 place award for district supplemental to Karol Adams,
45 District 28 Chairman.

46 (Applause.)

47 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN

48 MIKESELL: This is Connie, not Karol.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Received by the
50 side of the stage.

1 (Applause.)
2 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
3 MIKESELL: First place unit supplemental, District 16,
4 Unit 741, Vicki Crow, Chairman.
5 (Applause.)
6 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
7 MIKESELL: Vicki, did you not get the note?
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Terry, did you
9 give her a note?
10 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
11 MIKESELL: Yes, ma'am. I did.
12 Thank you, Vicki. It's a great report and lots
13 of very good work.
14 (Applause.)
15 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
16 MIKESELL: This report has been submitted to National.
17 I would also like to thank the committee who
18 judged those reports.
19 Madam Department President, would you please
20 have the musical bears, our hospital representatives,
21 and deputies be brought to the front of the room.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
23 Sergeant-at-Arms, Marshal, will the
24 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort our medical
25 representatives and medical hospital deputies.
26 (Music played.)
27 (Processional.)
28 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
29 MIKESELL: It has been a real pleasure working with
30 these very hardworking ladies. As I call your name,
31 would you please step forward and be recognized.
32 Is Bonnie Cheboya here? I haven't seen her
33 this weekend.
34 Okay. VA Northern California Healthcare
35 System, Wendy O'Brien, Representative; and Barbara
36 Dailey, the new Redding outpatient deputy.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please hold your
39 applause.
40 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
41 MIKESELL: Mary Sinopoli could not be here. She had
42 a hold at her volunteer job.
43 Palo Alto: Pat Klang, Representative; Connie
44 Raya, Deputy. And as we know that Gerry Wilcox couldn't
45 be here with us this weekend either.
46 From Livermore: Leoni Estigoy, Deputy; and
47 Cherie Galvan, Deputy.
48 San Diego: Phyllis Holmberg, Representative;
49 and Irma Manthei, Deputy.
50 Loma Linda: Mavis Kanka, Representative; and

1 Elaine Gallagher, Deputy; and Shirley Brown, Deputy.
2 L.A.: Earlean Paige, Representative;
3 Ruth Hackney, Deputy; C.J. Reyes, Deputy; Kathy Harris,
4 Deputy; Dorothy-Anne Chavez, Deputy; Pam Hicks, Deputy.
5 And you'll see some new ladies there in that group.
6 Bakersfield: Fran Ramirez, Deputy.
7 Long Beach: Pat Alvarez, Representative;
8 Tami Bell, Deputy. Trish Ladre, she is our former poppy
9 production manager and deputy. She has retired.
10 (Applause.)
11 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
12 MIKESELL: For the veterans homes, Evangeline Acosta;
13 Representative, for Barstow.
14 Lois Cornish, Chula Vista. She also works
15 poppy for the WAVE Clinic in San Diego.
16 Lancaster: Veronica McGough, Representative.
17 Ventura: Madeline Lee, Representative.
18 West L.A. Home: Dolores Artis, Representative.
19 For Yountville: Peggy Grabski, Representative;
20 Melanie Taylor, Deputy; and Geri Fitzpatrick, our poppy
21 production manager.
22 Ladies, did I forget any of you?
23 (No response.)
24 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
25 MIKESELL: Thank you very, very much. And if you will
26 wait just a second, we have got a couple things that
27 show we appreciate you guys very much.
28 Mavis Kanka submitted an application for the
29 N.A.V.A. Nonaffiliated Volunteer Away, and I am proud to
30 present this certificate to Mavis for James Miles, who
31 has volunteered 34,436 hours at Loma Linda.
32 Thank you, Mavis.
33 (Applause.)
34 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
35 MIKESELL: Will Tami Bell and Pat Alvarez please come up
36 here to assist me in the next presentation?
37 (Applause.)
38 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
39 MIKESELL: Okay. This brings us to a submission for the
40 Volunteers and Service To Others award. Pat Alvarez
41 submitted an application, and we are extremely pleased
42 to present this award to Tami Bell.
43 (Applause.)
44 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
45 MIKESELL: Tami Bell has really reached out to the
46 homeless community, and under the guidance of
47 Pat Alvarez that program is pretty much exploding. We
48 need your donations for TFA desperately.
49 Madam Department President, would you please
50 have these ladies, the heart of our organization,

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 escorted back to their seats.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Sergeant-at-Arms,
3 Marshal, will the Distinguished Guest Chairman please
4 escort our representatives back to their seats.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wait a minute.
7 Madam Chairman, I heard there is a presentation
8 from -- it's not in the information. It is on behalf of
9 all the reps that we have, whatever presentation it is.
10 And that is Earlean Paige from Greater L.A.
11 MS. PAIGE: Terry, on behalf of all of the
12 deputy representatives --
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Representatives.
14 MS. PAIGE: -- Department of California --
15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Mike.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We cannot hear
17 you.
18 MS. PAIGE: We would like to present to you
19 this card that you may read later and a donation from
20 each of us. We love you and good luck.
21 (Applause.)
22 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
23 MIKESELL: Okay. Ladies, in this envelope is \$139.
24 (Applause.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. We may
26 proceed.
27 Would you like to thank these ladies for the
28 donation?
29 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
30 MIKESELL: Thank you, ladies, very, very much.
31 Appreciate it.
32 (Applause.)
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: These are hard
34 workers.
35 (Applause.)
36 (Music played.)
37 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
38 MIKESELL: Madam Department President Pilar, would you
39 please have Mike Neiderberger and Rex escorted to the
40 stage, who will be introduced by Tami Bell and
41 Pat Alvarez.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes. My tongue is
43 tied. Strike that.
44 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, will the
45 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort Big Mike
46 Neiderberger and Rex Jennings to the stage.
47 (Processional.)
48
49 DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES REX JENNINGS
50 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: Director of Volunteer

1 Services Rex Jennings.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: I know I am outnumbered; so
5 I have to behave myself and do everything appropriately.

6 I have to come over there because there is
7 somebody very special to me and my family; so -- as all
8 of you are.

9 First of all, I want to thank all of you for
10 giving me this honored opportunity to be here with you.
11 I can honestly say that this Auxiliary absolutely is the
12 most supportive group that I have in the community
13 helping us take care of our men and women.

14 (Applause.)

15 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: I have also learned that
16 women are the doers, not those men next door.

17 (Applause.)

18 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: Yeah. They -- I know they
19 talk a good game, but they are full of hot air.

20 I also thought that not only was it an honor to
21 be here with you, which I really do greatly appreciate;
22 I also thought it was kind of a fantasy of mine to be in
23 a place where I was outnumbered, like, one male for
24 every couple hundred of women. And then my wonderful,
25 sweet rep and a couple of your other members talked to
26 me outside before I got here and said, you know what?
27 You are here to be seen and not heard. We will tell you
28 when we need something.

29 So I am reminded that -- all the time that
30 ladies do make things happen. You guys absolutely do
31 a fantastic job in the very, very tough environment we
32 live in these days, this economic climate where it is
33 hard to get resources good and take care of the men and
34 women that have served us. It is tough. But you guys
35 do a great job.

36 And my reps and deputies in Long Beach, I know
37 all the reps and deposes really deserve a big, big hug and
38 welcome for all they do for us. My reps and deputies
39 work in Long Beach, and the one thing that we are trying
40 to shift to is what President Obama's and Secretary of
41 the VA -- we can never forget one -- is their number one
42 mission is to get our veterans and veteran families off
43 the streets. You know --

44 (Applause.)

45 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: -- I am every day in touch
46 with veterans coming into our office in the VA that are
47 very desperate. The world has caved in on them. It is
48 pretty hard to see through the eyes of someone who has
49 served us who were definitely in a better place not long
50 ago and need us to help them. Everybody in our

1 community wants to reach out to those vets that serve us
2 overseas and send things overseas and take good care of
3 them, but the military gives them what they need. The
4 military takes care of them.

5 Then they come home to us. They live in our
6 neighborhoods. They are our neighbors; they are our
7 families. And a lot of them are very desperate. Times
8 have gotten very tough. And it is hard to find the
9 resources in our community to help them along, to get
10 them to a healthier place.

11 So I am asking all of you to please help us in
12 the VA system. Let's help those veterans and, more
13 importantly, those families with children. I have been
14 in with families that five of them are sleeping on one
15 mattress on the floor with no furniture. I was brought
16 to a family that had three kids and for a month did not
17 have a refrigerator, and their mother had to walk once
18 or twice a day just so their supplies could be
19 refrigerated to take care of her family. That should
20 not happen.

21 (Applause.)

22 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: It just should not happen,
23 not here, not here in our state, not here in our
24 backyards.

25 And I want you guys to try to be creative. Get
26 away from some of the things we have done for so long.
27 And, well, we have always done this. We don't want to
28 hear about change. We want to continue to do the same
29 thing. We don't have the resources we once had, but in
30 your communities -- communities know the good work that
31 you do. Go to your schools. Go to the community.
32 Maybe ask them for dishes that they are replacing and
33 going to get rid of. Silverware. Glasses. Furniture.
34 Beds. Things that we discard they can -- or something
35 old or something not needed, it is something vital to
36 a family, to a veteran that has nothing whatsoever.

37 Now, I came up here to say hello and thank you
38 for all of your hard work.

39 And I'm also here to introduce somebody that is
40 one of our veterans, yours and mine. He's at our
41 Long Beach VA Medical Center, and he can tell you his
42 story. He can also tell you his journey, what he has
43 dedicated his life on doing, and that is to help
44 veterans who are homeless. And he calls it to get them
45 out of the bush because that's where he lived. For
46 a lot of us, we call it living on the street.

47 I want to bring him up here. He is a Marine.
48 He is a Vietnam veteran, and for 13 years he lived on
49 the street as being homeless.

50 Well, yesterday, when I went to give him the

1 directions to come here today because he is so -- he was
2 so proud to be invited and to be able to talk to you
3 today, the one thing he told me, "When you come by,
4 Mike, I'm going to give you directions how to get there.
5 I'll be there for you. I'll be there with you."

6 "Yeah. But, Rex, you've got to come see my
7 apartment."

8 I said, "Okay. Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'm busy.
9 I'm in a hurry."

10 "Okay. Rex, just come by and see my
11 apartment."

12 I said, "Okay. I'll go see your apartment."

13 So when I arrived he was waiting at the curb
14 for me. He said, "Come on. You've got to see my
15 apartment." He was so proud of it.

16 You know, this is somebody that was on the
17 street for 13 years, and now we have been able to put
18 a roof over his head, give him some things that he can
19 be proud of. And that's what he was showing me is that
20 in a short window of time he has built a home for
21 himself. And the thing that impressed me the most when
22 I walked in there that I'll never forget ever, all those
23 wonderful blankets that a lot of you give for us and
24 bring to the VA that are either yarn and you put those
25 things together, whatever that is called. I am a guy.
26 Crochet, I guess. Quilts and so forth, different
27 shades, different sizes, different colors. I saw on the
28 walls a whole bunch of those that were shaped by pins,
29 different shapes overlapping, put together, and it was
30 one of the most beautiful things I had ever seen using
31 those kinds of materials. It was very creative and very
32 decorative.

33 And I turned to him and said, "Wow. That is
34 really something. Who did that?"

35 And he gave me the strangest look and said,
36 "Well, I did that."

37 And I said, "You know, Big Mike, you have got
38 some skills and talents," I mean. So obviously he kept
39 those things and used them. They were gifts. They were
40 things that were given to him, and they stayed with him,
41 and he put them to good use.

42 He is very proud of his home that he's got now,
43 and his mission is to go out there and help all of the
44 vets that are out there homeless, and he is a great
45 asset for us.

46 I just want to tell all of you from my heart,
47 thank you for all that you do. You guys are truly
48 making a difference in the lives of the men and women
49 that have served us. They have never needed us more.
50 From myself, from all the staff of the VA, from all

1 those veterans and their families -- and I am also the
2 father of two active duty veterans who have served
3 multiple tours overseas -- I can't thank you enough from
4 the bottom of my heart for all that you guys do in
5 helping us make a difference in their lives. We
6 couldn't do it without you. You guys are the very, very
7 best in the VA system, and I'm very thankful to be here.
8 Love you guys, and thank you.

9 (Applause.)
10 DIRECTOR JENNINGS: I want -- now at this time
11 I want you, please, to welcome Big Mike. He goes by
12 Big Mike. He is a Marine, and he's very proud to be
13 here.

14 (Applause.)

15
16 BIG MIKE NEIDERBERGER
17 MR. NEIDERBERGER: Oh, boy.
18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Semper fi.
19 MR. NEIDERBERGER: Do or die.
20 Anyways, my name is Big Mike Neiderberger. I'm
21 a United States Marine.

22 (Applause.)
23 MR. NEIDERBERGER: First off, I would like to
24 thank God for me being here in this room.
25 Anyway -- and I would like to thank my
26 Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Obama, because of what he has
27 done for all the veterans.

28 And I have been out there in the bush --
29 (Applause.)

30 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And I have been out there in
31 the bush for 13 years now, since 1998, and I know close
32 to 1,000 veterans out there that are still in the bush.
33 And I noticed that these veterans are starting gathering
34 in -- there are, like, in tens and twenties now. They
35 are starting to gather together so they can protect each
36 other out in the bush because they are being beat up and
37 jumped and whatnot.

38 And, anyways, I am here to give you my
39 testimony for the following last year that -- I was out
40 in the bush for 13 years, and I was -- here it goes.

41 I was -- I was sitting in the bushes one day.
42 This is how it all began. I was sitting in the bushes
43 one day, and I was drinking whisky with another vet, and
44 five of my children came up to me. They are all grown.
45 They are in their thirties. And they came up to me and
46 told me that "Dad, this isn't the way a Marine dies.
47 This is the way a Marine takes himself out."

48 And I thought to myself, wow, man. My kids
49 went out of their way to find me. You know, when they
50 were raised and grown, I went into hiding with the rest

1 of the homeless vets because I figured my duty as
2 a father was over. And they were grown, and they all
3 had their own lives to live.

4 And so I was sitting drinking with my buddies
5 at a park. There was about ten of us. And all of
6 a sudden a friend of mine says to me -- I mean, my kids
7 come up to me. I'm sorry. I got ahead of myself. I'm
8 going to be jumping around. I hope everybody can keep
9 up with me.

10 I was sitting there with my friends drinking
11 and stuff, and my kids came up and said, "Dad, Marines
12 don't go out like this."

13 And I looked up at my kids, and I started
14 crying. And I was humiliated because my kids saw me in
15 the bush. And so I told them to leave me alone, get
16 away from me. They knew I was drinking and driving for
17 the last ten years; so as they were walking away, I
18 could see them disappearing. And another friend over
19 here said, "That's your car driving away, isn't it?"

20 And I said, "No. It's not my car driving away.
21 I have the keys right here in my pocket right there.
22 I still have the keys to my car."

23 It was my car driving away. It was my children
24 taking my car because they didn't want me to drink and
25 drive no more. They didn't want me to kill myself. And
26 I totally understand -- totally understand.

27 (Applause.)

28 MR. NEIDERBERGER: See, what my kids didn't
29 know is that I wanted to go home. So I ran home to see
30 if -- well, I didn't run home. I -- after I saw them do
31 what they did, I got out of my corner, I handed the
32 whiskey to my friend, and I said, "I'm done. I can't do
33 this no more."

34 So I got up out of that bush, and I went over
35 to a picnic table. Right after I got up out of the bush
36 that day I walked over to the picnic table. And I was
37 contemplating suicide because -- I'm out of the bush
38 now. I asked God to get me out of the bush. He got me
39 out of the bush. I'm sitting at a table in the park.
40 I'm looking at my friends in the bush, hoping they would
41 be all right, and I was contemplating suicide at the
42 bench. And, wow, the most trippiest thing happened to
43 me.

44 This man comes up to me, and he's all dressed
45 in white. And he had that bushy face. And he looked
46 like a homeless man in a nice, clean, white suit. And
47 he says, "Michael." And I'm thinking how the hell does
48 he know my name because I kept my head down. Nobody
49 knew what I was doing. He says, "You need to go to the
50 VA hospital." Because what I was thinking was I have

1 nowhere to go. When veterans come out of the bushes,
2 they don't know where to go. They have nowhere to go.
3 They don't know.

4 Let me tell you something. There is Air Force,
5 Army, Navy, and Marines out in the bush right now. And
6 when I was sitting at that bench and I was ready to kill
7 myself that day, this man tells me, "Go to the VA. Go
8 to Pierce Center. Go to Pierce Center."

9 I didn't know what the Pierce Center was. So
10 I listened to that man. He said, "I'll meet you there."
11 He said, "I'll see you there."

12 I was going to the Pierce Center for almost
13 nine months before I went to VBRC. And that night when
14 I went to the Pierce Center, not once did I run into
15 that man. I have not yet to see that man again. And it
16 makes me mad because he promised me he would be at the
17 Pierce Center and help me get through all this.

18 Well, the whole time I was at the Pierce Center
19 I was taking showers because they allow showers. They
20 give you showers there. They feed you lunch. There is
21 a TV for a couple hours. There is a computer. There is
22 a workshop. And I didn't know nothing about this at
23 all. I don't know about none of it.

24 And then they were giving us bologna and cheese
25 sandwiches at noon, kind of pathetic.

26 And then all of a sudden on a Tuesday this girl
27 comes in -- this girl comes in on Tuesday to deliver
28 these big pans of lasagna and stuff like that, like --
29 like different things that her Auxiliary cooked. And
30 I started meeting this woman. Her name is Tami. She's
31 from the Los Alamitos Auxiliary.

32 (Applause.)

33 MR. NEIDERBERGER: Where is she? Where is
34 Tami? Oh, there she is.

35 Anyways, Tami was giving these different meals.
36 And I was asking Tami -- I go, "Hey, I know a lot of
37 guys out there in the bush. Do you mind if I bring them
38 in on Wednesday?" Because they won't come in on any
39 other day because every other day is bologna and cheese
40 sandwiches. The only time these guys will come in is on
41 Wednesday because Wednesday is these big old pans of
42 food. They are not sandwiches. Anyways, every day on
43 sandwich days there is only, like, 15 guys that eat
44 sandwiches. But on Wednesday, when Tami said it was
45 okay to allow me to bring these guys in, we're up to
46 about 130 guys from the bush on Wednesday.

47 (Applause.)

48 MR. NEIDERBERGER: Wednesday. And I told Tami,
49 "What is going to happen when your Auxiliary gets tired
50 of making this food?"

1 She said, "No. The girls down there, they
2 won't get tired of treating the homeless vets."

3 You can go to the Pierce Center every day at
4 lunchtime. You will see 15 or 20 guys. But on
5 Wednesday you will see 130 to 150 guys come out of the
6 bush.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. NEIDERBERGER: That's how I knew. That's
9 how I met Tami. Let me tell you something about Tami.
10 Don't get me caught up with Tami. Oh, boy.

11 Anyways, from there -- and I'll get back to
12 Tami.

13 From there I went to VBRC. The VBRC is
14 a 60-day program for drugs and alcohol. When I came out
15 of the bush, I handed my bottle over. I decided I was
16 going to get clean and sober and try to help the rest of
17 these guys coming out of the bush.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And you know what? That is
20 very hard for me because for 37 years, since I was in
21 the Marine Corps -- I started using when I was in the
22 Marine Corps because of the some of the terrible things
23 I had to do. I couldn't deal with it. I got out of
24 control; so I started using drugs to overcome some of
25 the things I was doing. It's all good with me today,
26 and I don't regret nothing that my country wanted me to
27 do because my country was free and that is what we are,
28 the land of the free.

29 (Applause.)

30 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And now I regret -- the only
31 thing I regret today in being a United States Marine is
32 how many military men I see in the bush. Man, you
33 cannot believe. And all these guys, I sit and I drink
34 with them, I eat with them. Not anymore, but -- I'm
35 saying for the last year I haven't been, but for 13
36 years. And the only thing that ever came out was no
37 regrets on being military, no regrets on doing their job
38 in the service. The only thing that came out of their
39 mouths was, "My country has abandoned me."

40 I'm looking at them, going, you are in your
41 country. Hello. And then they -- what they meant by
42 their country has abandoned them is everybody has --
43 everybody has problems. Everybody has ups, downs, drug
44 problems, alcohol problems, whatever problems. These
45 guys are out there because of something happening in
46 their lives, and they can't get ahead. They can't
47 bounce back up.

48 Once they go -- I can tell you this too. Once
49 you go in the bush, it is a magnet. It is used to stick
50 you, and then all of a sudden you see all that pain, all

1 that anguish out there, and you want to do whatever you
2 can to help.

3 And it was sad because the Marine Corps wasn't
4 nothing. I could do that over and over again. It was
5 what I'd seen in the bush that was more sad than the
6 Marines. It was a trip. I see Navy guys, Army guys,
7 Air Force.

8 I mean, these guys did the same thing I did.
9 They raised their families. They got over everything
10 and was a normal human being, and then they didn't know
11 what to do next. And what they did is they just took
12 off, and they went in the bush. And man, it's sad.

13 I am not trying to make you sit here and cry
14 for anything I have seen because it is not right for me
15 to pull this on you, but if you were to actually go out
16 there and see some of the things.

17 I ate beans for 13 years. A guy says, "Hey,
18 you want something to eat?"

19 "Yeah. I'll take something to eat."

20 I'm eating out of a can. There were black
21 beans, peas, corn, everything I didn't want to eat. We
22 used to sit at park benches and watch people eat
23 In-'n-Out and watched them get Carl's Jr. because
24 military people won't beg. They just won't beg. They
25 won't ask for a handout. They'd rather go to a church
26 and beg for a can of whatever.

27 But anyways, let me get back to my one year.
28 That's what I came here today for was to talk about the
29 guys in the bush. But I'm going to get back -- I'm
30 going to get back to my one year in five minutes here.
31 Here it goes.

32 I went to VBRC. I graduated from VBRC's 60-day
33 program. Then I got out of the 60-day program, but then
34 that 60-day program, that is where I met Rex.

35 And let me tell you something about Rex. Rex,
36 here, he is the coordinator for all the guys that go
37 into VBRC. VBRC is a 60-day program. And when I got
38 there, the first ten days I wanted to leave. I wanted
39 to leave. I couldn't stand it. I didn't want to be
40 clean and sober, but I stayed for one reason. That man
41 over there introduced me on Saturday and Sunday to the
42 air show. The air show, outside of all the programs
43 that we are were doing in the VBRC, he introduced us to
44 a weekend -- to -- I don't know how to say it.
45 A weekend of fun. So not only that weekend, but every
46 weekend that I was there Rex had something to do for the
47 homeless vets and the vets that were coming in and
48 giving up alcohol and drugs. Now, if it wasn't for him,
49 I wouldn't have stayed.

50 And Rex and Tami are what gave me the armor --

1 the armor to keep me clean and sober. And Rex -- what
2 I know about Rex, we went to a restaurant. And this is
3 how I know he cares about vets. He went up to every
4 individual vet at that restaurant and asked them if
5 their food was fine. That man did that. That's what
6 recognized me over Rex. I go, "Wow, man. This guy
7 really cares about the homeless vets." It trips me out.

8 And I didn't know him from Adam. I met him on
9 the bus on the way to the air show. I kept looking at
10 him and wondering, who is he? I mean, that's a weird
11 guy, and he's talking to all the vets, trying to find
12 out what we want, what our needs are, what's wrong with
13 us. And I was tripping hard on him, you know.

14 So I met him, and when I met him, he's a pretty
15 nice guy. I mean, he really does care about the
16 homeless vets. And he is constantly asking me for more
17 ideas and more things to do for the homeless vets.

18 Okay. And once I got out of that program
19 I went back to the streets to try to help other homeless
20 vets. I'm in a hurry; so I'll speak real fast.

21 And then let me get back to Tami.

22 I got my -- I got my -- my voucher for housing,
23 and then when I got my voucher for housing, I went and
24 got my apartment. Well, in my apartment I had no
25 furniture. I didn't have nothing for two weeks.
26 I slept on the floor, turned on the heater, and I kept
27 myself warm. I used my backpack as a pillow and the
28 carpet as my bed. But I asked Tami for help, and would
29 you believe it or not, she opened her home. She gave me
30 almost one-third of everything she had in her house, and
31 that's in my house now.

32 (Applause.)

33 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And it tripped me out.
34 I was crying, taking from her house. I go, "Tami, you
35 shouldn't do this. You need it in your home." I go,
36 "Wow, you gave me furniture and all this other stuff.
37 Everything is okay." I'm going, "Come on, Tami.
38 I can't do this." Anyway, my towels, my dishes, all of
39 those things came from Tami and the Auxiliary of
40 Los Alamitos.

41 (Applause.)

42 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And I've got to tell you
43 about Los Alamitos. I thank Los Alamitos for giving me
44 all the things they were giving me. Oh, my. You know
45 what? God bless Los Alamitos Women's Auxiliary. You
46 guys are so cool. My whole house is full of your stuff.

47 (Applause.)

48 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And you know what?
49 Everybody that has ever come to my home has told me,
50 "You have a plush house, really very, very nice house,

1 but it looks very girlish."
2 But it is all good. It is all good, half man,
3 half girl. It is all good.
4 I'm a United States Marine now. I'm a sister.
5 But it's all good.
6 But anyway, I want to wrap this up. I want to
7 also please -- I'm going to say this again. Rex, here,
8 if you can offer anything or any help, what he does is
9 he helps homeless vets come out of the bush, get into
10 the program, and with that program what he does is he
11 looks for things on the weekends that these vets stay in
12 these programs and love what they're doing and just keep
13 going on with their lives.
14 And I give my hat off to him. He's one of my
15 good buddies.
16 (Applause.)
17 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And you know what? He just
18 now said something to me. Please -- please, there is
19 a lot of homeless vets out there in the bush, and
20 I already know because myself -- you -- I know you girls
21 are the power. I know you girls are the wallets, books
22 in your families, your lives. The husbands, just like
23 me, we have no record when it comes to you girls. You
24 guys are all the power in your house, and I know you
25 guys make things happen in California, all of
26 California.
27 (Applause.)
28 MR. NEIDERBERGER: And one more last thing.
29 Those vets out there in the bush, they would do
30 it all again for you. They have already -- they have
31 told me over and over they wouldn't give up being a vet.
32 They love what they do. They love all of you.
33 Thank you.
34 (Applause.)
35 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
36 MIKESELL: I'd like to say one more little story about
37 Tami.
38 Tami had her birthday not long ago, and the
39 homeless veterans that she helps brought her socks for
40 her birthday --
41 (Applause.)
42 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN
43 MIKESELL: -- because she is always giving socks to
44 them.
45 Thank you, Tami.
46 Madam President, that concludes my report.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you so much.
48 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, would the
49 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort our guests to
50 the back.

1 supplemental report and first place awards and special
2 awards for this Membership committee?
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
4 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam Department
5 President, officers, chairmen, and members of this great
6 state and Department of California, this chairman is
7 proud to say that we have done a great job in promoting
8 membership across this state. Our Fiddlers have
9 definitely played their fiddles to the tune of "Ain't No
10 Stopping Us Now." That is exactly -- no stopping us
11 from making that 100 percent national goal. Our
12 Fiddlers have definitely played up to the tune again,
13 and there will be a celebration after this convention
14 because we will be at 100 percent.
15 I am so proud of every Fiddler, regardless of
16 whether they made 100 percent or not. They worked
17 extremely hard. They have demonstrated the service, not
18 self attitude throughout this musical year. We could
19 not have asked for a better group of chairmen. Music
20 definitely was in the air, and the orchestra will
21 continue to play on.
22 Many units had early bird luncheons, dinners,
23 fashion shows, just to name a few. One unit had
24 a renewal of works program. This incentive gave them an
25 opportunity to earn reward points by paying their dues
26 on time, attending unit and committee meetings, even
27 bringing out members to meetings and helping our
28 veterans. One district's Fiddlers united in a melodic
29 symphony by exhibiting service, not self attitudes,
30 instilling pride and loyalty in its members,
31 demonstrating the power of one by informing, teaching,
32 and supporting each individual member. Another district
33 launched the new membership year with a spectacular
34 flier using an image of the embellished word M.U.S.I.C.
35 on one side and the plan of action on the other. They
36 believe that membership should be 24/7, 365 days a year.
37 As of the close of books, we have 13 goal
38 districts and 156 goal units.
39 You may applaud for that.
40 (Applause.)
41 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: We made our
42 department goal, which was 25,106. That is our
43 department goal. Our department goal as of today is
44 25,538 members.
45 (Applause.)
46 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Every unit,
47 district, Junior, Son of the American Legion, and
48 Legionnaire, we thank you for your recruitment to help
49 California be -- right now in the Western Division we
50 are second, and we are sixth in the nation.

1 (Applause.)
2 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: We will not stop,
3 as we still have until July 31st to make that push for
4 Number 1. We can do it, and we will do it. Remember
5 the word M.U.S.I.C., and we know that California can,
6 and we will. You may continue to push for that member
7 that didn't seem interested and say, "Hey, will you join
8 us?" We have time again. We have a lot of time; so,
9 please, we want to make Madam President proud of our
10 year of being a goal department when she reaches
11 National Convention.
12 Madam President, I will continue on with the
13 introduction of the district Fiddlers. They are all
14 lined up. At this time they will celebrate with me for
15 these hardworking chairmen. And that's how the district
16 membership committee speaks.
17 Thank you very much.
18 District first place membership chairmen:
19 District 1, Maria Ruiz.
20 District 2, Judy Henderson.
21 District 3, Victoria Wokman.
22 District 4, Terry Morehouse.
23 District 5, Norma Erickson.
24 District 6, Alice Camden.
25 District 7, Sarah Bruno.
26 District 8, Jane Lopez.
27 District 9, Donna Rios.
28 District 10, Louise Ferrara.
29 District 11, Joan Penny.
30 District 12, Terry Matthews.
31 District 13, Patty McCannon.
32 District 14, Deborah Ennis.
33 District 15, Carolyn Herrera.
34 District 16, Rosemary Weber.
35 (Applause.)
36 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 18, Kathy
37 Pipkin.
38 District 19, Diana Moreno.
39 (Applause.)
40 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 20, Linda
41 Hayes.
42 (Applause.)
43 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 21,
44 Bertha Marquist.
45 (Applause.)
46 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 22, Midge
47 Farrar.
48 District 23, Denise Coleman.
49 (Applause.)
50 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 24,

1 Rebecca Stewart Wilson.
2 District 25, Becky Mehta.
3 (Applause.)
4 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 26, Lou
5 Thompson.
6 District 27, Charlotte Collins.
7 District 28, Renee Yaqub.
8 District 29, Connie Foley.
9 (Applause.)
10 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: And District 30,
11 Pam Fink.
12 These are your Membership members right before
13 you to help you make your goals.
14 (Music played.)
15 (Applause.)
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, ladies.
17 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 Distinguished Guest Chairman, please escort them back.
20 22ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT FARRAR: Madam
21 Department President Pilar, District 22.
22 May I address Alzora? The Membership Chairman
23 for District 19 was not myself but Gigi Manno, and she
24 gets the credit.
25 (Applause.)
26 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you.
27 Did I say Gigi Manno? No, I didn't.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Continue.
29 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you,
30 Madam President Pilar.
31 I will continue with the first place unit and
32 district membership supplemental awards, the Josie
33 Melgard award, the Ethel Flynn award, the Estella
34 Hannell Memorial award, and the Colleen award.
35 The first unit to the membership's unit overall
36 supplemental report, Group A, that's 10 to 700 members,
37 first place is East Palo Alto, Unit 472, District 26,
38 Lou Thompson, Chairman.
39 (Applause.)
40 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Group B, 701 to
41 1500 members, first place goes to Jackie Robinson,
42 Unit 252, District 23, Anita Biggs, Chairman.
43 (Applause.)
44 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Group C, 1501 and
45 over members, first place goes to Richard O. Reed,
46 Unit 777, District 25, Becky Mehta, Chairman.
47 (Applause.)
48 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Now we will
49 continue with the best.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Later. Take

1 pictures later.
2 Will you continue?
3 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Yes.
4 District best overall membership supplemental,
5 Group A, 10 to 700 members, first place goes to
6 District 24, Rebecca Stewart-Wilson, Chairman.
7 (Applause.)
8 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Group B, 701 to
9 1500 members, first place goes to District 19, Diana
10 Moreno, Chairman.
11 (Applause.)
12 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Group C, 1501 and
13 over members, first place -- first place goes to
14 District 22, Gigi Manno, Chairman.
15 (Applause.)
16 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: The next one is
17 a special award. It was very difficult to actually read
18 these and decide who was first. I've seen some
19 extremely good reports. I actually, myself, did not
20 actually choose these winners. I did have two others
21 that were reading and deciding exactly who they thought
22 was the best. And after that I did agree.
23 And it was a tie. I do have a special -- what
24 we call a special award. This person has demonstrated
25 service, not self continuously by calling me, staying in
26 contact with me, and I would not say harassing me, but
27 it felt that way. Not really.
28 This award is awarded to District 23,
29 Denise Coleman, Chairman.
30 (Applause.)
31 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: This chairman
32 recommends this award, Denise Coleman, 23rd District,
33 Membership Chairman, in recognition and sincere
34 appreciation of the American Legion Auxiliary program
35 and activity dedicated to God and country for 2010-2011.
36 (Applause.)
37 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay. Here come
38 the real good ones. It's going to be a good one. The
39 next award -- no. Nancy.
40 Okay. I will continue with the Ethel Flynn
41 award. This award is presented to the unit with the
42 greatest numerical gain over goal as of close of books.
43 This award goes to Newport Harbor Unit 291, District 29,
44 219 members over goal.
45 (Applause.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please speed it
47 up.
48 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Is she here?
49 Okay. The Estella Hannell Memorial award is
50 presented to the district with the largest numerical

1 increase from the previous year's close of books to the
2 Book of Reports for the current year, District 29,
3 Connie Foley.

4 (Applause.)

5 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: The next award is
6 the Colleen award, the Marjorie McDonald. This is a
7 citation plus \$100 is to be used to promote the programs
8 of education.

9 Will Pat -- Past Department President Pat
10 Sweeney please come to the podium, please?

11 This award is presented to Unit 170,
12 District 19, Rosa Drake, President.

13 (Applause.)

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT PAT SWEENEY: This
15 is a very special award because it's an award from
16 a special person. Many, many years ago this was the
17 Department President from 22, and I have kept it up
18 because I was one of her Presidents; so we're going to
19 try. I said last year that we probably aren't doing it
20 anymore, but I would like to keep this award up because
21 I know that Marge would want that to happen.

22 (Applause.)

23 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: At this time we
24 will have Past Department President Nancy Brown Park to
25 help with this particular one. This is the award goal
26 plus two, and as I call the district -- the unit
27 Presidents, please come and pick up your unit citations
28 and the award from Josie Melgard, our Past Department
29 President and Past National President.

30 District 1 President: Sequoia, Unit 96; and
31 Walker Bailey, Unit 205.

32 (Applause.)

33 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay. District
34 2 -- when you come back ask for me. Would you please
35 come back to receive your Goal Plus 2 award.

36 District 2: Chula, Unit 92; Willis Hollenbeak,
37 Unit 369; Shasta Dam, Unit 720; and Glenn L. Wilson Sr.,
38 Sea Wolf, Unit 746.

39 District 3: Eagle Lake, Unit 162.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All districts,
41 please come back to the side of the stage.

42 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 4:
43 Oroville, Unit 95; Jefferson L. Winn, Unit 98; Mount
44 Lassen, Unit 167; Vernon Jewel Danley, Unit 218; and
45 Linda, Unit 807.

46 (Applause.)

47 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 5: Napa,
48 Unit 113; Tredway, Unit 194; Konocti, Unit 437.

49 District 6: Haggin-Grant, Unit 521; Charles
50 Eggen, Unit 832.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 District 7: Frank Gallino, Unit 130; Warren
2 McKeon, Unit 587.
3 District 8: General Hunter Liggett First Army,
4 Unit 510.
5 District 10: Rizal, Unit 588.
6 District 11: James McDermott, Unit 172;
7 McFall-Grisham, Unit 249; Ed Stewart, Unit 803.
8 District 12: Merced, Unit 83; Elijah B. Hayes,
9 Unit 168; Ceres, Unit 491.
10 District 13: West Valley, Unit 99.
11 District 14: Madera, Unit 11; Fresno,
12 Unit 509.
13 District 15: Merle Reed, 124; Leslie L.
14 Robinson, Unit 213.
15 District 16: Oxnard, Unit 48; Corporal Marshal
16 N. Braden, Unit 56; Arroyo Grande, Unit 136; Templeton,
17 Unit 220; Moorpark, Unit 502; Orcutt, Unit 534.
18 District 18: Pomona Charles P. Rowe, Unit 30;
19 Arcadia, Unit 247; Charter Cove, Unit 755.
20 District 19: Bert S. Crossland, Unit 170;
21 South Bay, Unit 184; Downey, Unit 270; Hawthorne,
22 Unit 314; River, Unit 411; Lakewood, Unit 496; Lincoln
23 Village, Unit 833.
24 (Applause.)
25 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 20:
26 Eagle Rock, Unit 276; Newhall-Saugus, Unit 507;
27 Sun Valley, Unit 520.
28 District 21: Harold W. Hyland, Unit 53; Lynn
29 Mort, Unit 200; Carl R. Meairs, Unit 289; Norco,
30 Unit 328; Owen Coffman, Unit 519; Herman Granados,
31 Unit 739; and Idyllwild, Unit 800.
32 District 22: San Diego, Unit 6; Oceanside,
33 Unit 146; Larry E. Bennett, Unit 255; Alpine, Unit 258;
34 La Mesa, Unit 282; Alvin Myo Dunn, Unit 365; Chula
35 Vista, Unit 434; Lincoln Deming, Unit 468; Pacific
36 Beach, Unit 552; Borrego Springs, Unit 853.
37 (Applause.)
38 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: District 23:
39 Jackie Robinson, Unit 252; Chappie James, Unit 578;
40 Dorie Miller, Unit 639.
41 District 24: Hollywood, Unit 43; Pacific
42 Palisades, Unit 238.
43 District 25: San Bernardino, Unit 14;
44 Redlands, Unit 106; Leo Collins, Unit 229; Bloomington,
45 Unit 497; Philip Marmolejo, Unit 650; Hesperia,
46 Unit 725; Richard O. Reed, Unit 777.
47 District 26: San Mateo, Unit 82; East Palo
48 Alto E, Unit 472; Coast Side, Unit 474.
49 District 27: Inyo, Unit 118.
50 District 28: Edward H. Lorenson, Unit 121;

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 Carmel, Unit 512; Cecil M. Anderson, Unit 589; Prundale,
2 Unit 583.

3 District 29: Orange, Unit 132; Laguna Beach,
4 Unit 222; La Habra, Unit 267; Newport Harbor, Unit 291;
5 Cypress, Unit 295; Leisure World, Unit 327; Buena Park,
6 Unit 354; Albert E. Schwab, Unit 555; and Los Alamitos,
7 Unit 716.

8 (Applause.)

9 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: These are the
10 units that made goals by the close of books, which was
11 May 9th.

12 Thank you, ladies.

13 (Applause.)

14 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: I have just
15 another few awards to give. There are two
16 presentations, two very important people who helped me
17 very much from the beginning of this chairmanship to the
18 end.

19 Will Secretary/Treasurer Doris Kilkenny and
20 Past Department President Ruby Kapsalis come to the
21 podium for a membership support award.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Alzora, we have
23 a charter presentation, but it will be in the afternoon.

24 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay.

25 Madam President, at this time I thank you so much for
26 trusting me with such an awarding chairmanship. This
27 has been quite an experience, and I will never forget
28 it. And I mean this in a good way.

29 At this time may I approach your station and
30 hopefully present a gift to you to open at your leisure?
31 And I thank you again.

32 This concludes my report.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
34 much.

35 Now, we have -- I would like to have the
36 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort our
37 Department Commander Mark Foxworthy to the stage. This
38 is before we recess.

39 (Processional.)

40 (Applause.)

41

42 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER MARK FOXWORTHY

43 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER FOXWORTHY: Good morning.

44 Good morning to everyone in the Department of
45 California. Good morning, ladies.

46 Oh, darn it, I am stuck on Madam President.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.

48 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER FOXWORTHY: I come to you,
49 Madam President, humbly, with my most sincere and
50 deepest apologies, not only to you but to the great

1 organization that you represent.

2 Madam President came by this morning. Our
3 staff did not do a thorough enough job of greeting her
4 at the entry, and my -- one of my officers did not do
5 an effective job of communicating a message to
6 Madam President that we were in the midst of some
7 serious issues at hand. I'm sure many of you will hear
8 of later on today.

9 But, Madam President, my deepest apologies to
10 you. I would never do anything to slight you or this
11 wonderful organization, the body that you represent.
12 I am so sorry.

13 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRPERSON
14 TAYLOR: On one knee.

15 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER FOXWORTHY:
16 Madam President -- Madam President, please, if there is
17 anything I can do to make amends.

18 I would have one request, and that would be
19 that I am granted a first dance opportunity at tonight's
20 banquet.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wow. How
23 gracious.

24 Anyway, I want to be honest. I was really
25 hurt. I was -- you know, you don't know how bad I felt.
26 I was very embarrassed walking in a big, big room, and
27 then I know someone was speaking and you are not
28 supposed to be entering the room when someone is
29 speaking, but I was escorted to the middle.

30 And I had permission from Bill Siler that
31 I would be there, and he said come anytime, and then
32 I was rejected. I was rejected. And so I was really
33 hurt, and I want the Department Commander to know.

34 But I accept his apologies.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We are still
37 friends, but still I am hurt. I am a very sensitive and
38 emotional person, and I cried here. When I came back
39 here, I was crying. I was embarrassed. I was very
40 embarrassed, walking into a room where there are all the
41 Legionnaires and then just being ignored and shied away.

42 And so I want -- but anyway he is really
43 gracious to come here, and I hope that you will be
44 changing your -- whatever, your attitude. And that is
45 honesty.

46 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER FOXWORTHY: Madam
47 President, there is no need to change my attitude
48 towards the Ladies Auxiliary. It is simply our
49 structure and thoroughness when we receive guests to
50 make sure that they are provided for in a distinguished

1 fashion.
2 And, once again, to you, your Auxiliary body,
3 our deepest, deepest apologies.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Apology accepted.
5 I think he is very sincere.
6 Is he sincere enough?
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Let's
9 give -- we are all hungry and ready for lunch. We have
10 to reconvene at 1:30. Yeah.
11 Okay. Don't sit down. He has not walked out
12 of the room. Let us be gracious to him.
13 (Processional.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. We are now
15 recessed for lunch, and you know where you are going.
16 You know where your Department Presidents -- go with
17 your Department Presidents.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 Madam President -- Madam President, very quickly, do you
20 want me to state where they are going to be going?
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Ladies,
22 communication. Communication.
23
24 ANNOUNCEMENTS
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Very
26 quickly. Listen up, ladies.
27 The PT Performers and Classy Penguins are going
28 to meet in Room 104, which is the department office, as
29 soon as we break.
30 Margaret's Dream Catchers, Ruby's All Stars,
31 Goldie's Golden Links, Betty's Bears, Geri's Cards, and
32 Shelby's Actresses, lunch at the Ayres Boutique,
33 Room 117. The Ayres shuttle is going to pick you up at
34 the east door. You go out of this room, turn right, and
35 then an immediate left by Room 107A exit is where the
36 Ayres shuttle will pick you up.
37 Bev's Stars and Madeline's Robots will meet for
38 lunch at the north entrance of the convention center,
39 near the buffet and bar.
40 Virginia Gandy's Engineers, Judy Lloyd's
41 Editors, Diane DeLashmit's Circus Act are meeting today
42 in the convention center lobby.
43 Linda's Racers, today, noon, by the tables in
44 the hall by the exit doors and the lunch buffet.
45 Norma's Birds of Paradise will meet in the
46 Ayres Hotel, Room 3302.
47 Linda's Workmen, Nancy's Patriots, Bonnie's
48 Princesses, Sandy's Colonel's are meeting for lunch at
49 the DoubleTree, Room 3356.
50 Thank you.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Doris.
2 We'll be back at 1:30.
3 (Luncheon recess taken from
4 12:15 p.m. to 1:40 p.m.)
5

6 LUNCHEON RECESS
7

8 PRESIDENT REYES: Ladies, can you please take
9 your seats?

10 I would like to ask someone to take the stage.
11 National Security. Poppy. AEF. We'll try to finish
12 all of the reports this afternoon; so we don't want to
13 waste time. Please stay in your seat.

14 This convention session is now reconvened. At
15 this time we will resume the chairmen's reports, but
16 before we go there, our Chaplain will take a second to
17 read.
18

19 A HERO'S HERO

20 CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: When we had that homeless
21 veteran here before, we took a break, and I just
22 remembered something. And I have a little thing
23 regarding -- regarding the homeless men.

24 A Hero's Hero:
25 So many soldiers living on the street,
26 Their spirits broken with defeat.
27 What must they think when they look around
28 Eyes passing by, staring at the ground?
29 Does anger fill them when we turn away
30 From the debts we owe that should be repaid?
31 What if at that moment, just once, instead
32 We saluted in honor, right hand to head?
33 To let them know they are not ghosts,
34 Thanking them for being braver than most.
35 If everyone would show them grace,
36 We just might find their pain erased.
37 For all the heroes still fighting to live,
38 And heroes like you continuing to give.
39 If you see someone who is really lost,
40 Please stop and remember what our freedom cost.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now we have
44 Alzora, please.
45

46 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

47 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay. Thank you,
48 Madam President.

49 I still have two awards that were not
50 presented, and at this time -- this is for the largest

1 goal unit percentage awarded to Downey, Unit 290,
2 Dolores King, President, and that goal that they made.

3 (Applause.)

4 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: And the last award
5 that I have was the first goal district, which was
6 awarded to District 24.

7 (Applause.)

8 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President,
9 I didn't get the opportunity to present our area support
10 team for Membership. And at this time, if you are here,
11 please stand toward the back -- in the back of me at
12 this time.

13 The first one is Area 1. This Membership
14 report -- this Membership team was -- Madam President
15 assigned them to each area. And the first area was 1,
16 which is Nancy Edwards. And I am so sad to report --
17 and I did not know this -- but Nancy had been in a coma
18 for two months. I got this information today. So far
19 she is doing pretty good, but she has been very, very
20 ill. I tried to talk to her. I didn't know what was
21 going on. And, really, my heart goes out to her. And
22 please mention -- the Chaplain and members, please pray
23 for her, Nancy and her family.

24 Area 2, LuAnn Johnson. She is over here.
25 District 26.

26 We have Danielle White. That's Area 3,
27 Danielle. District 27.

28 Jean Hardcovy, District 22.

29 (Applause.)

30 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Cheryl Hathaway,
31 District 21.

32 And Annette McKendry, District 16. That's your
33 Membership area support team.

34 Now, Madam President, I would like to call our
35 Secretary/Treasurer Doris Kilkenny to the podium.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You're in trouble.

37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
38 always in trouble.

39 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: She's in trouble?

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She's always in
41 trouble.

42 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Well, first of
43 all, I did present an award to her, I'm quite sure.
44 I really want to thank Doris for everything that she has
45 helped me do. Membership is not an easy task. This is
46 something no one can do by themselves, take all of the
47 districts, all of the units, all of the support team,
48 and, of course, it does take the Department to help you
49 through this Membership transition because it is hard.
50 And she did a fabulous job trying to get information to

1 me and to all of you.
2 And that, Doris, I thank you so much.
3 (Applause.)
4 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Doris, at this
5 time, will introduce the new charters, the unit
6 charters.
7
8 NEW CHARTERS
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 Madam President, with your permission, I would like for
11 you to present the charters we have. We have received
12 these back from National.
13 We have a new charter, Number 181, Brea,
14 District 29.
15 (Applause.)
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
17 have a unit that was chartered late in 2010, Unit 552,
18 Pacific Beach.
19 (Applause.)
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And
21 Unit 201. What's the name? Dewitt C. Mitchell. And if
22 you have representatives from the district, just stand
23 at the end of the stage and Madam President will call
24 you up.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Brea --
26 Brea, Unit 181, District 29. Somebody from your
27 district.
28 (Applause.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: San Diego, Pacific
30 Beach, Unit 552, District 22.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We have six.
33 Okay. Lemon Grove, Dewitt C. Mitchell Post,
34 Unit 201. This is District 20 -- 22.
35 Later on I will take pictures with you; so be
36 ready for the photo session.
37 Big Bear Lake. Okay. Unit 584. This is
38 a name change to Sergeant Major U.S.M.C.A.F., Rudy
39 Woodward. Congratulations.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have six
42 units in our department.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I hope that will
45 be recognized at National.
46 Are you done, Alzora --
47 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Yes, ma'am.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: -- with your
49 report?
50 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President,

1 that ends my Membership report.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank
3 you.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have good
6 membership.
7 Now I would like to go on Poppy, Loretta Marsh.
8 (Music played.)
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: AEF Leadership,
10 please be on stage. And Convention Commission, Beverly.

11
12 POPPY REPORT

13 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Madam President, the
14 convention committee on Poppy met on June 23rd, 2011, in
15 Room 107B of the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario,
16 California.

17 The statistical report of this chairman appears
18 on Page 18 of the Book of Reports.

19 Annette McKendry of District 16 was appointed
20 Secretary.

21 Nancy Niles of District 24 offered prayer.

22 And Geri Fitzpatrick of District 4 was
23 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

24 A total of 21 district delegates answered roll
25 call. There were 13 visitors present.

26 The Poppy meeting was opened with prayer, and
27 the Pledge to the flag was recited.

28 Awards and citations were presented.

29 Discussion pursued and recommendations were
30 presented and will be passed on to the successive Poppy
31 Chairman and Department President.

32 The following code changes were approved by
33 committee. No groaning now.

34 The first was -- Department Code Section 6 now
35 reads:

36 The week preceding the third Saturday in May,
37 which is Sunday through Saturday, shall be declared
38 Poppy Week and shall be scheduled -- shall be the
39 scheduled time for the annual poppy solicitation. Units
40 wishing to offer poppies, other than the scheduled week,
41 must write and receive permission from the Department
42 President. The deadline date for requests -- for
43 permission to change Poppy Week is April 1st.

44 The proposed change from the committee would
45 read -- for -- to clear up confusion on the third
46 Saturday it would instead read:

47 The second full week of May, Sunday through
48 Saturday, shall be declared Poppy Week and shall be the
49 scheduled time for the annual poppy solicitation. Units
50 wishing to offer poppies other than the scheduled week

1 must write and receive permission from the Department
2 President. The deadline date for requests for
3 permission to change Poppy Week is April 1st.
4 By direction of the Poppy committee,
5 Madam President, I move for the adoption of this code
6 change.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
8 to adopt the presented proposed change. The change is
9 changing the third week -- third week to the second
10 week.
11 Any discussion?
12 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
13 Madam President -- Madam President?
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
15 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
16 Linda Diebel, 19th District, Finance Chairman.
17 I just have a point of clarification. Did they
18 not vote at National Convention last year that poppy
19 will now be Poppy Month, not Poppy Week? So shouldn't
20 they amend that Code to read the entire month of May?
21 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: I was not made aware of
22 this change.
23 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam
24 Department President, Ruby Kapsalis.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Ruby.
26 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: We have
27 always had -- May has always been Poppy Month for the
28 Department of California. We have always distributed
29 the poppies in one week. There is no way you can
30 distribute poppies the entire month and get your report
31 to national by June 1st. That's why it was moved up to
32 the second week of May.
33 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
34 Okay. Thank you.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
36 Any more discussion?
37 (No response.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
39 let's vote.
40 Those in favor say aye.
41 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
43 (No response.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
45 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.
46 Section 14, and this was rewritten to -- for
47 clarity. It is not a change. This was written for
48 clarity and to conform with other codes. It now reads:
49 Unit donations to the welfare funds of
50 10 percent of the poppy proceeds shall be used for

1 Children & Youth, Education, Past Presidents Parley
2 Nursing Scholarship, and Veterans Affairs &
3 Rehabilitation budgets. The balance from the previous
4 year may be used, and the proposed budget shall clearly
5 reflect the previous year's balance.

6 The committee's proposed change:
7 Units shall send 10 percent of the amount
8 earned from their poppy distribution, less costs of the
9 poppies, to the department office. The department
10 office shall total the amount of income received from
11 all units and shall take 10 percent of that amount and
12 distribute funds equally amongst Children & Youth,
13 Education, Past Presidents Parley Nursing Scholarship,
14 and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation budgets, except
15 when a budget deficit exists in any of these accounts.
16 When a deficit exists, the interest income and
17 10 percent of net receipts shall be distributed to the
18 deficit accounts. The remaining balance, after
19 10 percent is deducted, shall be credited to the poppy
20 account.

21 By the direction of the Poppy committee,
22 Madam President, I move for the adoption of the proposed
23 change.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
25 to adopt the proposed change presented.

26 Any discussion?
27 (No response.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
29 those in favor say aye.

30 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
32 (No response.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.

34 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.

35 Under Poppy Production, Section 8 now reads:

36 A year-round poppy production is authorized at
37 the California Veterans Homes at Yountville and
38 Chula Vista, as labels are available, to give permanent
39 residents the opportunity to participate in the
40 therapeutic and incentive work program without the
41 pressures of a short-term production.

42 We have only added, because last year it was
43 added to the list, the WAVE clinic; that's the only
44 change. So the new Section 8 would read:

45 A year-round poppy production is authorized at
46 the California Veterans Homes at Yountville,
47 Chula Vista, and WAVE Clinic San Diego, as labels are
48 available, to give permanent residents the opportunity
49 to participate in the therapeutic and incentive work
50 program without the pressures of a short-term

1 production.
2 By direction of the committee, I move the
3 adoption of the proposed change.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
5 to adopt the change -- proposed change to Section
6 Number 8.
7 Any discussion?
8 Recognizing Department Parliamentarian,
9 District 25.
10 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I just
11 read it now; so I'm not sure it really sunk in. Reading
12 it, the year-round poppy production authorizes the
13 Yountville Veterans Homes at Yountville, Chula Vista,
14 and WAVE Clinic San Diego. Well, that is not a veterans
15 home at WAVE Clinic. To give permanent residents --
16 there is not permanent residents there. I understand
17 the WAVE Clinic doing it, but they do not have permanent
18 residents at the WAVE Clinic.
19 Am I reading --
20 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
21 Uh-huh. That's how I read it.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Any other
23 discussion?
24 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:
25 Madam President, Anita Biggs, Children & Youth Chairman,
26 District 23.
27 I believe that the way that it is worded, as
28 Diane stated, is they would have to give permanent
29 residents after Yountville, because Chula Vista --
30 because Chula Vista and WAVE Clinic are not permanent
31 residents.
32 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
33 Yes, they are. Chula Vista is permanent residents.
34 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:
35 I meant the WAVE Clinic is not; so maybe they need to
36 just word it -- word it differently so that it includes
37 the WAVE Clinic.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
39 Any more discussion?
40 Recognizing Susie Tozier, Department of
41 Finance.
42 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
43 TOZIER: Susie Tozier, District 22.
44 We could remove the word "permanent residents"
45 and put in there "give the opportunity to veterans to
46 participate in therapeutic and incentive programs" to
47 cover those.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That should be
49 amended.
50 But yeah. Okay. There is a proposal to make

1 an amendment to remove "to give permanent residents."
2 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Susie,
3 move to amend.
4 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
5 TOZIER: I move to amend this motion to delete "to give
6 permanent residents" and change that to say "to give
7 veterans the opportunity to participate in therapeutic
8 and incentive work."
9 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Right.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. The
11 proposed amendment is to remove "to give permanent
12 residents" but to continue "to give opportunity to
13 veterans to participate," et cetera; so, actually, the
14 amendment is only to change "permanent veterans" to
15 "opportunity for veterans."
16 Any discussion?
17 (No response.)
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
19 those in favor of the amendment to the motion please say
20 aye.
21 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?
23 (No response.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So please restate
25 your motion with the amendment.
26 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: The amended
28 motion.
29 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.
30 A year-round poppy production is authorized
31 at the California Veterans Homes at Yountville,
32 Chula Vista, and WAVE Clinic San Diego, as they are
33 available, to give veterans the opportunity to
34 participate in the therapeutic and incentive work
35 programs without the pressures of a short-term
36 production.
37 I move for the adoption of this code change.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
39 moved to adopt the amended motion.
40 Any more discussion?
41 (No response.)
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
43 please vote. Those in favor say aye.
44 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
46 (No response.)
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
48 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.
49 May I proceed with my supplemental,
50 Madam President?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
2 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Wow. What a view.
3 Picture it. The beautiful blood-red four-petal poppy
4 blossoming all across the state of California. It's
5 seen adorning the lapels, buttonholes, and even purse
6 handles of people on the street. Vases of them are seen
7 in stores and businesses with an accompanying jar for
8 welcome donations. Over 1900 volunteers from
9 American Legion Auxiliary units are at city council
10 meetings, rotary clubs, Legion posts, business meetings,
11 beauty shops, classrooms, Boys and Girls Clubs, 4-H
12 groups, Boy and Girl Scout meetings, memorial services,
13 Red Hat groups, and church groups to proudly present
14 this beautiful flower and tell all they meet the history
15 and meaning of the veteran poppy.
16 Unit 807 attended golf tournaments and
17 Little League games to hand them out. They were placed
18 with food being given out at the local food banks.
19 Unit 314 had members write a dedication message
20 to a loved one on a patriotic paper plate decorated with
21 poppies, which were then hung on the wall of the post
22 canteen.
23 The Juniors in one unit put on a stage play
24 entitled, "Who Killed Ms. Poppy?" which was attended by
25 the city council and the local fire and police
26 department. I would like to read that script.
27 The petals have been seen adorning the branches
28 of Christmas trees, tied to candy canes as favors,
29 brightening up trays in convalescent homes and
30 hospitals, as napkin rings, decorating dining tables and
31 beautifying in the form of hair pieces and corsages.
32 And it is not hard to picture the halls of hospitals and
33 clinics showing off wreaths of poppies. The poppy
34 wreath is present at veteran memorials throughout the
35 entire state.
36 Fourteen city councils presented proclamations
37 declaring an official Poppy Week for their cities.
38 Fifteen major newspapers did in-depth articles about the
39 history and significance of the poppy. Two marquees
40 have been seen promoting Poppy Week.
41 Four facilities -- Chula Vista Veterans Home,
42 San Diego VAMC OMC, Long Beach Healthcare System, and
43 Yountville Veterans Home -- contracted to make
44 385,000 poppies for the 2010-2011 poppy distribution
45 under the direction of our dedicated poppy production
46 managers, Lois Cornish, Trish Ladre, and Geri
47 Fitzpatrick. Units purchased 356,709 of them to
48 distribute and use in their units. Yes, the units of
49 the Department of California have reported sowing their
50 poppies literally; but, sadly, this is a 4 percent

1 overall decrease from last year's purchases, even though
2 71 units increased their orders while 65 units decreased
3 theirs.

4 Department President Pilar Reyes chose
5 M.U.S.I.C., Membership United in Service, Ideals, and
6 Commitment, as her theme; so as a tribute to her I wrote
7 a "Poppy Song" the tune of "The Yellow Rose of Texas" to
8 be presented to her and encouraged anyone who wished to
9 participate to write a verse to be added to it. Only
10 Unit 751, District 5, chose to do so, but we are happy
11 to include that verse in our song. Due to time
12 constraints we are not going to sing that song; so you
13 can use it in your meeting and see that third verse that
14 was -- that was written.

15 As we look back on this colorful picture, we
16 are looking forward to next year and passing on the
17 torch of dedication and commitment to the next chairmen
18 to continue sowing the seeds for a bountiful harvest of
19 our beloved poppy.

20 All certificates of award were presented in
21 committee and posted except the two first place awards
22 that, with your permission, Madam President, I would
23 like to present at this time.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

25 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: In committee we gave
26 a certificate to the unit that had the largest poppy
27 order increase. They increased their order this year by
28 6,000 poppies. That order was unit -- or that unit was
29 Unit 197, District 2, Linda Field, Chairman.

30 (Applause.)

31 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: We also gave a first
32 place award to the district that got their --
33 100 percent of their poppies ordered, and the first one
34 that got 100 percent of their poppies orders to the
35 Department -- and that district was District 14,
36 Patty Sharp, Chairman.

37 (Applause.)

38 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: The poppy poster awards
39 for Class I was Jordyn Paine, Unit 277, District 29.

40 (Applause.)

41 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Class II,
42 Valentine Sanford, Unit 277, District 29.

43 (Applause.)

44 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Class III, Hannah Janji,
45 Unit 716, District 29.

46 (Applause.)

47 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Class V, Min-Ji Yi,
48 Unit 43, District 24.

49 (Applause.)

50 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And Class VI was Josh

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 Lorenz Arguelles, Unit 43, District 24.
2 (Applause.)
3 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And they were lovely
4 posters. You can see a couple of them out.
5 And first place poppy display -- I'll announce
6 that. They were given in committee. First place went
7 to Betty Kay, Unit 595, District 21.
8 (Applause.)
9 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And for free form, first
10 place was Lucy Perez, Unit 229, District 25.
11 (Applause.)
12 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: First place unit
13 supplemental goes to Unit 197, District 2, Linda Field,
14 Chairman.
15 (Applause.)
16 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: First place district
17 supplemental goes to Elizabeth Doidge, District 28.
18 (Applause.)
19 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Congratulations, ladies,
20 and thank you for your hard work.
21 Madam President Pilar, I thank you so much for
22 the opportunity to serve you and the American Legion
23 Auxiliary with this chairmanship.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome.
25 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And it has been an honor
26 to serve on your team.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you for the
28 good job.
29 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: This concludes my
30 report.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Before you leave
32 the stage, I would like to recognize an award of
33 someone. This is -- looks like a poppy. This was done
34 by Michelle Banks. She made all the banners to promote
35 poppy and also --
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: -- the music for
38 the "Star Spangled Banner."
39 So thank you very much. Give her a big hand.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And thank you very
42 much for your outstanding job.
43 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you,
44 Madam President.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So I would like to
46 call on Lucille Taylor to be here on this stage.
47 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: Madam
48 President, Lois Cornish, District 22.
49 I would like to remind everyone that last year
50 we had two poppy production managers, and one of them

1 was Phyllis Holmberg. And if you have ever made
2 poppies, you know it is a rather taxing job. So I would
3 like to recognize Phyllis and have her put into the
4 records, please.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Phyllis.
6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She is another
8 poppy production manager.

9 All right. The next report is National
10 Security.

11

12

NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:
Madam Department President, the convention committee on
National Security met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 107C
of the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California,
at 9:15.

The statistical report of this chairman appears
on -- I didn't write it on my notes. I believe it is on
Page 17 -- thank you -- of the Book of Reports.

Linda Hayes, District 20, was appointed
Secretary.

Mary Chaba, District 18, offered prayer.

And Diana Levas, District 19, was appointed
Sergeant-at-Arms.

A total of 17 district delegates answered roll
call. There were three visitors present.

The committee agreed on the following report.

Resolution Number 1 was read and approved.

Madam Department President, I move the
acceptance of this resolution.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
to accept this resolution.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The resolution.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. I was
looking for the resolution.

DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
It's not in here.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: I have the
resolution.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Read the first
one.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Resolution 1:

Whereas, the department is attempting to reduce
their budget; and

Whereas, traditionally 500 to \$1,000 has been
budgeted for the Department Legislative to attend the
American Legion Auxiliary Awareness Assembly in
Washington D.C.; and

Whereas, the National Executive Committeewoman

1 is called to attend the NEC meeting, which is held in
2 conjunction with the Awareness Assembly, and the
3 National organization pays for transportation to and
4 from Washington D.C., plus one night's lodging; and
5 Whereas, there is a proposed Constitution and
6 Bylaws change that the National Executive Committeewoman
7 appointed the Legislative chairmanship instead of
8 National Security in the past; and
9 Therefore, be it resolved that funds for the
10 National Security Chairman shall no longer be budgeted
11 for her attendance at the Awareness Assembly; and
12 Be it further resolved that the National
13 Security Code 2 reads:
14 The Department National Security Chairman shall
15 be privileged to attend the American Legion Auxiliary
16 Awareness Assembly. She shall be reimbursed \$150 for
17 one night's accommodations -- be deleted in its
18 entirety; and,
19 Be it further resolved that Legislative Code 2,
20 which reads:
21 The department chairman may attend the
22 Awareness Assembly sponsored by the National
23 organization if approved by the Department President,
24 and if funds are available and adopted at the annual
25 budget.
26 Be changed to read:
27 If funds are available in the annual budget and
28 replaced with funds not to exceed \$125 per diem for four
29 days, to be collected annually, to help defray the costs
30 of attending the Awareness Assembly.
31 By direction of the convention committee,
32 I move the acceptance of this resolution.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It is moved
34 to adopt the proposed change.
35 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: That is the
36 resolution that passed in the committee.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has passed the
38 committee.
39 Madam Parliamentarian.
40 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Diane
41 DeLashmit, Department Parliamentarian.
42 Yesterday this was the same resolution that
43 came under Legislation, and we changed the -- the amount
44 from four days to three days; so we need to amend this
45 as well. We can't approve it the way that it is worded;
46 so I amend it to be three days instead of four.
47 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second it.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Diane.
49 Okay. You need -- it has been moved to add the
50 amendment -- to amend the resolution for today to change

1 four to three days. That was approved yesterday, but it
2 has to be in this code.
3 Any discussion?
4 (No response.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
6 those in favor say aye.
7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
9 (No response.)
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It is adopted.
11 Yeah.
12 Now we have to vote on the amended resolution.
13 Any discussion?
14 (No response.)
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. No
16 discussion.
17 We will vote on the resolution. Those in favor
18 say aye.
19 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
21 (No response.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
23 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The National
24 Security Code was read, and the following changes were
25 made.
26 National Security Code Number 2 now reads:
27 The national -- excuse me.
28 The Department National Security Chairman shall
29 be privileged to attend the American Legion Auxiliary
30 Awareness Assembly. She shall be reimbursed \$150 for
31 one night's accommodations.
32 The proposed change would be to delete this
33 code in its entirety.
34 Madam Department President, by direction of the
35 convention committee I move the adoption of this code
36 change.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
38 to adopt to delete the whole code in its entirety.
39 Any discussion?
40 (No response.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
42 aye.
43 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
45 (No response.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
47 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Thank you.
48 There were no recommendations.
49 100 percent reporting certificates were
50 presented to 16 districts. The second and third place

1 awards were presented in committee with the list
2 included for the districts. The list is also posted in
3 the department convention office and attached to this
4 report.

5 Question and answer and discussion followed.
6 With no further business, the meeting adjourned
7 at 9:55.

8 This completes the report of the National
9 Security Committee, and I move its acceptance.

10 May I continue with my supplemental?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

12 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Thank you.

13 It is hard to believe that units report no
14 activity in the National Security Program. We, as an
15 organization, can pause and reflect on everyday
16 activities and know that someone somewhere has provided
17 love and support to a veteran, active duty military, or
18 their families. The National Security Program is one
19 that we work continuously, but our efforts sometimes are
20 not reported or we are not sure where to report all the
21 good things we are doing.

22 The units of the Department of California can
23 be part of their accomplishments and their dedication to
24 our programs and activities serving our military,
25 veterans, their children, and promoting community events
26 that assist our military and veterans.

27 Although not included as an emphasis, our units
28 continued to clip coupons for our military on foreign
29 soil -- by January two units alone reported 1,097,978
30 coupons valued at \$14,925.33. At the end of the year
31 nine units reported an additional 900,488 coupons, total
32 value over \$1,834,236, which I am sure is just the tip
33 of the iceberg of the boxes being sent overseas. For
34 the past four years, San Dieguito, Unit 416,
35 District 22, continues to mail 10,000 coupons per month
36 to 12 overseas bases and has received thank you letters
37 from nine of those bases.

38 (Applause.)

39 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Tehachapi,
40 Unit 21, District 15, continues their tradition during
41 the holidays by partnering with the post, the Ladies
42 Auxiliary of the VFW, and the community to send
43 a Christmas tree and ornaments, plus Chanukah menorah
44 and candles in their care packages for troops.

45 Perris, Unit 595, District 21, have Junior ROTC
46 groups at the California Military Institute and Perris
47 High School that are supported each year with awards in
48 May and with trophies for military excellence for
49 entrants in Veterans Day and Christmas parades.

50 Charter Cove Unit 755, District 18, partnered

1 with the Blue Star Mothers in helping organize efforts
2 of local Marine reserve units with fundraising efforts
3 to raise money to mail care packages overseas by holding
4 two four-hour car washes that raised \$1,050.

5 (Applause.)

6 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:
7 Chartered in October 2010, San Anselmo, Unit 179,
8 District 5, reported three projects:

9 Operation Santa Claus -- in November, for
10 a donation of \$20 members of the public could buy a
11 holiday stocking filled with treats with a personal gift
12 tag message for troops deployed in OEF or IOF. A total
13 of 130 stockings were mailed.

14 Operation Hugs from Home -- in March, for
15 a donation of \$20, members of the public could buy
16 a colorful gift bag filled with either food snacks or
17 toiletry items with a personal gift tag message to be
18 included in a care package. A total of 40 hugs from
19 home were sent in their most recent shipment.

20 Cooling Scarves -- the unit members held sewing
21 parties to make cooling scarves to be included in their
22 care packages. To date, 340 scarves have been made.

23 Can you imagine what this unit is going to
24 report next year?

25 (Applause.)

26 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The district
27 receiving first place for the best district overall
28 programs in National Security reported activities in all
29 15 areas of emphasis.

30 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yay.

31 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Their top two
32 programs were Operation Home Front, where the units
33 aided 300 veterans, military, and their families and the
34 USO, who received \$2,900 in contributions. It was
35 reported four of their 16 units spent \$4,235 and touched
36 300 in the military with care packages during National
37 Military Appreciation Month. Congratulations goes to
38 District 29.

39 (Applause.)

40 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:
41 The unit receiving first place for the best overall
42 program in National Security showed dedication to this
43 program that is awe inspiring. They worked every area
44 of the plan of action. This unit started the year
45 cohosting a farewell barbecue for their adopted brigade
46 deploying on their third mission to Afghanistan, then
47 quickly responded to the request for Family Readiness
48 Group partner to babysit another brigade's kids while
49 they attended predeployment briefings.

50 Holidays brought their Juniors together with

1 local Girl Scout troops making Halloween, Thanksgiving,
2 and Christmas cards for the deployed troops and place
3 mats and table decorations for holiday meals for the
4 Joint Forces Training Base.

5 Another partnership with their local Girl Scout
6 troops sent comfort items, cards, and letters to over
7 600 troops, followed by another set of packages being
8 sent during National Military Appreciation Month under
9 the Operation Comfort Warriors program. This unit has
10 mailed seven pounds of coupons, spent 13 hours serving
11 150 troops in a Yellow Ribbon reintegration event,
12 assisted in another Family Readiness Group project
13 annual awards ceremony and Christmas party. They have
14 donated over 100 hours helping families under the Family
15 Support program with car repairs, home maintenance, and
16 a baby shower for wives of deployed troops. Unit
17 members host a monthly Gold Star/Blue Star luncheon and
18 solemnly presented a gold star banner and pin to one of
19 their own who lost her son in Iraq.

20 Quoting the unit chairman, "We pause to reflect
21 on the wonderful and productive year we have had. We
22 feel confident that we have upheld the principles of the
23 American Legion Auxiliary and demonstrated our patriotic
24 and moral support of our military and their mission, as
25 well as support their families by providing activities,
26 outreach, information, and encouragement."

27 And, that, you have.

28 Congratulations to Los Alamitos, Unit 17,
29 Tamara Bell, Chairman.

30 (Applause.)

31 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Madam Department
32 President, this concludes my report, and I thank you for
33 the appointment.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And thank you for
37 the outstanding job. Thanks very much.

38 Before I proceed, I would like to address Doris
39 to make some information report. I cannot say the word.
40 Music allowance. All right? You want to hear the
41 musical notes? It will sound good.

42

43 DONATIONS

44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
45 Madam President, I am -- I have been asked by you to
46 give an updated report from the donations that were
47 taken by the VA&R Chairman Terry Mikesell from the floor
48 today, and a total of \$817.25 was donated to your
49 project.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank

1 you. Thank you, Terry. Thank you.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 Madam President, you also have a couple more donation
5 presentations to be made today. At your request I will
6 ask for them.
7 We have District 22 and District 29 that have
8 some monetary donations for you.
9 You want them now or later?
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No. I don't have
11 it. The one I gave you is from District 6. District 6,
12 Unit 521, \$1,000.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
15 Unit 521, District 6.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you,
17 District 6.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 Districts 22 and 29, would you like to be presented with
20 the money now?
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All your money.
22 Thank you.
23 (Applause.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Doris.
25 We have approximated some lateness update of
26 how much we have after they give their report. And Gigi
27 is going to have a donation from Area 5.
28 MS. MANNO: Actually, this is from the Fifth
29 Area, Districts 21, 22, 25, 29, and 30.
30 (Applause.)
31 MS. MANNO: It is -- it is our membership
32 program. This program was developed and recognized and
33 organized by Nancy Hansen, past -- I think --
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Past Education
35 Chairman.
36 MS. MANNO: And Past Department President
37 Bev Sparks.
38 Will you stand?
39 (Applause.)
40 MS. MANNO: This is all the membership, ladies.
41 We work together. We work together hard. And if we
42 don't have membership, we don't have people.
43 The winner of the Fifth Area was District 29.
44 (Applause.)
45 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Between
46 all the raffles from all the meetings, \$465.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wow. Now we have
50 lots of money.

1 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Okay.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please give your
3 name and your chairmanship when you give your report.

4
5 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND REPORT
6 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
7 Lucille Taylor, Department of California Auxiliary
8 Emergency Fund Chairman.

9 The convention committee on Auxiliary Emergency
10 Fund met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 107B at the Ontario
11 Convention Center.

12 The statistical report of this chairman appears
13 on Page 12 of the Book of Reports.

14 Kathy Harris-Richardson, District 23, was
15 appointed Secretary.

16 Chris DeLaRosa, District 28, offered prayer.

17 Tammy Sollazzo, District 19, was appointed
18 Sergeant-at-Arms.

19 A total of 19 district delegates answered roll
20 call. There were seven visitors present.

21 The committee agreed upon the following.

22 The code was read.

23 A total of 27 districts were awarded
24 100 percent reporting certificates.

25 Certificates for second and third place annual
26 reports were handed out to the units and districts, and
27 the list is posted in the department office.

28 The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

29 This concludes the committee report for the
30 Emergency Fund.

31 Madam President, may I proceed with my
32 supplemental report?

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

34 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: The
35 Fiddlers successfully administered and supported the
36 goals of the AEF program. They stressed the importance
37 of increasing donations. As a result, units held
38 fundraisers and passed piggy banks or baskets at unit
39 meetings to collect donations. The Fiddlers reported
40 donations totaling \$7,651.93.

41 Many units were ready to help their fellow
42 members when they were -- when they saw the need arise.
43 Several units raised funds to help each other. One unit
44 raised \$650 by raffling off a basket at their annual
45 Valentine's Day dance. They raised enough to help two
46 members who requested funds, giving one \$500 and the
47 other \$200.

48 There were 13 applications submitted for
49 emergency assistance, for a total of \$18,355.06.

50 By working together, we can assure that there

1 will always be funds available when a fellow member is
2 in need.
3 Let us remember a commitment to each other as
4 we are women helping women.
5 Madam President, may I proceed with my first
6 place Auxiliary awards?
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
8 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
9 District supplementary report, first place,
10 Maria Hernandez, District 29.
11 (Applause.)
12 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Unit
13 supplemental report, first place, Chula Vista, Unit 434.
14 (Applause.)
15 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
16 First place for the highest donation by district,
17 District 25, \$937.24.
18 (Applause.)
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That is
20 District 29. You misread.
21 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: I am
22 sorry. It is 25.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, this is wrong.
24 Sorry.
25 Madam President, this concludes my report.
26 Thank you.
27 Just a minute. We have to make
28 a clarification.
29 District 25 is correct, except the ones --
30 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
31 I made a typo error on the card. It is 25.
32 (Applause.)
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And it is \$977.
34 (Applause.)
35 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
36 Madam President, this concludes my report.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
38 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
39 I would like to thank you for my appointment.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome.
41 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: May
42 I approach your station?
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.
44 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
45 Thank you.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. May
47 I call on Beverly Sparks. Beverly is the chairman
48 from -- the Convention Commission Chairman from
49 District 25.
50

1 CONVENTION COMMISSION REPORT
2 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I have
3 no code change. I have no resolutions. I have no
4 presentations.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yay.
6 (Applause.)

7 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I have
8 nothing.

9 But it might be best to start my report by
10 telling you just what a Convention Commission committee
11 tries to accomplish. Most of the commission activities
12 occur when we attend the American Legion convention
13 committee meetings and our department conventions. For
14 the most part, we are there to listen to what has been
15 decided for convention site for the future years.

16 Due to the fact that there have not been any
17 tours of approved convention sites for several years --
18 the contracts have been secured by the convention city
19 corporations -- our Commission committee had the task of
20 joining the Legion commission and toured the convention
21 sites of Redding, Santa Clara, and Palm Springs.

22 I want to thank Terry Mikesell, Department VA&R
23 Chairman, and Sandy Jacob, Past Department President,
24 for helping this commission by attending the northern
25 tours. The southern tour was attended by me and
26 Linda Capels, Convention commission two-year member.

27 The following is information on the tours.

28 Redding for 2012. Nothing new to report
29 regarding this convention site. We will be housed at
30 the Holiday Inn, and the Auxiliary convention will be
31 held at their convention center. All meetings and other
32 events will be held there. The Legion headquarters will
33 be at the Red Lion, and their activities will be held at
34 the Redding Convention Center. At this time no local
35 transportation between the hotel to the convention
36 center is provided. The Legion Convention City
37 Corporation is looking into this.

38 Palm Springs, 2013. The sites for this
39 convention were selected by the Convention City
40 Corporation. The Riviera Hotel and Convention Center
41 was to house both the Legion and the Auxiliary for their
42 conventions; however, when touring the Riviera, it was
43 found that the hall for the Auxiliary convention was too
44 small to accommodate our delegates, and there were not
45 enough available meeting rooms.

46 The only option open to us, as contracts had
47 already been signed by the Convention City Corporation,
48 was to tour the secondary location for the Auxiliary
49 convention, the Doral Desert Princess Resort. The two
50 hotels are about two miles apart.

1 The hotel is perfect for the Auxiliary, with
2 adequate convention space, and all the meeting rooms are
3 inside. There is a full service dining room, cocktail
4 lounges, beautiful pool, spa, and golf course.
5 Hospitality suites are available, with large verandas
6 and balconies. And guest rooms are spacious, and each
7 have balconies. Shuttles will be provided between the
8 Riviera and the Doral Resort. There is also free
9 shuttle service between Palm Springs Airport and the
10 hotel.

11 Santa Clara, 2014. The Hyatt Regency Hotel is
12 connected to the convention headquarters for both the
13 Legion and the Auxiliary. Free shuttle service will be
14 provided within a five-mile radius of the hotel.

15 During our meetings and tour -- excuse me --
16 and tour, each Legion Convention Commission member and
17 the hotel sales and marketing personnel were given
18 a copy of the Auxiliary convention requirements. These
19 were addressed when the current Department President --
20 got to get to my other page -- makes her tour and signs
21 our agreement with the Convention City Corporation and
22 the hotel.

23 Perhaps in the future there will be a permanent
24 Convention Commission committee for both the Legion and
25 the Auxiliary. It will make it so much easier and
26 better organized than to keep changing the key players
27 with each Convention City Corporation, Legion, and
28 Auxiliary Commission committee members.

29 Again, thanks to Terry and Sandy for touring
30 our sites in Redding and Santa Clara.

31 And thank you, President Pilar, for the
32 exciting commission chairman appointment for this year.

33 The committee members for this year are
34 Linda Capels, two-year member; and Sue Hooker, one-year
35 member. Thank you both for your support.

36 I have a little PS on my report, Madam
37 President. Linda Capels and myself visited the Legion
38 Convention commission meeting yesterday, and we were
39 really rewarded by going there. They recognized us.
40 They also let us vote on the sites for 2015, and also
41 made it clear that the Auxiliary will now become
42 involved before the sites or the contracts are selected
43 in future use.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Great. Great.

46 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
47 It's about time.

48 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: And
49 I have to commend their Convention Commission committee
50 because they heard everything that we complained about,

1 and they are even sympathetic. But, there again, their
2 commission is new, and it is hard because there are so
3 many details to be involved when you -- when you do the
4 contracts and select the sites.

5 So we did vote on the sites for 2015.
6 Riverside made a great presentation, Ontario made
7 a presentation, and it was voted by their commission and
8 us to do Ontario again in 2015. I know. I wish them
9 luck.

10 Thank you, Madam President. It's been great.
11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
13 much. I thank you.

14 Okay. Anita Biggs, Chairman -- Children &
15 Youth Chairman from District 23.

16 (Music played.)
17

18 CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT

19 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: You
20 found my song. You go, Madam Musician. Power of love.

21 My name is Anita Biggs, Children & Youth
22 Chairman for the Department of California.

23 Good afternoon, ladies.

24 ALL PRESENT: Good afternoon.

25 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:
26 Madam President, let me start with the preconvention
27 committee meeting.

28 The convention committee on Children & Youth
29 met on June 23rd, 2001, in Room 107A of the Ontario
30 Convention Center, Ontario, California.

31 The statistical report of this chairman appears
32 on Page 13 of the Book of Reports.

33 Past Department President LuAnn Capazzi from
34 District 27 was appointed Secretary.

35 Ann Marie Brown of District 22 offered prayer.
36 I don't see anybody up here. Did you get your notes?
37 Thank you.

38 Okay. And Diane Livas of District 19 was
39 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

40 A total of 23 district delegates answered roll
41 call, and there were 11 visitors present.

42 The committee agreed upon the following report.

43 The code was read, and there were no changes to
44 the code; however, it will be referred to the incoming
45 chairman to verify whether Code 4 should be changed due
46 to the new consolidated report form. And I found out
47 from the National Children & Youth Chairman -- I just
48 found out that that will be changed, and I will discuss
49 that with the incoming chairman.

50 There were no resolutions; however, the

1 proposed change to the Finance Code Number 5 was read.
2 Since it will affect Children & Youth budget, this will
3 be referred to the incoming chairman as well if there is
4 any type of need. At this time there is not.

5 There were no recommendations.

6 All categorized first place awards, along with
7 second and third place supplemental awards were
8 presented.

9 We have a Legionnaire with us, and I am very
10 happy to see him. And his name is Don McIntosh. He is
11 the Children & Youth Chairman from the 29th District.
12 And he just was telling us about the USO at Ontario
13 Airport, and he encouraged us to continue our support.
14 And they also need a lot of help there; so that was very
15 nice of him to come and join us.

16 With no further business, this meeting
17 adjourned with prayer at 11:55 a.m.

18 Madam President, may I continue with my
19 supplemental report and first place awards?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

21 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:

22 Thank you.

23 Madam President, your Children & Youth Fiddlers
24 have been playing around, but in a very good way. Unit
25 members have been busy performing the "Power of Love"
26 while singing the "Greatest Love of All" to the children
27 of this great state.

28 As you can see by the statistical report, our
29 members provided children with many donations,
30 innovative activities, opportunities, and fun-filled
31 events all year long. After realizing that a group of
32 Little League softball players would not receive
33 baseball hats due to budget cuts, Unit 807 members were
34 offended, and they decided to do something about it.
35 They raised enough money to buy 38 sun visors to match
36 the uniforms and provide necessary protection from the
37 sun.

38 This same unit partnered with a new program
39 called C.A.S.T. or C.A.S.T., who provides a fishing
40 derby for all special -- or special needs children. The
41 members of this unit volunteered many hours and donated
42 \$300 to sponsor two girls and two boys by providing all
43 the gear they needed to start fishing. This same
44 unit -- these same unit members also hosted a toy run
45 and assisted distributing \$12,000 worth of toys to the
46 Salvation Army, local churches, and other nonprofit
47 organizations for Christmas. Other innovative unit
48 projects included a unit holding a poetry contest on
49 citizenship that involved 24 fifth and sixth grade
50 students with cash awards totaling \$100.

1 Many units took advantage of Operation Military
2 Kids who provides free hero backpacks for military
3 children. Unit members filled backpacks with school
4 supplies, toys, gifts, gift cards, cameras, games,
5 snacks, and candies. These backpacks were given to
6 military children at yellow ribbon events, USO
7 homecomings, welcome home parties, and holiday parties.

8 Our own Department Juniors participated in
9 a statewide OMK project at Junior Conference.
10 Berney DeLaCruz, State Coordinator for OMK, graciously
11 accepted my invitation to be our guest speaker.
12 Unfortunately, I was unable to attend, but I was told
13 the presentation went very well. I know Berney had a
14 great time as he helped the Juniors fill hero backpacks
15 that were later distributed to Southern California
16 military children. I would like to personally thank
17 Junior Conference Director Kathie Martinez and Madam
18 President Pilar for being the hostesses with the mostest
19 and making Berney feel so welcome in my absence.

20 Unit 694 worked alongside their close family
21 members and other organizations to raise \$1,000 to
22 donate to Children's Miracle Network.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:
25 These funds were presented to a local hospital to
26 purchase Josh Dogs. In collaboration with our own
27 Department Education Chairman Harriet Clendenin, we
28 tackled the increasing bullying and suicide rates among
29 military children, especially in schools. We launched
30 awareness and prevention tips with brochures received
31 from the American Legion that were presented to local
32 area schools. Our unit used ALA KIDDS to host an
33 anti-bully workshop at their local school.

34 One unit -- I'm sorry.

35 There are many young people who do not receive
36 the recognition they deserve, but gratefully many units
37 submitted nominations for our distinguished National
38 Youth Hero and Good Deed Award honor.

39 Tehachapi Unit 2231 submitted four award
40 winners, one of them Duncan Wolf, a local teenager, who
41 managed to stay calm, performed CPR on his father who
42 collapsed, and ultimately saved his father's life. This
43 same unit also awarded good deed honors to a young girl
44 who cut her hair to donate to Locks of Love and other
45 girls who made and sold bookmarks to raise funds for
46 St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

47 An awards ceremony was held in June by this
48 unit to present these deserving youths with certificates
49 and medals, with the press and politicians in
50 attendance.

1 During these tough economic times, we have seen
2 a rise in the suffering among many veterans and their
3 children, as you have heard this weekend. Units have
4 provided temporary financial assistance directly to
5 veterans' families to assist with rent payments. As
6 chairman I have received three department TFA
7 applications that were approved, and I just received one
8 today for another family that is in dire need of our
9 help. If we can help out more, they would appreciate it
10 because there are many veterans with children who are
11 suffering; so if you can donate to our department
12 Temporary Financial Assistance Fund, it would be greatly
13 appreciated.

14 Unit members were especially busy during April,
15 Children & Youth Month. Many units hosted Easter
16 parties, worked in conjunction with the community on
17 Easter egg hunts, or donated food, baby clothing, toys,
18 school supplies to special needs children, and money to
19 military families.

20 Unit 419 worked with yellow ribbon events and
21 distributed 200 Operation Military Kids hero backpacks
22 to military children.

23 Unit 53 supports a shelter for homeless women
24 with children at March Air Force Base with clothing,
25 books, games, baby formula, and diapers.

26 Unit 146 partnered with the Starlings traveling
27 all-girl volleyball team to make over 200 Easter eggs
28 filled with candies for the Camp Pendleton annual Easter
29 egg hunt. This venture was so successful they plan to
30 work on future joint projects.

31 Madam President, at this time I would like to
32 present the first place awards for the outstanding
33 overall Children & Youth program.

34 First place unit award goes to the small, but
35 mighty, as their report states, the newer unit,
36 Oceanside, Unit 146, District 22, Cyndy Simons,
37 Chairman. This report has been referred to National for
38 further competition. Simons, but it is spelled like
39 Simons.

40 Now our first place district award goes to
41 District 22, Ann Marie Brown, Chairman.

42 (Applause.)

43 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:
44 Ann Marie does great work, and she is now getting to the
45 conventions.

46 Thank you all. You did a fabulous job in the
47 state. I cannot thank the unit members enough for their
48 generosity. Units continue to visit Ronald McDonald
49 houses, donating pull tabs, clothing, and food. Our
50 unit members have been very generous with their

1 donations made to the American Legion Children's Home,
2 Child Welfare Foundation, and to the department fund by
3 playing the "Name That Tune" game. Although economic
4 times are tough, it is important that we find the money
5 to donate, continue our volunteer efforts, and help
6 children. We possess the greatest love of all inside
7 each and every one of us. As long as we can let the
8 children's laughter remind us how we used to be, we can
9 continue to make life better for our nation's children.

10 Madam President, thank you for this most
11 rewarding appointment.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are very
13 welcome.

14 Thank you very much.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: May
17 I approach?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

19 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:

20 See, I would have come anyway.

21 And, Madam President, I did mention earlier
22 that I did have the pleasure and the opportunity to sit
23 next to our National Children & Youth Chairman. But
24 give our National Children & Youth a big hand of
25 applause for her getting us on the right track.

26 Thank you, Nancy.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Linda Fercho,
29 Leadership Chairman, from our Department President for
30 2012-2011.

31 (Music played.)

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Finance Committee,
33 Advisory, and Distinguished Guest Chairman should be on
34 the stage.

35

36 LEADERSHIP REPORT

37 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: I tell
38 you, I've got all these papers. I was so organized
39 before I sat down this morning. I was just saying I was
40 so organized before I sat down this morning, and then
41 everything, you know, got all mixed up.

42 But anyway, thank you all. And thank you for
43 the wonderful ovation for me and for voting for me.

44 Thank you, Madam President.

45 Thank you, ladies.

46 (Applause.)

47 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: The
48 Leadership meeting convened at 9:20.

49 Opening remarks by Department Leadership
50 Chairman Linda Fercho welcoming everyone and thanking

1 them for attending.
2 I appointed -- Linda Fercho, Chairman,
3 appointed, with consent of the delegates present,
4 Pat Lindley, District 1, as Secretary.
5 Past Department President LuAnn Capazzi,
6 District 27, as Chaplain.
7 Jerine Adams, District 16, as Sergeant-at-Arms.
8 Prayer was offered. The Pledge of Allegiance
9 was recited. Roll call was done.
10 There were 23 district delegates there and six
11 guests present.
12 The statistical report is on Page 14.
13 No code changes.
14 No resolutions.
15 (Applause.)
16 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO:
17 I already had their minutes printed up; so I said we
18 can't do any of that. It will happen next year, if at
19 all.
20 Packets of information were distributed, as
21 well as all the awards, other than the first place
22 awards. Also, Chairman Linda Fercho did distribute the
23 Certified Leadership Cards to each district.
24 The Code was read and the meeting dismissed at
25 10:00.
26 Madam President, may I continue with my remarks
27 and first place awards?
28 Madam President, well, I promised you that
29 your Leadership Chairman would be fiddling this year
30 Charlie Daniels style, wild and crazy, and they have not
31 disappointed you.
32 This year there were over -- there were four
33 Department leadership workshops held, and I want to
34 thank Wendy O'Brien, District 6, and Rebecca
35 Stewart-Wilson from District 24, Margaret Gardner from
36 District 19, and their entire post family who hosted
37 these events and welcomed us with great food, fun, and
38 fellowship. Wow.
39 We certified 76 new leadership instructors this
40 year. 14 districts increased the number of certified
41 instructors in their district.
42 I want to thank Ruby Kapsalis, in part, for the
43 awesome job she had done, getting all this new
44 information and making all the new lists. Not only were
45 they in the packets, but they have it online so you can
46 check and see who are the certified leaders in your
47 district.
48 This year at the workshops we had a hardcopy
49 available of our Leadership Workshop booklet, but we
50 also scanned it and created a hundred CDs that were

1 handed out at no charge to units and districts in
2 attendance. I talked about these at the Leadership
3 meeting; so I am not going over that again, but I will
4 be glad to give a copy to your unit or district if you
5 did not receive one, and I think you will find it very
6 informative. But ask around and see if you can borrow
7 it because, like I said, there were 100 distributed.

8 I can't thank Bill Clapp enough of Lakewood
9 Post, the Membership Director this year for the Legion,
10 who made all the copies, put them in really nice covers,
11 and made a cover for it. I have a really nice gift for
12 him, and I plan to give it to him later. The gift is in
13 liquid form, and I didn't put it on my expense report;
14 so I figured, okay. It is okay to give him that.

15 This is a fantastic way, though, to share the
16 information. It was much more economical, all that
17 printing, all that cost of copies, and all of that; so
18 I recommend highly if you have anyone in your unit or
19 district that can copy that, please do so. If not, let
20 me know, send me a note, and I will get that to you.

21 I want to take -- I always talk too fast and
22 then I use words that are called snigglets, and that was
23 a snigglet. Tank is thank you, team. It's called tank,
24 thank you, team.

25 I want to thank my team that travelled with me.
26 My -- they were my backup band, and they really were
27 fiddling fast and furious. They are from Unit 741.
28 Jeri Adams, please stand. Roberta Fenney, please stand.
29 Madeline Lee, please stand. And from Unit 48, Rosemary
30 Weber, please stand.

31 (Applause.)

32 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: We
33 cannot do the job, ladies, that we do without a team,
34 and we can't do it without mentoring. And they are the
35 product of being able to mentor. And I haven't -- I've
36 got an emergency meeting, but my daughter turned 35, and
37 my whole family was in Laughlin celebrating. Now, 35
38 isn't a really big birthday. You know, it's not one of
39 those milestones, except that on Christmas Day at
40 10:00 she had her fourth child. So by the time she got
41 to her birthday in March, she was ready to party. So
42 our families decided she deserved that birthday party;
43 so we all were in Laughlin. These ladies took over that
44 workshop at Riverside, did an amazing job. I didn't
45 even need to be there. That's what we want to do. We
46 want to train and teach and lead people so you cannot be
47 there.

48 (Applause.)

49 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: And they
50 did a great job.

1 Thank you again.
2 (Applause.)
3 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: In
4 closing, this chairman could not be more proud of the
5 Charlie Daniels Fiddlers and the Department of
6 California. Throughout their actions, not just the
7 spoken word, they have showed their skills in mentoring
8 and training officers and nurturing our Junior members
9 and securing our future with our Junior members.
10 One unit's mission statement for the Leadership
11 program I believe says it all. "To ensure as volunteers
12 that Auxiliary members and our post family continue to
13 be leaders in all that is good in this nation today,
14 tomorrow, and for generations to come through serving
15 others first and not self."
16 This was written by Sharon Moore of
17 District 23, Jackie Robinson, Unit 252.
18 (Applause.)
19 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO:
20 Madam President, at this time that does complete my
21 committee report and my notes.
22 I would like to issue my first place awards, if
23 I may.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.
25 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Thank
26 you.
27 My first place, Leadership Chairman,
28 District 19, Linda Farriss.
29 (Applause.)
30 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Now
31 a big drum roll. This report went on to National. We
32 happen to have the National Leadership Chairman sitting
33 at the front table over here; so I know it got there.
34 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
35 You betcha, it did.
36 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: This is
37 great.
38 And this award I am so excited about. This
39 goes to Sharon Moore, Leadership Chairman,
40 Jackie Robinson, Unit 252, for the best first place unit
41 supplemental.
42 (Applause.)
43 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Thank
44 you, Madam President.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Linda.
46 Now I would like to call on the Finance
47 committee: Linda Diebel, Chairman, Susie Tozier, Senior
48 Member, and Norma Billings, Junior Member.
49 (Music played.)
50

1 FINANCE REPORT
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
3 Linda Diebel, Finance Chairman, Department of
4 California.
5 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
6 TOZIER: Susie Tozier, Senior Member.
7 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR MEMBER
8 BILLINGS: Norma Billings, Junior Member.
9 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
10 The convention committee on Finance met on Thursday,
11 June 23rd, 2011, in Room 106A of the Ontario Convention
12 Center in Ontario, California.
13 Susie Tozier, District 22, acted as Chaplain.
14 Norma Billings, District 27, acted as
15 Secretary.
16 Judy Zarate, District 19, was appointed
17 Sergeant-at-Arms.
18 The meeting opened with a prayer by
19 Susie Tozier.
20 Norma Billings took roll call.
21 21 district delegates were present. We had one
22 guest.
23 The meeting began with the reading of the
24 Finance Department Code, and that is Pages 25 to 28 of
25 the Department Code.
26 At this time I am going to present the code
27 changes from the meeting.
28 The first code change on Page 25, Number 8,
29 currently reads:
30 A fee of \$2 per Girls State citizen from the
31 Girls State Fund shall be transferred to the general
32 fund.
33 The Finance committee recommended the deletion
34 of this code in its entirety. By the direction of the
35 Finance committee, I move the deletion of this code.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
37 to delete Code Number 8. Any discussion?
38 (No response.)
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
40 aye.
41 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
43 (No response.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
45 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
46 All remaining codes in that section will be renumbered.
47 On Page 26, under Department Budget,
48 Code Number 5 currently reads:
49 Unit donations to the welfare funds of
50 10 percent of the poppy proceeds shall be used for

1 Children & Youth, Education, Past Presidents Parley
2 Nursing Scholarship, and Veterans Affairs &
3 Rehabilitation budgets. Any balance of the 10 percent
4 poppy proceeds from the previous year's funds will be
5 used to cover deficits in the welfare accounts.
6 That was approved in 2010.
7 By recommendation of the committee, the code
8 will be changed to read:
9 Unit donations to the welfare funds of
10 10 percent of the poppy proceeds shall be used for
11 Children & Youth, Education, Past Presidents Parley
12 Nursing Scholarship, and Veterans Affairs &
13 Rehabilitation budgets. Any balance of the 10 percent
14 of poppy distribution account number --
15 This is what we are adding, the account number.
16 -- PF44502 will be used to cover deficiencies
17 in the welfare accounts.
18 By direction of the Finance committee, I move
19 the acceptance of this code change.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It is moved to
21 accept the code change presented.
22 Any discussion? Hear any discussion?
23 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
24 Yeah. Ruby is walking up there.
25 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Past
26 Department President Ruby Kapsalis.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Ruby
28 Kapsalis, District 20.
29 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Linda,
30 I believe there was an additional sentence on that
31 saying that the remaining funds that are not distributed
32 are to be -- go into the poppy fund -- remain in the
33 poppy fund. I have the exact --
34 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
35 Make an amendment to the original motion?
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.
37 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
38 The last sentence should read:
39 When a deficiency exists, the interest income
40 and 10 percent of GL Account -- General Fund Account
41 GF44502 shall be distributed to the deficit account.
42 The remaining balance after 10 percent is deducted shall
43 be credited to the poppy account.
44 I move the acceptance of this amendment.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
46 to accept the amendment to this proposed first motion.
47 Any discussion?
48 (No response.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
50 those in favor say aye.

1 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted, so....
5 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
6 By direction of the committee and this body, I move that
7 the code change as amended be adopted.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been
9 moved to adopt the amended motion.
10 Any discussion?
11 (No response.)
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
13 those in favor say aye.
14 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
16 (No response.)
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No? Adopted.
18 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
19 On the same Page 26, we would like to add a code,
20 Code Number 9, which would read:
21 A national candidate's campaign fund shall be
22 budgeted. If not used, funds will be placed in
23 a reserve account, Account Number GF62461.
24 By direction of the Finance committee, I move
25 the acceptance of this code addition.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
27 to adopt the addition to the code, Code Number 9.
28 Any discussion?
29 (No response.)
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
31 those in favor say aye.
32 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
34 (No response.)
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
36 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
37 Next code change is on Page 27, Code Number 3, which
38 currently reads:
39 Department officers and chairmen shall file
40 expense -- expense sheets semiannually. The department
41 office shall forward the first allowance soon after
42 convention. Any chairman or officer whose allowance is
43 under \$100 shall be paid once at the beginning of the
44 year. Final estimated accounting by all shall be
45 forwarded to the department office by May 1st, except
46 for the Poppy and Past Presidents Parley Chairman, or
47 reimbursement of convention allowance shall be
48 forfeited.
49 That was changed in 2010.
50 By recommendation of the Finance committee, the

1 change would read:
2 Department officers and chairmen shall file
3 expense sheets semiannually. The department office
4 shall forward the first allowance soon after convention.
5 Any Chairman or officer whose allowance is under \$100
6 shall be paid once at the beginning of the year. Final
7 estimated accounting by all shall be forwarded to the
8 department office by May 1st, except for the Poppy
9 Chairman, Past Presidents Parley Chairman, and the
10 Distinguished Guest Chairman, or reimbursement of
11 convention allowance will be forfeited.
12 The addition is "Distinguished Guest Chairman."
13 By direction of the Finance committee, I move
14 the acceptance of this code change.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
16 to accept the addition of Distinguished Guest Chairman
17 to the code.
18 Any discussion?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
21 those in favor say aye.
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
26 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
27 On Page 27, Code Number 8, the committee would like to
28 split this code into two. It currently reads:
29 Authorized travel for meetings and conferences
30 held outside the state of California not covered in the
31 Department Constitution and Bylaws shall be based on the
32 rate established by the Department Finance committee,
33 subject to approval by the Department President and the
34 Finance Chairman. \$800 will be budgeted annually and
35 placed into the general fund convention expense, Line
36 Item G624 by the Finance committee to cover a maximum of
37 \$400 each for the Department President, Junior Past
38 President, plus airfare -- plus plane fare, economy if
39 possible, while serving as delegates and attending
40 National Convention.
41 This was done in 2006.
42 The code change would be, Number 8:
43 Authorized travel for meetings and conferences
44 held outside the state of California not covered in the
45 Department Constitution and Bylaws shall be based on the
46 rates established by the Department Finance committee
47 subject to approval by the Department President and the
48 Finance Chairman.
49 And that's where that code would end.
50 By direction of the Finance committee, I move

1 the acceptance of this code change.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
3 to accept the change on Code Number 9 to split it into
4 two, and a new code will be added.
5 Any discussion?
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
8 those in favor say aye.
9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
11 (No response.)
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
13 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
14 The second half the new code would be:
15 \$1,200 will be budgeted annually and placed
16 into the general fund convention expense, General Ledger
17 Account Number GF62477 by the Finance committee to cover
18 a maximum of \$400 each for the Department President, the
19 Department Junior Past President, and the Convention
20 Secretary, plus airfare, economy if possible, while
21 serving as delegates while attending National
22 Convention.
23 The change is "\$800" to "\$1200" because we are
24 adding in the Convention Secretary.
25 By direction of the Finance committee, I move
26 the acceptance of this new code.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
28 to accept the new code, and it will be numbered
29 Number 9.
30 Any discussion?
31 (No response.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
33 those in favor say aye.
34 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
36 (No response.)
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted. The
38 remaining codes in that section will be renumbered.
39 Okay.
40 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
41 The next code change is on Page 27. Currently it is
42 Number 10. It would be renumbered to Number 11. The
43 code reads at this time:
44 A fee of \$25 will be charged to any unit,
45 district, department officer -- I'm sorry. I was on the
46 wrong page. Excuse me. Number 10:
47 Department officers, chairmen, District
48 Presidents, and medical center representatives shall
49 calculate travel expenses at 25 cents a mile en route or
50 coach fare, plus cost of meals and lodging when

1 necessary. This shall apply to all meetings or
2 conferences within the United -- within the state of
3 California.
4 That was done in 2008.
5 The new code would read:
6 Department officers, chairmen, District
7 Presidents, and medical center representatives shall
8 calculate travel expenses at 25 cents a mile en route or
9 coach fare. This shall apply to called meetings or
10 conferences within the state of California.
11 We are deleting "plus cost of meals and lodging
12 when necessary."
13 By direction of the Finance committee, I move
14 the acceptance of this code change.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
16 to accept the change to delete plus cost of meals and
17 lodging when necessary.
18 Any discussion?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say
21 aye.
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
26 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
27 Currently on Page 28, Code Number 11 currently reads:
28 The Department of California will pay for one
29 meal for each of the national representatives during the
30 annual visit of the National President, the cost of the
31 meal to come from the Distinguished Guest budget.
32 By recommendation of the Finance committee,
33 I move the deletion of this code in its entirety.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
35 to adopt the deletion of Code Number 12 in its entirety.
36 Any discussion?
37 (No response.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
39 those in favor say aye.
40 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?
42 (No response.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
44 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
45 On Page 28, under miscellaneous, Code Number 1 currently
46 reads:
47 An amount not to exceed \$10,000 welfare funds
48 be released and expended under the supervision of the
49 Department President, Secretary/Treasurer, and the
50 Finance Chairman in the event of a major disaster.

1 Those eligible for assistance shall be members and
2 dependents of the American Legion Auxiliary and/or the
3 American Legion.
4 The code change would read:
5 An amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the
6 California Disaster Fund be released and expended under
7 supervision of the Department Secretary/Treasurer and
8 the Finance committee in the event of a major disaster.
9 Those eligible for assistance shall be members and
10 dependents of the American Legion Auxiliary or the
11 American Legion.
12 We want to remove the word "welfare" and put in
13 "California Disaster Fund."
14 By direction of the Finance committee, I move
15 the acceptance of this code change.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
17 to adopt the change proposed, and I would like to hear
18 discussion.
19 Any discussion?
20 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
21 There is a typo error on my motion, Madam President.
22 I left out Department President in there. Sorry.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Can you
24 please read again --
25 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
26 I will read it.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: -- corrected.
28 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
29 An amount not to exceed \$10,000, California Disaster
30 Fund be released and expended under the supervision of
31 the Department President, Secretary/Treasurer, and the
32 Finance Chairman in the event of a major disaster.
33 Those eligible for assistance shall be members and
34 dependents of the American Legion Auxiliary and/or the
35 American Legion.
36 I move to be accepted -- by the direction of
37 the Finance committee, I move the acceptance of this
38 code change.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved
40 to accept the proposed change in Code Number 1.
41 Any discussion?
42 (No response.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,
44 those in favor please say aye.
45 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?
47 (No response.)
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.
49 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
50 Madam President, that is all of the code changes for the

1 Finance committee.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. That was
4 easy. There is a lot, but it was easy.
5 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
6 The committee took a ten-minute break to prepare to go
7 over the budget. We read the budget. There were some
8 corrections to various accounts, which were open for
9 discussion.
10 The meeting was closed at 12:30 p.m.
11 Madam President, may I go on with my -- with
12 the review of the budget?
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please.
14 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
15 I'm going to have Susie go through the first section.
16 I need a drink of water.
17
18 FINANCE BUDGET
19 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
20 TOZIER: Okay. Ladies, you were all given a copy of the
21 budget?
22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.
23 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
24 TOZIER: Okay. First one, Dues Membership, Seniors and
25 Juniors - 244,273.
26 Dues, U1000 - 10,392.
27 Dues, Auxiliary New Assessment - 22,512.
28 Postage Income - 1,500.
29 Unit Supply Orders - 500.
30 Ways and Means Cruise, slash Trip - 4,000.
31 eScript - 100.
32 Ways and Means, other - 2,000.
33 Current Department President Pins - 6,000.
34 Donations in Loving Tribute - 1,200.
35 Donations, President's Club - 1,000.
36 Interest Income, Unrestricted - 7,500.
37 Admin Income, Other Accounts - 20,956.
38 There is no income anymore for Girls State.
39 Fidelity Bond - 500.
40 Delegate Fees to Convention -- 19,460.
41 Income from National - 1,000.
42 Department Convention Proceedings - 100.
43 Sweepstakes - 12,000.
44 Department President's Special Project -
45 30,000.
46 Department Convention Banquet - 4,000.
47 Department Past Presidents Parley Luncheon -
48 2,500.
49 Midyear DEC Meals - 2,500.
50 For a total program general fund income of --

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: 2,250.
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
3 TOZIER: I'm sorry, 2,250. I figured it right.
4 For a total income of 393,743.
5 Under Expenses, General Fund Administrative -
6 93,365.
7 Oh, I'm sorry. The first one is salary.
8 That one is 93,365.
9 Payroll Tax - 9,675.
10 Insurance Liability - 2,500.
11 Supplies - 3,000.
12 Postage - 4,500.
13 Telephone, Telecommunications - 2,100.
14 Computer Supplies, Website - 400.
15 Employee Insurance - 200.
16 Workman's Compensation Insurance - 600.
17 Equipment Rental and Maintenance - 6,000.
18 Rent, Parking, and Utilities - 500.
19 Fidelity Bond - 500.
20 Finance Committee - 3,500.
21 Accounting and Auditing - 18,000.
22 Payroll Service - 1,500.
23 Auxiliary News Publishing -- oh, Auxiliary News
24 Editor - \$50.
25 Auxiliary News Publishing -- 22,512.
26 Finance Chair - \$50.
27 Filing Fees and FTB Fees - 800.
28 Bank Fees and Returned Checks - 2,000.
29 Total General Fund Administrative - 177,752.
30 National News -- \$109,012.
31 Department President's Pins - 2,000.
32 Ways and Means, Fundraising for Pins and
33 Charms, Promo - 3,000.
34 Ways and Means, Other - \$500.
35 For a Total of 3,500 for Ways and Means.
36 Department President, Special Project - 30,000.
37 General Fund, Other Expenses, Total - 144,512.
38 General Fund, Executive Expenses, Department
39 President - 77,500.
40 Department Vice President - 200.
41 District Presidents - 4,500.
42 Training and Program Workshops - 4,000.
43 Parliamentarian - \$25.
44 Authorized Travel - 2,000.
45 Executive Committee - 12,300.
46 Distinguished Guests - 400.
47 Secretary/Treasurer Travel Allowance - 300.
48 Oh, I'm sorry. 500.
49 Department President's Pin was 300.
50 National Candidates Reserve - 500.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 National President's Visit - 1,500.
2 Officers and Chair Liability - 1,800.
3 President's Secretary National Meeting - 1,000.
4 Musician - \$25.
5 General Fund, Executive, Other, total is
6 36,550.
7 General Fund, Convention Expense - 25,000.
8 Department Convention -- oh. The mileage is
9 25,000.
10 Department Convention Proceedings is \$300.
11 Convention Reporter - 5,500.
12 Convention Committee Chairman - \$200.
13 Convention Chairman, Department - \$300.
14 AL Convention Commission - \$5,000.
15 National Convention - \$4,000.
16 For a Total for the Convention Expenses of
17 40,300.
18 General Fund, Committee Expenses, Auxiliary
19 Emergency Fund - \$50.
20 Constitution and Bylaws - \$155.
21 Chaplain - \$150.
22 Community Service - \$50.
23 Historian - 375.
24 Junior Activities - \$50.
25 Leadership - \$150.
26 Legislative - 1,000.
27 Oh, I'm sorry. \$50.
28 Legislative, Awareness Assembly - 1,000.
29 Membership Chairman -- sorry. I just lost my
30 place. Membership Chairman - 350.
31 Membership, Promotion - 500.
32 Membership, National Meeting - 1,700.
33 National Security Chairman - \$50.
34 Public Relations Chairman - \$50. Wait
35 a minute. Yes.
36 Press Book - \$50.
37 Ways and Means Chairman - \$50.
38 For General Expense -- Total General Expenses -
39 4800.
40 Did I miss one?
41 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Maybe
42 I'm getting dingy. It's late in the afternoon. I'm not
43 sure.
44 Through Legislative the Awareness Assembly, did
45 we not vote on \$125 for three days max? Plus airfare?
46 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
47 TOZIER: Plus airfare.
48 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: So
49 shouldn't that be --
50 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER

1 TOZIER: It's 375, plus the airfare.
2 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: No. The
3 airfare is paid by National.
4 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
5 TOZIER: Oh, okay.
6 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: So
7 wouldn't that be \$375?
8 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
9 Yeah.
10 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
11 TOZIER: That would be \$375.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So are we going to
13 change that?
14 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
15 TOZIER: That would be -- for a new total for that
16 section - \$4,175, if my toes are still working.
17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BROWN PARK: I'm
18 sorry. The Code was read.
19 Nancy Brown Park, Past Department President.
20 To send the Legislative Chairman -- or the
21 President -- or Vice President, the room rate is \$250
22 a night; so unless she has a roommate, that is just the
23 room. That does not include what she eats. That just
24 seems to be that -- I mean, we're not helping them out
25 very much. \$125 -- the room rate at the hotel in
26 Washington D.C. is \$250 a night.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. The room
28 rates here are 250 for one night.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
30 Department Secretary.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Doris.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 I would like to clarify something on the -- on the line
34 item on the first page with the bank fees and the
35 returned checks.
36 The \$2089.98 of actual, I think the Finance
37 committee can revise that amount for next year in the
38 budget. The problem that we had in the beginning of
39 this year -- this fiscal year was when we started the
40 new database system -- we are now processing every
41 membership dues to National via ACH transaction. It
42 took us almost two months to find out that Wells Fargo
43 was charging us for every transaction over 300
44 approximately \$3 apiece; so we then had to change the
45 process of how we transacted, and we only did it every
46 three days, sometimes once a week so we would not be
47 charged that many transactions.
48 So, therefore, that was a -- you know, a lesson
49 well earned -- learned. But I think that they can
50 probably make some changes to the \$2,000 in that expense

1 line.
2 I would suggest you leave it at the 1,000, or
3 if you want to add it make it 1200, just to cover
4 yourselves. All the banks are starting to charge us
5 fees for everything. I mean, it doesn't matter whether
6 we are nonprofit or not. They just don't seem to care.
7 And I have done a lot of phone calling and arguing and
8 fighting with them, and unless we can find some --
9 a bank that would give us a little more of a break --
10 and those are still in the works for researching, and
11 I've been talking to several of them; so -- but I think
12 that line item can be decreased at least 800.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Could you
14 please address that item?
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: They
16 have.
17 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
18 TOZIER: Okay. If we change that to 1,200, the new
19 total for General Fund, Administrative is 176,952.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Repeat that,
21 please.
22 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
23 TOZIER: 176,952.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
25 Okay. Now we go back. Can we go back to
26 Legislative?
27 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
28 TOZIER: We're also going to decrease line -- on Page 2
29 under Convention Expenses. I'm trying to find it.
30 Sorry. The Convention Chair should read instead of
31 300 -- it's Line Number GF62475, instead of 300 that
32 should be 150. So 40,150 for that new total for that
33 line.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.
35 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
36 TOZIER: 40,150 would be the total for the convention
37 expenses.
38 One second. I have to add this up.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Did you get the
40 change?
41 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Convention Chair
43 changed from 300 to 150; so your total will be reduced
44 150 for the 1,050.
45 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
46 There is one other correction I want to make, and that
47 is GF62490, Legislative, Awareness Assembly. They
48 changed it from 1,000 to 375. I want to make sure you
49 got that. That changes the total down at the bottom to
50 4,175.

1 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
2 TOZIER: Line Number -- she's talking about Line Number
3 GF62490 on Page 2, towards the bottom, the Legislative,
4 Awareness Assembly.
5 So the Total General Fund Income on the next
6 page is recapped: 393,743. 393,743. We're doing the
7 recap right now.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That's General?
9 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
10 TOZIER: General Fund. This is on your Page 3 at the
11 top.
12 General Fund, Administrative Expense is
13 176,952.
14 General Fund, Other Expense - 144,512.
15 General Fund, Executive Expense - 36,550.
16 General Fund, Convention Expense - 40,150.
17 General Fund, Committee Expense - 4175.
18 For a new total of 402,339.
19 Hold on one second.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do we have
21 a subtotal?
22 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
23 TOZIER: Oh, I'm sorry. The subtotal is -- for the
24 total expense is 402,339.
25 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
26 Madam President?
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Linda
28 Farriss of District 19.
29 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
30 Thank you. Linda Farriss, District 19, Unit 314.
31 I might have missed something, but if we
32 subtract \$375 from \$4,800 --
33 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
34 TOZIER: Yes, you're right.
35 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS: --
36 that's going to come to 4425.
37 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
38 TOZIER: She's right.
39 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:
40 Thank you.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Linda.
42 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
43 TOZIER: Line number -- for the total for the Committee
44 Expense is 4425.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: What line is that?
46 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
47 TOZIER: That is, the Grand Total for GF62480, General
48 Fund Committee Expense - 4425.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: 4425. 4425. Did
50 you follow that? 4425.

1 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
2 TOZIER: If you look at your readback, the last one is
3 GF62480, General Fund Committee Expense, the total
4 should be 4425, for a Grand Total, Compensation -
5 402,589.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now, what do you
7 have?
8 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
9 TOZIER: I was right the first time. It should be --
10 I hope you have erasers -- 4,175 total for the General
11 Fund Committee Expense. The reason why is we had \$1,000
12 budgeted. We took away \$625. Oh, so that brings you
13 down from 4,800 to 4,175; so that is GF62480, Committee
14 Expense.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So what is our
16 total?
17 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
18 TOZIER: I'm going to see if I'm right before I say
19 anything. 402,339.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Back to the
21 original.
22 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
23 TOZIER: For a net of -- we're in the hole 8,596.
24 General Fund is over \$8,596.
25 The Americanism program, we have \$5,000 of
26 donation. That's your income.
27 You have \$75 for the Chairman.
28 For Americanism Essays, Awards, and Grants, we
29 have -- Administrative Fee is 1,250. That's 25 percent
30 of the donations. That goes into the General Fund.
31 For the Essays - 3,675.
32 Total Expenses - \$5,000.
33 California Emergency Fund, Disaster Fund -
34 \$2,000.
35 Those two are -- wait. That is the general
36 part.
37 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR MEMBER
38 BILLINGS: Okay. To continue, on Page 4, Poppy
39 Production Fund Income was 65,737.
40 Poppy Distribution was 12,000.
41 And the total for the Poppy Production Fund
42 Income is at \$77,737.
43 Okay. Now into the expense. Postage, Poppy
44 Production Manager - 1,000.
45 Poppy, Proceeds Distribution - 1200.
46 Administration Fee -- yes -- \$6,605.
47 Poppy, Production and Labor - 41,657.
48 Poppy, Production Poppy Kits - 16,000.
49 Poppy, Production Poster Prizes - 300.
50 Poppy, Production Chair - \$175.

1 And the total of the Fund Expense - \$66,937.
2 Okay. VA&R Program. The VA&R Donations, Unit
3 Income is at 18,000.
4 Poppy, Proceeds Distribution - \$400.
5 Donations, Give Patient Remembrance - \$14,000.
6 Interest Income, which is restricted - \$500.
7 And the Welfare Fund, VA&R, Other -- we're at
8 zero on that one.
9 Okay. And then the total is Welfare Fund --
10 per the Welfare Fund is \$32,900.
11 And then into the Expense Administrative Fee -
12 \$4,575.
13 TFA Cases - \$4,344.
14 Patient Welfare Funds, VAMC Tours - \$1,500.
15 Gift Shop, Patient Remembrance - 6,181.
16 Hospital Representatives - 2,400.
17 Midyear Meetings, Representatives - 2,500.
18 National Rehabilitation - 3,500.
19 Chairman - 400.
20 And Total Welfare Funding Expense - \$32,900.
21 Sure. The Welfare Funding Expense Total is
22 \$32,900.
23 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
24 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Madam Chairman, Terry Mikesell, VA&R
25 Chairman.
26 The Welfare Fund for the Hospital
27 Representatives, I explained in the committee meeting
28 that the \$5,236 is a wrong figure. That should have
29 \$3,886 subtracted from that. The Welfare Fund was
30 posted in the wrong account.
31 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
32 The amount that's shown there, Terry, is as of the date
33 above. We couldn't change it. It has been adjusted by
34 the office, the General Fund, and it will show in next
35 month's statement at the correct amount.
36 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
37 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. Thank you.
38 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Just
39 for a break -- I'm sorry.
40 Ruby Kapsalis, Past Department President.
41 Just for the information of the delegation, we
42 had to eliminate all the patient welfare money going to
43 all the VA medical centers from the VA fund just to
44 balance. That's \$4,000 we had to cut out, and what that
45 money is used for is to send to all the VA medical
46 centers for veterans who can't afford a bus token, their
47 meals. And because the donations were low and to
48 balance the budget, we had to cut \$4,000 out of the
49 budget. And I just wanted you to know that.
50 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/25/2011

1 So make donations to VA&R.
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
3 We're now on to Children & Youth.
4 Children & Youth Donations, Unit Income -
5 \$7,000.
6 Copy Fund Distribution - \$400.
7 Interest Income Restricted - \$500.
8 For a Total Income for Children & Youth for
9 7,900.
10 Expense, Administrative Expense - \$1,750.
11 TFA Welfare Cases - \$6,000.
12 Chairman Expense - \$150.
13 For a Total Welfare Expense, Children & Youth
14 of 7,900.
15 Education. Education, Donation Income -
16 \$8,000.
17 Poppy Fund Distribution - \$400.
18 Income, Restricted Funds - \$1,000.
19 Income, Poppy Seals - \$2,000.
20 For a Total Income, Education, of \$11,400.
21 Education Expense, Administrative Fee - \$2,000.
22 Scholarships, General - \$7,750.
23 Poppy Seals - \$1,500.
24 Chairman - \$150.
25 For a Total Welfare Expense, Education
26 Expense -- excuse me -- of 1,400.
27 Past Presidents Parley. Donations and Income -
28 \$8,000.
29 Poppy, Fund Distribution - \$400.
30 Interest Income Restricted - \$300.
31 For a Total Income for Past Presidents Parley
32 of \$8,700.
33 Expense, Administrative Fee - 2,000.
34 Nurses Training Scholarship - 6,600.
35 Chair Expense - \$100.
36 For a Total Past Presidents Parley Expense of
37 8,700.
38 Madam President, by direction of the Finance
39 committee, I move the acceptance of this budget.
40 There was one correction. Go back to the
41 beginning of the Welfare Account. On Poppy -- under
42 Poppy Distribution, we read 12,000. That is a typo
43 error. That should be 1200. We had a couple extra
44 zeroes. That is why GF44502 on your income for
45 Poppies -- it is Poppy Distribution. It's the second
46 number. Page Number 4. I'm sorry. So it should be
47 \$1200, not 12,000. That brings the Total Poppy
48 Production Fund Income to 66,937, and we now have
49 a balance of zero.
50 Now, Madam President, by direction of the

1 Finance committee, I move the acceptance of this budget
2 as adjusted.

3 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Do I have
4 a second.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

6 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: It has been
7 moved and seconded that under the direction of the
8 budget -- or the Finance committee that the budget be
9 approved with the correction.

10 Is there any discussion?

11 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam
12 Department President, Ruby Kapsalis, Past Department
13 President.

14 I don't understand how we are going to adopt an
15 \$8,000 deficit budget. Where is this money going to
16 come from? Membership? No.

17 Let me tell you about membership. You don't
18 want to hear about it. You are going to hear about it
19 anyway, Anita. We get \$250,000 in under membership. We
20 pay 109- or 110- under National. That leaves the
21 department office \$140,000 worth of operating expense.

22 The next biggest fundraiser the Department of
23 California has is \$15,000 for the sweepstakes. We need
24 more income, and then it comes -- it goes down -- there
25 is little pots of money. But this department is
26 operating -- they are scrimping, bare boning the budget,
27 and really need more money coming into this fund.
28 Hopefully the sweepstakes maybe -- if you take the word
29 back to your unit and promote it, have them buy it, then
30 maybe we can get more money, but we need more money
31 coming in.

32 But I would recommend that we -- with the
33 adoption of a deficit budget that the finance committee
34 look for ways of reducing it.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: You
37 know what happened? The reserve accounts have dropped.
38 We have the reserve money. Yes, we do. Actually, I'll
39 let the finance committee tell you about the reserve
40 because I don't know the exact figures. But every time
41 we take money from the reserve, that is less interest
42 income supporting the general fund. The money we earn
43 from the investments comes right back into the general
44 fund; so if we get those reserves down too low, we are
45 not getting any income from interest. We are going to
46 be in trouble too.

47 Just a point of information.

48 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you.
49 Recognizing Terry Mikesell at Microphone 1.
50 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

1 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Yes. Even though it is supposed to
2 be at the convention next year, I would recommend that
3 you drop the AL convention commission to \$3,000;
4 therefore, you are saving the Department 2,000. Diane
5 and the guys already said they would support us up there
6 at the 2350.

7 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
8 I'm sorry. 62476; right. The L.A. commission --
9 convention commission for \$5,000 is the American Legion
10 Department Commission that we are charged a fee for.
11 They have not increased the fee that we are charged for
12 that for the last five years. They have come to our
13 Department Secretary, our Department President, and said
14 they are going to increase it to 5,000 because we need
15 to pay our fair share of the expense of putting this
16 thing -- putting this thing together.

17 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
18 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. The American Legion District
19 Convention Corporation was willing to host our Auxiliary
20 for \$2,350.

21 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
22 And we understand that we love the guys at Redding, but
23 the Department of California Commission is charging us
24 \$5,000.

25 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Well,
26 the cap goes to the District 2 Corporation.

27 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
28 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: No, it doesn't.

29 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: It's the
30 commission, not just --

31 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
32 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Doris.

33 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
34 TOZIER: If we budget for it, and it is there for
35 \$5,000, we have the budget line there. If they only
36 charge us \$2,300, then we have saved the money.

37 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
38 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Susie, if you put it down there they
39 will take it.

40 Doris.

41 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: You know
42 I would say -- and I understand deficit budgets; that we
43 don't want to have that. We don't have anything in
44 writing from the convention commission that they are
45 going to drop us down. We have your word, but if we --
46 if we have it less, then that's fine. But I think we
47 immediate to budget for worst case scenario.

48 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: You all
49 know who I am. For the reporter, it's Ruby Kapsalis,
50 Past Department President.

1 I'm losing my voice. You are probably glad.
2 Anyway, Madam Department President, we are
3 paying \$18,000 -- budgeting \$18,000 for our auditor.
4 And do you know why we are paying the auditor \$18,000?
5 Because of a bunch of errors that we are making in our
6 financial system but that hopefully will change with the
7 new personnel that is present. But, you know, there
8 is -- we used to pay \$8,000, \$10,000, but that was when
9 we weren't presenting an auditor with a -- our books
10 that had so many errors. An auditor makes -- I don't
11 know -- \$100 an hour, and when that auditor has to go
12 around finding where these mistakes are, guess what?
13 The American Legion Auxiliary is paying for him to do
14 that.

15 I'd rather our \$13 dollar an hour bookkeeper or
16 whatever he makes, he finds the errors. Less errors
17 means less money for the auditor. And there is where
18 I think is a good place to start reducing get it down to
19 \$10,000.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Is there any
22 further discussion?

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Madam
24 President, Ruby is absolutely correct. I believe that
25 we really could do better, as far as hiring another
26 auditor. Right now, of course, this year we are stuck
27 with this because we have already approved the contract
28 with him; however, most of his fees are strictly due to
29 the errors that have been made in the past by the
30 bookkeeper. He charges us per journal entry, and we had
31 a number of them over the past couple of years. Now, we
32 have had to do a lot of cleanup this past year, and,
33 granted, I wasn't real thrilled about having to pay him,
34 but we did have to get it cleaned up.

35 I don't believe that those will be -- I promise
36 you, even though I'm not here -- okay? -- you will find
37 me. I know somebody will know where I am. But
38 I promise you that the department office will be more
39 diligent in how our funds are accounted for, where they
40 are placed, not misplaced, not held in an account that
41 it shouldn't be held in. And those of you that don't
42 know or understand, we have had those issues in the
43 past. We have, and I fully believe that we will not
44 have them again that way.

45 But you do have to start looking at having
46 a different auditor. Our Constitution and Bylaws,
47 I believe, says it has to be an CPA. He does charge us
48 an extraordinary amount because he is a CPA. Again, you
49 are in San Francisco. That is a lot like Chicago and
50 Illinois. They think they are in a separate state.

1 But the financial community -- actually, with
2 the professional businesses -- do charge a multitude of
3 amounts of money that is not exactly the same as in all
4 other areas as far as the greater state of California;
5 so I would suggest that you start looking at that.
6 I don't think that we can really deplete that amount
7 this year, but I think you need to look at that for the
8 following years.
9 (Applause.)
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
11 you.
12 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Thank
13 you.
14 Hearing no further discussion, all in favor of
15 accepting the budget with the change that was made,
16 please say aye.
17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
18 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Opposed?
19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.
20 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Please
21 say no. Yeah, please say no.
22 Oh, well. It is going to be an interesting
23 year next year, ladies.
24 But thank you very much. It has passed, and
25 your budget is being accepted.
26 Thank you.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you,
29 ladies.
30 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
31 Madam President, may I proceed with my supplemental
32 report?
33 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Sure. Yes,
34 you may.
35 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
36 I would like to introduce the Finance committee once
37 more and our advisors.
38 I would like to introduce our Finance committee
39 once more and our advisors.
40 Senior Member of Finance Susie Tozier.
41 (Applause.)
42 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
43 Junior Member of Finance Norma Billings.
44 (Applause.)
45 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
46 Our wonderful advisors, Pat Sweeney.
47 (Applause.)
48 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
49 It's supposed to be on this page.
50 And Linda Workman.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
3 Without these ladies, we could not have done as good
4 a job as we hope we have done for you in the last three
5 years.

6 It has been a very busy second half of this
7 year. The committee has reviewed quarterly investment
8 accounts, bank accounts, and general ledger accounts.
9 The Department Secretary and Bookkeeper have worked hard
10 to transfer from an old accounting system to an easier,
11 updated accounting system. This has made both the audit
12 and the budget process easier. Hopefully, next year
13 will be even easier.

14 It has been an honor to serve as the Finance
15 Committee Chairman. I have had the best members to work
16 with in Susie and Norma, and the best advisors in Kat
17 and Linda. They have been available at all times for
18 questions -- questions, advice, and just to listen to me
19 talk things out.

20 I would like to give a very special thank you
21 to our Department Secretary Doris and our Bookkeeper
22 Gary. Without the help of these two people, this
23 chairman would not have been able to complete the work
24 of our Finance committee.

25 It has been an honor to serve the Department of
26 California as a member of the Finance committee for
27 this -- for the last two -- three years and as chairman
28 for this year.

29 I thank you, Madam President, and members of
30 the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of California,
31 for their support.

32 I wish your Finance committee for next year the
33 very best, and I know these ladies will continue to make
34 the Department of California a fiscally sound
35 organization.

36 Madam President, this concludes my supplemental
37 report.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
40 Madam President, if we may have a moment of personal
41 privilege to approach you to present a gift.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

43 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
44 This is from the Finance committee. The code was read
45 for you.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do you have the
47 report of the Advisory committee, Ms. Advisory Chairman?

48 The next will be our Distinguished Guest
49 Chairman.

50 (Music played.)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

ADVISORY REPORT

DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam Department President, on behalf of your Advisory -- Madam Department President, on behalf of your Advisory Committee, it has been a pleasure and a joy serving for you and with you throughout the year. We have been well lubricated.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Lubricated? What a word.

DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: The Department Commander provided that little adjective there for us, so -- but anyway, we are happy. Thank you for your trust that you have put into us, and we hope -- oh, we drink -- drink to your success, Madam Department President.

(Applause.)

DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: And that concludes my report.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank you.

Linda Workman, the Distinguished Guest Chairman, District 26, Past Department President.

(Music played.)

DISTINGUISHED GUEST REPORT

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN:

Madam President and delegates, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Department of California again this year as your Distinguished Guest Chairman.

Our year started out with a beautiful installation. Of course, there was a very long aisle, which was like a racetrack trying to get back for the next group to be escorted, but beautiful all the same.

The duties of this chairmanship are so much fun that if you love being a hostess in track shoes, this is the chairmanship for you.

My first duty of this year was to assist Madam President with the cocktail party at the National Convention. One drink, hurry up, get on the bus. Well, because California is always so close to the convention center, this is a practice that we are going to look into in the future. This should be a time when the California delegation can get together and have some fun. But with the logistics and timing at National Convention, this practice really makes this more of an obligation instead of a party. And the members of California really are better at doing the party thing.

My second duty was to assist with invitations and hosting at the DEC. What a pleasure it was to

1 entertain our Western Division National Vice President
2 Darlene McLaughlin and act as mistress of ceremonies at
3 the banquet, where the most fabulous entertainment
4 I think I have ever seen was performed.

5 And that brings us to this weekend, where
6 I have had the honor of escorting our guests to this
7 convention stage -- or racing them to the stage in some
8 cases -- and assisting our president with her many
9 invitations to various functions and, again, being able
10 to act as the hostess at the banquet, where you will be
11 entertained again by some fabulous entertainers. I hope
12 that you are planning to attend, as it sounds like a
13 great evening for all.

14 I would be remiss if I did not thank our
15 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, Zana and Molly, for being
16 such a great team that they are.

17 Thank you, girls.

18 (Applause.)

19 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Now,
20 normally I would leave you with a few words of wisdom to
21 ponder. I thought about this, and, with the music
22 theme, I was going to sing. But Madam President only
23 designated one door to enter and leave by, and, with my
24 voice, the mass exodus would prove to be very harmful to
25 this delegation. And I'm really sorry. I am really
26 bummed because I think you would have loved my favorite
27 song. I don't know how to sing it as well as my very
28 good friend Susie Hooker, who is a pro, may I add, but
29 "I like big butts and I cannot lie." Oh, wait a minute.
30 That's not very appropriate.

31 So I will leave you with this:

32 Dance like no one is looking.

33 Sing like no one can hear.

34 Love like you have never been hurt before.

35 Live like there is nothing to fear.

36 Always remember that we stand together and work
37 together. We must raise our voices in praise and song
38 together for all that we do to assist our veterans, our
39 children, our community, and our country.

40 Madam President, thank you for the honor of
41 allowing me to serve as your Distinguished Guest
42 Chairman this year. It has truly been a pleasure.

43 (Applause.)

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I want to thank
45 you likewise because you have done a good job for me.

46 Thank you.

47 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: And if
48 I may, Madam President, while we are here, I would like
49 to put in a little plug here.

50 As you know, I have been given the awesome

1 opportunity of being the campaign manager for
2 Nancy Brown Park, for National President for 2013-2014
3 campaign committee.
4 Diane DeLashmit has graciously accepted the
5 appointment of area team coordinator. Am I a smart
6 cookie or what?
7 As you may have seen in your convention packet,
8 there is a letter from me about fundraising activities
9 and what a great opportunity you all have here this
10 weekend because we have buckets that are available for
11 you to make your first donation and show your full
12 support for our candidate, Nancy Brown Park. Everyone
13 who donates will receive a little sticker that says you
14 proudly support Nancy Brown Park.
15 Nancy and her committee thank each and every
16 one of you because we know that this is going to be
17 a long haul, but we know that California can do it for
18 Nancy.
19 I would like to ask our area coordinators to
20 please rise, our area fundraising coordinators. Yeah.
21 Stand up.
22 And Madeline is our cochair.
23 Thank you all. You will be hearing from us.
24 (Applause.)
25 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Make
26 sure you read the letter and help out with your area
27 coordinators.
28 Thank you very, very much, Madam President.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are very, very
30 welcome.
31 And now I would like to invite everyone to
32 participate in the parade that I announced. Just dance
33 around the room in a conga dance so -- and that will be
34 the conclusion of our session for today.
35 And before we do that I would like to make some
36 important -- give you some important information.
37 I would like to ask Linda Fercho to announce the panel
38 for the installation for tomorrow.
39 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Your
40 guess is as good as mine because we need to finish
41 installation. I think everybody has gotten letters.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Be dressed.
43 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Okay.
44 So please come dressed, and as soon as we get done with
45 business, blah, blah, blah, give me 20 minutes, and we
46 will come into view.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right, Linda.
48 Before we finish up, do you have any
49 communications, Doris?
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

1 Musical notes.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Musical notes.

3 I should be knowing that, musical notes.

4

5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

7 Musical notes, da, da, da, da. I'm supposed to be your
8 keyboard. I forgot that I had to fight my granddaughter
9 for it. I lost it.

10 Okay. The Ways and Means drawing, the
11 envelopes with district numbers were delivered to the
12 districts, and please stop by and put them in the
13 baskets.

14 And they thank you very much from the Ways and
15 Means.

16 Madam President, I would like to make
17 a statement about our new units. I know that only three
18 charters were presented today.

19 District 5, San Elmo, Unit 179, is one of our
20 new units, and it was presented to the unit at the
21 district meeting where our Madam President was our
22 special guest of honor.

23 Of course, the Dwight C. Mitchell, Unit 201;
24 Unit 552 from Pacific Beach; and the Brea Unit 181
25 presented here. Unit 725 was presented at midyear, in
26 January, at Santa Clara, District 25. We also have one
27 in Monterey Park that is at National at this very time,
28 District 18. They have been accepted by National. The
29 ladies are here in our delegation. As per our
30 Constitution and Bylaws, they may attend. They have
31 been recognized. I do not have them, that I know of, in
32 the system as of yesterday, but I was sent an e-mail
33 that they were accepted at National.

34 Congratulations, ladies.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
37 have another unit, 637, out of District 6, that will be
38 going Monday to National. We should have all of that
39 paperwork in and done by National Convention so we can
40 be recognized.

41 Thank you.

42 Hospital reps and deps -- okay. I'm going to
43 read this verbatim.

44 Your flip-flops can be picked up in the parking
45 lot of Building 3, DoubleTree Hotel, immediately after
46 the close of session today. See Sandy Jacob.

47 Tomorrow's quilt winner will be drawn by
48 Madam Department President Pilar. Please get your
49 tickets at close of today or first thing tomorrow
50 morning, with a thank you from Harriet Clendenin,

1 Education Chairman.
2 Madam President, it pleases me to announce also
3 that you have also received another \$100 donation from
4 District 20 for your special project.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, thank you.
6 Thank you.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: All
9 right. I still have a person who needs two tickets to
10 the banquet. There are no longer any tickets available
11 for the banquet; so if a district has some for sale,
12 please see me, and I will get you in contact with this
13 person.
14 Okay. I was a little late on these. What
15 else?
16 All tickets for the Convention commission
17 baskets must be deposited before 4:00 p.m. today, and
18 the winners will be available after session.
19 I am adding that the national parade uniform,
20 if you are attending the national parade in Minneapolis,
21 will be the black membership shirts and the tan pants,
22 shirts, or shorts. Shirts can be bought in Room 8,
23 shopping area of the Convention Center. They are
24 available.
25 The very last thing that I have,
26 Madam President, is that I would like to share it's been
27 presented to me we have Zana Chaney, who is our
28 Sergeant-at-Arms and also District 15 President this
29 year, her son, Glen Chaney, was recently recognized in
30 the 30th Assembly District as Veteran of the Year.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We
33 have some information with us that will be in the
34 department office if any of you would like to stop by
35 and say something about this.
36 I believe -- Zana, 32 years?
37 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: 32 years.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
39 32 years?
40 Yeah. How many years in the service?
41 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: 21 years.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
43 21 years in the service; so one of our fantastic
44 veterans.
45 (Applause.)
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 That's all my information.
48 Okay. These were left on the Ways and Means
49 table. Okay. The ladies that are attending the
50 National Convention parade are asked to wear black

1 T-shirts and the poppy corsage. Okay?

2 Okay. Thank you.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: May I ask -- I was
4 going to ask that -- okay. You know, we have a prepared
5 parade, dancing here, but, before we do that, we have to
6 retire the colors.

7 And so will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal
8 please have the color bearers for their retirement?

9 Yeah. Yes.

10 So please don't leave because we will have the
11 parade after we retire the colors so that we can dance
12 as long as we want. Okay?

13 Get that outfit ready because a lot of people
14 prepared for this. Okay. Let's go. I hope they are
15 all ready.

16 (Processional.)

17 (Singing "America the Beautiful.")

18 (Singing "Star Spangled Banner.")

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Stay in that
20 dancing before we exit, but then I'm closing this
21 session. And you have to come back at 8:30 tomorrow.
22 And for all those that will be at installation, be
23 prepared and dressed up when you come in. All right?

24 Banquet tonight.

25 (Music played.)

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. Now,
27 we should have your music on please.

28 Okay. 9:00, not 8:30. Thank you all for --
29 let's have the music.

30 (4:30 p.m.)

31

32

ADJOURNMENT

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

1) ss.
2 COUNTY OF KERN)
3
4

5 I, B. Suzanne Hull, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate
7 Number 13495, do hereby certify that the American Legion
8 Auxiliary Convention was taken Saturday, June 25, 2011,
9 at the time and place set forth on the first page
10 hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the convention, the
12 words of the American Legion Auxiliary members were
13 written down by me in stenotypy and thereafter
14 transcribed by computer under my supervision; that the
15 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the
16 testimony given by the American Legion Auxiliary
17 members.

18 I further certify that I am neither counsel for
19 nor in any way related to any party to said action, nor
20 in any way interested in the result or outcome thereof.

21 Dated this 7th day of July, 2011, at
22 Bakersfield, California.

23
24
25 B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2011
ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER
ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME III of III
SINGLE SPACED TRANSCRIPT
50 LINES PER PAGE

Reported by: B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

	PAGE
1	
2	
3	Call to Order (Pilar Reyes) 248
4	Invocation (Sylvia Alcantar) 248
5	Roll Call (Doris Kilkeny) 249
6	Ways & Means Report (Jean Cooley-Desmeules) 257
7	Form 990 (Doris Kilkeny) 258
8	Preconvention Committee Meeting Minutes 259
9	(Doris Kilkeny)
10	DEC Meeting Minutes (Doris Kilkeny) 262
11	Preconvention DEC Meeting - Ontario 263
12	(Doris Kilkeny)
13	Post Convention DEC Minutes (Doris Kilkeny) 267
14	Resolutions Report (Margaret Quiñones) 270
15	Resolutions (Pat Lindley) 271
16	Donations 276
17	Sons of the American Legion Announcement 279
18	(David Smith)
19	Travel Expense Checks (Linda Diebel) 281
20	Invitation to 2012 Convention (Terry Mikesell) 282
21	USO Update (Theresa Jacob) 282
22	Silver Brigade Awards (Alzora Carter) 282
23	Announcements (Doris Kilkeny) 284
24	Convention Adjourned 285
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	

1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2011; 9:09 A.M.
3 ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER
4 ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA
5

6 CALL TO ORDER

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Ladies, good
8 morning. Please take your seats because it is past
9 9:00.

10 Linda. Linda Fercho. Linda, please assume the
11 podium. I need to get out.

12 And is Linda Workman here? Okay. Linda is not
13 here? Okay. As soon as Linda comes, I will be leaving
14 the building -- not the building, the hall. And our
15 Department President-Elect -- Department President will
16 be taking over for 2012. And Linda Fercho will take
17 over.

18 This convention session is reconvened.

19 Sylvia Alcantar, Chaplain, will offer the
20 invocation.

21
22 INVOCATION

23 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Let us pray
24 together.

25 Let us give thanks for the bounties which we
26 have received during the year. We are from many walks
27 of life, yet we are in unity because we have the same
28 goals. We ask Thy blessings upon this meeting, that we
29 may extend anew our responsibilities as citizens and as
30 members of the American Legion Auxiliary.

31 We praise Thee for this good land of ours and
32 the heritage which has come to us through the essence of
33 those to whom freedom, justice, and righteousness mean
34 more than life itself.

35 Give us the inspiration to meet the needs of
36 the future. Give us the wisdom to make the right
37 decisions, persistence to support them, and radiance
38 that will lend others to work with us.

39 We are grateful for this opportunity to honor
40 and thank those who will be leaving office, first for
41 their dedication to the ideal of the Auxiliary; and,
42 second, for the personal sacrifice made during these
43 ideals to make others happy.

44 Finally, give wisdom, vision, and courage to
45 those who will be our new leaders. We continue to pray
46 for those members of the armed forces that are -- that
47 are serving, both at home and abroad, and ask for peace
48 in this troubled world of ours.

49 We thank You for Your presence with us and for
50 the bounds of friendship.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 Amen.
2 ALL PRESENT: Amen.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Amen.
4 Madam Secretary, recall the roll of the
5 department officers, chairmen, and District Presidents.
6 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, please give me
7 a signal when Linda Workman is here because I need to
8 leave.
9
10 ROLL CALL
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
12 morning, ladies.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
14 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: It is
16 good to see all these bright and shiny faces for the
17 last time. Ha. No, I'm sorry. I am going to miss you.
18 Department President Pilar Reyes.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Present.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 Department Vice President Linda Fercho.
22 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Present.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 Secretary Doris Kilkenny is here.
25 NEC Woman Norma DuVall.
26 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN DuVALL: Good
27 morning, Doris.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
29 morning.
30 Chaplain Sylvia Alcantar.
31 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: Present.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 Historian Rosemary Weber.
34 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN WEBER: Present.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
36 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit.
37 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT:
38 (Singing) Show me the way to go home.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
40 The rest of you ladies have to do something about her.
41 Musician Janet Wilson.
42 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nobody there.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
44 Sergeant-at-Arms Zana Chaney.
45 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: Here.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 Marshal Molly Smith.
48 DEPARTMENT MARSHAL SMITH: Where's the flip
49 side?
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 Finance Committee Chairman Linda Diebel.
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
3 Present.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 Finance Committee - Senior Member Susie Tozier.
6 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER
7 TOZIER: Present.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 Finance Committee - Junior Member Norma Billings.
10 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR MEMBER
11 BILLINGS: Present.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
13 Advisory Chairman Ruby Kapsalis.
14 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
15 KAPSALIS: (Singing) So long, farewell, good-bye.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 I believe Margaret and Willie are here too.
18 Past National President Josie Melgard.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 Americanism Kat Conrad.
22 AMERICANISM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CONRAD: Getting
23 ready to go to Girls State.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Lucille Taylor.
26 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
27 TAYLOR: Good morning, Doris.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
29 morning.
30 Children & Youth Anita Biggs.
31 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN ANITA BIGGS: Good
32 morning, Doris.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
34 morning.
35 Community Service Michelle Soares.
36 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOARES: Good
37 morning, Doris.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
39 morning.
40 Constitution & Bylaws Odette Cuccaro.
41 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
42 CUCCARO: Here.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
44 Convention Chairman - Ontario - Norma DuVall.
45 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Still here.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 Convention Commission Chairman Beverly Sparks.
48 She didn't -- nobody showed her the way to go
49 home?
50 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She went.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: She
2 went?
3 Credentials Dolores Ryan.
4 CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYAN: Here.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
6 Sorry.
7 Distinguished Guest Chairman Linda Workman.
8 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN:
9 (Singing) These boots were made for walking.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
11 Editor Estella Avina.
12 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Here.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
14 Education Harriet Clendenin.
15 EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Good
16 morning, Doris.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
18 morning.
19 Elections Marge Rye.
20 ELECTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RYE: I think I'm
21 here.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Girls
23 State Chairman Jean McGinnis and Girls State Director
24 Sherry Schneider.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: They are all
26 excused. They are at the Girls State Conference.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
28 Junior Activities Geniecca Risner.
29 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN RISNER: Here.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 Junior Conference Director Kathie Martinez.
32 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR MARTINEZ: Here.
33 Good morning, Doris.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Good
35 morning.
36 Leadership Committee Chairman Linda Fercho.
37 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Present.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
39 Legislative Gloria Williams.
40 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good
41 morning, Doris.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: What
43 did she say?
44 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good
45 morning, Doris.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't see her
47 here, but she is in the hall.
48 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: I am
49 here.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 I know it is Sunday morning, but....
2 Membership Chairman Alzora Carter.
3 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CARTER: Last
4 chance to get those transmittals to the department
5 office.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
7 National Security Normal DuVall.
8 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:
9 I'm here. Ready to go.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: So am
11 I.
12 Past Presidents Parley Sue Hooker.
13 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Here.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Poppy
15 Committee Chairman Loretta Marsh.
16 POPPY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MARSH: I'm here.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
18 Public Relations Linda Fariss.
19 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARISS:
20 Present.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
22 Resolutions Margaret Quiñones.
23 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
24 QUIÑONES: I'm here.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I got
26 that. She resolved to come back.
27 Rules Barbara LaDoucer.
28 RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LaDOUCER: Here.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
30 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Terry Mikesell.
31 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
32 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: I'm going to miss you, Doris.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
34 going to miss you too.
35 Ways & Means Chairman Jean Cooley-Desmeules.
36 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
37 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Present.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Yeah,
39 baby.
40 District 1, Patricia Lindley.
41 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: From behind
42 the redwood curtain where the air is clear, District 1
43 is still here.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 District 2, Molly Smith.
46 2ND DISTRICT PRESIDENT SMITH: Here.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
48 District 3, reporting only.
49 3RD DISTRICT: Reporting only.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 Kristi McFee, District 4.
2 4TH DISTRICT: She's gone to Girls State.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Peggy
4 Grabski, District 5.
5 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
6 Not here.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I don't see her,
8 but she was here.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 District 6, Alice Pambid, Vice President.
11 6TH DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT PAMBID: We're
12 here.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
14 District 7, Lynn Uhazi.
15 DISTRICT 7: Good morning.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
17 District 8, Tammy Manini.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
20 District 9, Connie Clement.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I guess she's not
22 here.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 Connie? She's not here?
25 District 10, Emily Magwili. Emily.
26 10TH DISTRICT: Oh, my. What a wonderful day
27 happy to say. Welcome back. You're coming our way.
28 Madam President Pilar, welcome home. Doris, we will
29 miss you.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'll
31 miss you too. Thank you.
32 District 11, Laura Barghorn.
33 11TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT BARGHORN: I'm heading
34 back to those hills.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
36 District 12, Lisa Stuart.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Doris, we have
38 some guests coming. We have -- oh.
39 MR. SMITH: Forward march. Forward march.
40 12TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT STUART: (Singing
41 "Rockin Robin.")
42 MR. SMITH: On guard, halt. On guard. On
43 guard.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 Madam President, I believe the District 12 Sons of the
46 American Legion, they are the first place winners; is
47 that correct?
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We love having you
50 here. Big, big congratulations. That's a big, big

1 honor for Department of California.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you for
4 coming here.
5 12TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT STUART: Three-time
6 National.
7 MR. SMITH: Three-time National, four-time
8 State. Going for four times National, ma'am.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We are honored to
10 have you.
11 MR. SMITH: On guard, right foot forward,
12 march.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Ladies, you
15 may continue. After this roll call, I would like to
16 call Linda Workman to walk me out.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
18 District 13, Theresa Jacob.
19 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Here.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
21 District 14, Martha Sweeney.
22 DISTRICT 14: Good morning.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 District 15, Zana Chaney.
25 15TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHANEY: Here.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 District 16, Carol Rombaugh.
28 16TH DISTRICT: Good morning.
29
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 District 18, Denyse Laugeson.
32 18TH DISTRICT: Oh, what a beautiful morning.
33 Oh, what a beautiful day. Convention is almost over,
34 and the elegant 18th Fiddlers are on their way to
35 Redding.
36 Good morning, Madam President Pilar.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good morning.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
39 District 19, Dorothy-Anne Chavez.
40 19TH DISTRICT: Good morning, Madam President.
41 Thank you for a rosy year. Ta-ta.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
44 District 20, Maria Castrellon.
45 20TH DISTRICT: (Singing) So long, farewell,
46 it's time to say good-bye. The year is gone, it's time
47 to start anew.
48 Good morning, Madam President.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
50 District 21, Cheryl Hathaway.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: Good
2 morning.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
4 District 22, Midge Farrar.
5 22ND DISTRICT: Good morning and good-bye.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
7 District 23, Wantu Robinson.
8 23RD DISTRICT: Good morning, Madam President.
9 We're going to miss you, Doris.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm
11 going to miss you too.
12 District 24, Susie Johansen.
13 24TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHANSEN: (Singing)
14 Yes, we follow Pilar. She is good and true helping us
15 stay focused with the work we do. We take pride in
16 serving, music was our theme. Yes, we follow Pilar,
17 making one great team.
18 (Applause.)
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Very
20 nice.
21 District 25, Shannon Mendez.
22 25TH DISTRICT: You filled our hearts with
23 music, united we all stand to serve our country through
24 ideals and commitment to this great land.
25 Bye, Madam President Pilar. We'll miss you,
26 Doris.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I'm not going
28 away.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
30 District 26, LeAnn Johnston reporting.
31 26TH DISTRICT: Here.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 District 27, Jean Winkler-Ring.
34 27TH DISTRICT: Here.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
36 District 28, Connie Raya.
37 28TH DISTRICT: These gypsies are going home.
38 Good-bye, Madam President.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Good-bye. And
40 come back again.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
42 District 29, Karen Karanickolas.
43 29TH DISTRICT: Good morning. Good morning.
44 The best to you this morning.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
46 District 30, Belen Telford.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She is still here.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: VA&R
49 Hospital Reps.
50 Veronica Spence.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
3 Pat Klang.
4 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KLANG: Here.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
6 Ruth Briggs.
7 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE BRIGGS: Here.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
9 Phyllis Holmberg.
10 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HOLMBERG: Here.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
12 Mavis Kanka.
13 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KANKA: Here.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
15 Pat Alvarez.
16 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ALVAREZ: Almost,
17 Doris.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
19 Almost.
20 Earlean Paige. Earlean is here?
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Earlean, she was
22 here.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
24 Hermine Fosmark.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
27 you.
28 Evangeline Acosta.
29 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA: Here.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
31 Lois Cornish.
32 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: I'm here.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 Peggy Grabski.
35 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE GRABSKI: I'm here.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
37 Veronica McGough.
38 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE MCGOUGH: Here.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
40 Madeline Lee.
41 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE LEE: Hello, Doris.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Is
43 she at Girls State too? Oh, she's here.
44 Delores Artis.
45 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ARTIS: Here.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
47 That's your roll call, Madam President.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
49 And I would like to ask Linda Fercho to assume
50 the station, and I have to swallow my pride and go

1 somewhere.
2 (Applause.)
3 (Processional.)
4 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Ladies, we
5 will continue with the department chairman reports.
6 Ways & Means Chairman Jean Cooley-Desmeules.
7 If the Resolutions Chairman and the two appointed
8 District Presidents that have been asked to assist here
9 could also be here on stage, ready to report.
10 I've got to quit drinking the water.
11 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
12 Is that what you call it?
13
14 WAYS & MEANS REPORT
15 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
16 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Good morning, ladies.
17 ALL PRESENT: All present.
18 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
19 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Hi, District 19.
20 ALL PRESENT: Hi, Jean.
21 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
22 COOLEY-DESMEULES: This convention -- I am very excited.
23 How is that?
24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.
25 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
26 COOLEY-DESMEULES: This convention has been very
27 entertaining and very exciting. The committee would
28 like to say that all of you ladies are truly awesome.
29 You have -- each of you at one time or another visited
30 Chris and I at our table. With all of your support
31 these past four days, we are proud and excited to
32 announce the Ways & Means committee is reporting a total
33 money taken in at this time \$3,512.
34 (Applause.)
35 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
36 COOLEY-DESMEULES: For Ways & Means, that is half of our
37 deficit. The opportunity drawing, we have two baskets,
38 left one is for District 19, one is for District 9; so
39 if you will come up and claim your two baskets. It
40 brought in \$1,267. The total so far without what we
41 just sold is \$760, and the charms, which we are almost
42 out of every one of them -- thank you, ladies -- is
43 \$1,485.
44 (Applause.)
45 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
46 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Madam President, I would like to take
47 this opportunity to thank you for this experience as
48 this chairman. And I would like to thank the members of
49 my supporting committee, Chris. She has been a Godsend
50 over there to help up out with graphics. And we are

1 happy to support our budget's deficit.
2 So now, ladies, I think we only have, what,
3 \$4,000 now?
4 (Applause.)
5 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
6 COOLEY-DESMEULES: I would like to introduce Chris. She
7 was here to help support all of us this weekend.
8 (Applause.)
9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Aren't they
10 amazing? Wow.
11 Now, I did mention just then that I was going
12 to have the Resolutions, but we are going to defer. And
13 I'm asking now if there is any unfinished business to
14 come before the assembly.
15 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
16 COOLEY-DESMEULES: Madam President, we do have totes
17 left; so come on by.
18 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN FERCHO: There is some
19 unfinished business for you.
20 Madam Secretary, will you please read the
21 minutes of the Post Convention Executive Meeting held in
22 June 2010 in Fresno, Executive Committee Meeting held
23 January 2011 in Santa Clara, and the Preconvention
24 Executive Meeting held on June 23rd here in the
25 Ontario Convention Center.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
27 Madam President, I do have a couple of items under
28 unfinished business that this delegation needs to be
29 aware of.
30
31 FORM 990
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
33 Ladies, in my secretary's workshop, I did discuss some
34 information, but it needs to go out to the whole
35 delegation. You must -- whether you want to or not --
36 you must file a 990 Report for the IRS. That gives you
37 your exempt status as a nonprofit organization. It is
38 not income tax to pay. It is not an income tax type of
39 form to file. It is called a 990, and each and every
40 one of us must file it with your EIN number.
41 Last October and September, especially at the
42 workshops and throughout the times that we could meet
43 with anyone, we basically stressed to all that in
44 2010-11 is the year that the IRS is going to revoke your
45 group exempt -- I mean your exempt status as a nonprofit
46 organization if you had not filed a 990 for the past
47 three years.
48 And, ladies, there's an awful lot of you that
49 didn't listen because you got revoked. That IRS list
50 came out from the national organization, and they

1 received it from the IRS. And there are probably four
2 pages, I believe, on the American Legion Post and the
3 Auxiliary units that have their exempt status revoked.
4 There is a form I just received this past week
5 in an e-mail, actually. It came in Tuesday that you
6 will be able to reinstate your revocation, but you are
7 going to have to go through some paperwork and file some
8 papers with the IRS. You don't have a choice. If you
9 don't stay under that group exempt status -- I mean the
10 exempt status, you will no longer be able to file as
11 a nonprofit organization, and you will be paying income
12 taxes on any donations you take in.

13 So please, please, please know that you must
14 file that 990. On a fiscal year it must be paid -- or
15 I mean filed prior to five and a half -- on every
16 year -- any year it has to be filed within
17 five-and-a-half months after the end of your year. I
18 believe most every Auxiliary unit is based upon a fiscal
19 year of July 1st through June 30th; that makes your form
20 due to the IRS by November 15th every year.

21 There is also going to be a form that will come
22 to you in the mail as a unit from the Franchise Tax
23 Board State of California. They are issuing numbers.
24 They are not called an EIN number, but it will be
25 a number. And you will have to file it with them, as
26 well, the same thing that you file to the IRS. If you
27 have already received it, you know exactly what I am
28 talking about; and if you haven't, I will be sending
29 packets and -- information in the first packets to all
30 units. Please read your mail and share it. It is not
31 yours. It is the unit's. And if you cannot take care
32 of that information, please get it to the right people
33 because it is very important that we file these papers.

34 Also, your membership cards that came into the
35 office, they were printed incorrectly. They have been
36 reprinted and remailed to all of the departments, and
37 I received them Friday; so they will be sent to each
38 individual unit as soon as I get back to the office.

39 Madam President, I will continue with the
40 minutes.

41 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you.

42
43 PRECONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
45 Preconvention committee meeting was held at the
46 Radisson Hotel in Fresno, California, on Thursday,
47 June 24th, 2010.

48 The Preconvention Department Executive
49 Committee meeting was called to order by President
50 Norma DuVall by 7:30 a.m.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 Roll call was read, and those members allowed
2 to vote were stated. The actions of the District
3 Presidents were presented and are listed below.
4 Old business: There was none.
5 New business:
6 A letter was read from Terry Mikesell, Senior
7 Member -- a letter was read from Terry Mikesell, Senior
8 Member of Finance, resigning as Finance Chairman,
9 effective the close of the Fresno Convention,
10 June 27, 2010. A letter dated April 1st, 2010, was
11 mailed to all units regarding Finance committee. Due to
12 this resignation, there was an opening for Finance
13 Chairman for a one-year term, the 2010-2011 Auxiliary
14 year. Nominations for this position will be Friday
15 afternoon, election to be held Saturday morning, and
16 installation to follow on Sunday. This information
17 conveyed at the DEC meeting to ensure that all
18 membership is aware of the opening. All District
19 Presidents were to take the information to their
20 district caucuses to prepare for the election process on
21 the convention floor.
22 A letter was read from Gigi Manno, Chapeau
23 Passe, requesting permission to start a new salon in
24 San Diego County. A motion was made, seconded, and
25 carried.
26 A motion was made by the Finance committee to
27 add a sentence to the department personnel policy
28 regarding exempt overtime to the exempt employees.
29 Department Secretary/Treasurer shall be compensated
30 one-half day for each day worked beyond normal work --
31 normal week at midyear and department convention.
32 Motion was seconded and carried.
33 Motion was made to add to the personnel
34 policies the benefit plan, paid holidays, add Columbus
35 Day to the list of paid holidays. Motion was seconded
36 and carried.
37 Motion as amended was made to add a sentence to
38 the Department Policy Code Number 4:
39 District President must provide in writing
40 a report for each unit being placed on probation or is
41 surrendering/revocation of its charter 30 days prior to
42 the Department Executive Meeting at midyear or at
43 department convention. Three copies are to be provided,
44 one each to the Department President, Department
45 Parliamentarian, and the Department Secretary. Motion
46 was seconded and carried.
47 There were no emergency resolutions.
48 Vice President Pilar Reyes made a presentation
49 to President Norma DuVall, thanking her for a successful
50 year.

1 Instructions for committee reports and
2 procedure for award presentations on the floor were
3 presented by the Department President.
4 With no further business, the meeting was
5 adjourned at 8:45 a.m.
6 Following actions were moved by the respective
7 District Presidents, seconded, and carried.
8 District 4, South Butte, Unit 210, will remain
9 on probation until January 2011.
10 District 4, Paradise, Unit 259, placed on
11 probation until January 2011.
12 District 6, North Sacramento, Unit 447, charter
13 was surrendered.
14 District 8, Next Generation of Heroes,
15 Unit 911, to be removed from probation.
16 Smyth-Bolter, Unit 58, District 12, to be
17 placed on probation until June 2011.
18 Elijah B. Hayes, Unit 168, District 12, to be
19 removed from probation.
20 Diosdado M. Franco, Unit 714, District 13,
21 removed from probation.
22 Santa Ynez Valley, Unit 160, is to remain on
23 probation until January 2011, District 16.
24 Charles P. Rowe, Unit 30, District 18, to be
25 placed on probation until January 2011.
26 Chilelli Memorial Unit, Unit 888, District 18,
27 to be removed from probation.
28 Homeland, Unit 878, District 21, charter was
29 surrendered.
30 J.B. Clark, Unit 149, District 22, placed on
31 probation until January 2011.
32 City Service, Unit 537, District 22, to remain
33 on probation until January 2011.
34 Yucaipa Valley, Unit 426, District 25,
35 surrender of charter.
36 Redwood City, Unit 105, District 26, to be
37 placed on probation until January 2011.
38 Tustin, Unit 227, District 29, to be placed on
39 probation until January 2011.
40 La Habra, Unit 267, District 29, placed on
41 probation until January 2011.
42 Madam President, I move for acceptance of these
43 minutes.
44 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Do I have
45 a second?
46 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.
47 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Any
48 discussion?
49 (No response.)
50 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: All those in

1 favor say aye.
2 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
3 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Opposed no?
4 (No response.)
5 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Minutes are
6 read.

7
8 DEC MEETING MINUTES

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
10 Minutes of the Department Executive Committee meeting,
11 Santa Clara, California, January 15th through the 16th,
12 2011, midyear.
13 Moved by Finance Chairman Linda Diebel,
14 seconded and carried to retain the services of
15 accounting firm of Le, Ho & Company, LLP, for the
16 2011-2012 fiscal year.
17 Moved by Finance Chairman Linda Diebel and
18 seconded and carried to retain the services of
19 Driver & Nix, formerly Nesbitt Lucas Reporting, 2010,
20 for the current 2011 convention in Ontario, California.
21 Announcement of candidates for 2011-2012:
22 President Linda Fercho, Unit 741, District 16.
23 Vice President Terry Mikesell, Unit 197,
24 District 2.
25 Junior Member of Finance Kathie Martinez,
26 Unit 188, District 23.
27 Junior Member of Finance Loretta Marsh,
28 Unit 56, District 16.
29 Candidate for National President 2013,
30 Nancy-Brown Park, Unit 472, District 26.
31 Moved by Americanism Chairman Kat Conrad,
32 seconded, and carried the following as Americanism essay
33 titles for 2011-2012.
34 Group 1, Grades 4 and 5, "Why We Should Stand
35 As Our Flag Passes By."
36 Group 2, Grades 6 and 7: "Why Are We Called
37 the Land of the Free?"
38 Group 3, Grades 8 and 9: "For God and Country,
39 What Does It Mean?"
40 Group 4, Grades 10, 11, and 12: "Americans,
41 Let's Learn from the Past But Live in the Present."
42 Group 5, Children with Exceptional Needs: "Why
43 I Salute the Flag."
44 The following actions were moved by the
45 respective District Presidents, seconded, and carried.
46 District 1, Hoopa Unit 415, to be placed on
47 probation until June 2011.
48 South Butte, Unit 210, District 14, to remain
49 on probation until June 2011.
50 Paradise, Unit 259, District 4 --

1 I'm sorry. South Butte is in District 4. My
2 apologies. To remain on probation until 6/11.
3 Next Generation of Heroes, Unit 911,
4 District 8, to be placed on probation until June of
5 2011.
6 Smyth-Bolter, Unit 58, District 12, removed
7 from probation.
8 Tipton, Unit 831, District 15, charter
9 surrendered.
10 Diosdado M. Franco, Unit 714, District 13,
11 remain on probation until June 2011.
12 Santa Ynez Valley, Unit 167 -- or 160 -- pardon
13 me -- District 16, to remain on probation until
14 June 2011.
15 Charles P. Roe, Unit 30, District 18, to remain
16 on probation until June of 2011.
17 J.B. Clark, Unit 149, District 22, to be
18 removed from probation.
19 City Service, Unit 537, District 22, charter
20 surrendered.
21 Redwood, Unit 105, District 26, charter
22 surrendered.
23 Boron, Unit 636, District 27, placed on
24 probation until June 2011.
25 Tustin, Unit 227, District 29, to remain on
26 probation until June 2011.
27 La Habra, Unit 267, District 29, to remain on
28 probation until June 2011.
29 Madam President, I move to accept these
30 minutes.
31 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: It has been
32 moved and seconded to accept the minutes as read.
33 Is there any discussion?
34 (No response.)
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All in favor say
36 yes.
37 ALL PRESENT: Yes.
38 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Opposed, no.
39 (No response.)
40
41 PRECONVENTION DEC MEETING - ONTARIO
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
43 Minutes from the Preconvention Committee Meeting,
44 Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California,
45 Thursday, June 23rd, 2011.
46 The Preconvention Department Executive
47 Committee Meeting was called to order by President
48 Pilar Reyes at 7:30 a.m.
49 The roll call was read, and those members
50 allowed to vote were stated. The actions of the

1 District Presidents were presented and listed below.
2 Old business: None.
3 New business:
4 President Pilar stated that she had
5 received the resignation letter from Department
6 Secretary/Treasurer Doris Kilkenny, effective the last
7 day of Department Convention in Ontario, California,
8 June 26th, 2011. Statement on the status of the vacancy
9 was addressed by Vice President Linda Fercho. The
10 hiring process will wait until after the convention as
11 the position and salary could have possible changes
12 based upon Constitution and Bylaws changes that have
13 been proposed. The nomination on election will take
14 place after the convention, and notice will go to all
15 units and Department Executive members stating the
16 vacancy.
17 Department Secretary stated that a new
18 bookkeeper will be hired as Gary Prater gave his
19 resignation two weeks prior and last day effective
20 June 24th. A new bookkeeper has been hired in the
21 office effective June 13th.
22 A motion was made by the Finance committee for
23 a raise for the membership clerk of 65 cents and to be
24 retro paid from January 1st, 2011. The motion was
25 seconded; discussion followed regarding the retro pay.
26 The motion was amended to delete the retro pay. The
27 amendment was seconded and passed. The original motion
28 as amended was seconded, voted, and passed to give the
29 membership clerk a 65 cent raise. Rate of pay will now
30 be \$15.50.
31 Motion from the Finance committee for a raise
32 for the bookkeeper of \$1, from 17.50 to 18.50, was
33 defeated.
34 Finance committee stated that the
35 American Legion stated they no longer were going to
36 offer medical insurance to the American Legion Auxiliary
37 due to problems with the increased deductible per person
38 and the accounting involved in the current process.
39 Discussion followed, and a motion was made by
40 Terry Mikesell, seconded, and was defeated to offer no
41 insurance at all.
42 A motion was made by Ruby Kapsalis, seconded,
43 and passed to table any changes to the personnel
44 policies, asking the incoming President to appoint
45 a committee to review policies prior to any additional
46 changes.
47 Request made for a housekeeping change to the
48 personnel policies. An approved motion was made at the
49 June 2010 DEC meeting in Fresno, California, regarding
50 compensation to the Secretary/Treasurer for

1 Saturday/Sunday work at the convention was not added to
2 the personnel policies and has now been added.

3 Motion was made by Diane DeLashmit to change
4 the last sentence under the Exempt Employees paragraph
5 of Page 8, Hiring, slash, Vacancy Position of
6 Secretary/Treasurer and/or Staff. The sentence will
7 read:

8 The Department President shall nominate
9 a candidate, and the Department Executive Committee
10 elect.

11 The motion was seconded and passed.

12 Vice President Linda Fercho made a presentation
13 from all the officers and chairmen to President
14 Pilar Reyes, thanking her for a fun and fulfilling year.

15 Instructions for committee reports and
16 procedures for award presentations on the floor were
17 presented by President Pilar.

18 With no further business, the meeting -- this
19 meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

20 The actions -- the following actions were moved
21 by the respective District Presidents, seconded, and
22 carried:

23 Hoopa, Unit 415, District 1, to remain on
24 probation until June 2012.

25 Hopland, Unit 529, District 1, was placed on
26 probation until January 2012.

27 George A. Thompson, Unit 544, District 1,
28 placed on probation until January 2012.

29 South Butte, Unit 210, removed for -- removed
30 from probation.

31 Paradise, Unit 259, District 4, surrendered
32 charter.

33 Manual Quezon, Unit 603, District 5, charter
34 surrendered.

35 Richard W. Townsend, Unit 84, District 7, to be
36 placed on probation until January 2012.

37 Next Generation of Heroes, Unit 911,
38 District 8, to remain on probation until January 2012.

39 Elijah B. Hayes, Unit 168, District 12, placed
40 on probation until January 2012.

41 West Valley Memory Unit -- is it Memorial? --
42 Memory, Unit 99, District 13, charter surrendered.

43 Willow Glen, Unit 318, District 13, placed on
44 probation until January 2012.

45 Charter Oak, Unit 743, District 13, charter
46 surrendered.

47 Santa Ynez Valley, Unit 160, District 16,
48 charter surrendered.

49 Charles P. Rowe, Unit 30, District 18, to be
50 removed from probation.

1 Chilelli Memorial, Unit 888 -- I'm sorry.
2 District 21 -- 18. Sorry. I'm sorry. Placed on
3 probation until January 2012.
4 J.B. Clark, Unit 149, District 22, placed on
5 probation until January 2012.
6 Leyte, Unit 625, District 22, placed on
7 probation until January 2012.
8 Inglewood, Unit 188, District 23, placed on
9 probation until January 2012.
10 Boron, Unit 636, District 27, to remain on
11 probation until January 2012.
12 Tustin, Unit 2000 -- 227, District 29,
13 revocation of charter.
14 La Habra, Unit 267, District 29, charter
15 surrendered.
16 Madam President, I move for the acceptance of
17 these minutes.
18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Seconded.
19 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB:
20 Madam President, Sandy Jacob, District 13, Past
21 Department President.
22 Point of clarification. I believe you read
23 after Memory 99.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
25 Charter.
26 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Charter
27 surrendered. The next one I believe you also gave to
28 District 13, but it was not ours.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Oh,
30 I'm sorry. Willow Glen, Unit 318.
31 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Willow Glen,
32 Unit 318, is ours.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
34 Charter Oak.
35 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Charter Oak was
36 not ours.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: 743,
38 who do you belong to?
39 AUDIENCE MEMBER: District 15.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
41 Sorry. My error. I goofed.
42 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Just
43 a clarification for the minutes.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank
45 you.
46 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY:
47 Madam President, clarification.
48 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Chair
49 recognizes Cheryl Hathaway, District 21.
50 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: Cheryl

1 Hathaway, District 21.
2 I put on 763 from District 21, not 888.
3 I don't even know who that is.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
5 Then I was right.
6 21ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT HATHAWAY: Okay.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: My
8 apologies. I read the wrong name of the unit. I did
9 have 763, District 21, with the action placed on
10 probation until January 2012.
11 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: What is the
12 unit name?
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: The
14 unit name is Ray Worrell, and I wrote Chilelli Memorial.
15 No. I have corrected it. It is the right name. Sorry.
16 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Okay. Is
17 there any other discussion?
18 (No response.)
19 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Hearing
20 none, all those in favor say aye.
21 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
22 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Opposed, no.
23 (No response.)
24 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you
25 very much.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: That
27 is your minutes, Madam President.
28 Oh, I'm sorry.
29 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: No. You
30 don't get away that easily. She's having short-timer
31 syndrome.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: It's
33 not bad. At 1:30 this morning I was typing.
34 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: But you did
35 a really good job for last year's.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: It's
37 a little hard to list all the minutes on that recorder
38 with that snoring.
39 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Those
40 husbands with that snoring.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
42 Madam President, I need to read the minutes from
43 the Post Convention DEC at the Valdez Hall in
44 Fresno, California, on Sunday, June 27th, 2010.
45 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Yay.
46
47 POST CONVENTION DEC MINUTES
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.
49 I'm trying to be good.
50 Department President Pilar Reyes called the

1 meeting to order.
2 Vice President Linda Fercho was asked to assume
3 the President's chair. A motion was made by Department
4 President Pilar Reyes to elect Doris Kilkenny as
5 2010-2011 Secretary/Treasurer, seconded and passed.
6 Past Department President Ruby Kapsalis
7 administered oath of office and pledge to the
8 Secretary/Treasurer Doris Kilkenny.
9 Officers, chairmen, and District Presidents
10 were in attendance and received packets from the
11 Department President, Vice President, and Membership
12 Chairman. Alzora Carter reviewed the membership goals
13 and information on the new membership database.
14 With no further business, the meeting was
15 adjourned.
16 Madam President, I move to accept these
17 minutes.
18 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Do I hear
19 a second?
20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Seconded.
21 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: It has been
22 moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the meeting
23 of --
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: The
25 post --
26 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: The Post
27 Convention meeting in Fresno.
28 Is there any discussion?
29 (No response.)
30 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: All those in
31 favor say aye.
32 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
33 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Opposed, no.
34 (No response.)
35 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you.
36 Those were a lot shorter too.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Last
38 time.
39 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN:
40 Madam President, if I may, I just took Madam President
41 Pilar over to the Legion. And I was quite surprised
42 that the second we walked through the door the Commander
43 ran off of the stage and escorted her himself to the
44 stage.
45 (Applause.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now we have
47 everything intact, all the Legion family members, so....
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I want to accept
50 with dignity and to keep my integrity here intact, and

1 so -- and they were all -- all happy about it. And so
2 we can go visit them, and they can visit us; so they
3 will respect our Auxiliary more.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now I would like
6 to report on -- oh, we have a handsome guest coming.
7 Where is the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal already
8 escorting our guest. That is Eric Measles.
9 (Processional.)
10 MR. MEASLES: I don't know if you'll do it or
11 I'll do it.
12 Good morning, ladies.
13 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
14 MR. MEASLES: Pleasure to be here. It gives me
15 great pleasure to give a contribution for a dear friend,
16 for a long-time friend who I have watched grow and
17 blossom into the most awesome National President this
18 country has seen.
19 (Applause.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Nancy.
21 MR. MEASLES: Nancy just briefly passed the
22 bucket around here. It has almost \$900.
23 (Applause.)
24 MR. MEASLES: She is awesome, a personal
25 friend. You know, she who speaks first reaches first.
26 How do you know that? Never mind that.
27 Oh, and somewhere in here -- I don't know how
28 this happened, but Commander Foxworthy happened to drop
29 one of his.
30 All right. Thanks, ladies.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Eric. Eric, will
33 you please approach the station?
34 MR. MEASLES: I would love to.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I think I would
36 give to you for doing that for our National President.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now the bucket
39 will be passed around here; so keep the bucket.
40 Where is the bucket?
41 Linda, keep the bucket and pass it around.
42 (Processional.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: At this time
44 I would like to go on Education Chairman Harriet to
45 announce the winner of the quilt.
46 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: May I approach?
47 I was going to walk that way, but this is faster.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Darlene Dunton,
49 District 16.
50 Thank you Harriet.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Now let's
3 move on. I guess -- okay.
4 Now I would like to call on the wise ladies to
5 make presentations -- oh. I am very sorry. I thought
6 it was done.
7 My dear Margaret, we will have the Resolutions
8 report. Margaret Quiñones will announce the ladies who
9 will support her -- who will assist her.
10 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
11 QUIÑONES: Thank you, Madam President.
12
13 RESOLUTIONS REPORT
14 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
15 QUIÑONES: The Resolutions committee met on Thursday,
16 June 23rd -- that seems like such a long time ago -- in
17 Room 102 of the Ontario Convention Center.
18 By consent of the delegates, C.J. Reyes of
19 District 19 was appointed Secretary.
20 Sharon Moore of District 23 served as Chaplain.
21 And Donna Lennox of District 11 served as
22 Sergeant-at-Arms.
23 The meeting was opened with prayer and Pledge
24 of Allegiance.
25 Roll call showed 17 delegates and five guests
26 were present.
27 The committee agreed on the following report.
28 The Code was read, all two sentences; no
29 changes were made.
30 This chairman reported that one resolution had
31 been received.
32 Resolution Number 1 pertains to a proposed
33 Constitution & Bylaws change that the National Executive
34 Committeewoman be appointed Legislative instead of
35 National Security Chairman. It was referred to National
36 Security, Legislative, and Finance committees. The
37 resolution was approved in all of those committees.
38 There were no emergency resolutions.
39 Madam Department President, this concludes the
40 report of the Resolution convention committee.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
42 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
43 QUIÑONES: We will now present the emergency
44 resolutions. May they be accepted by consent?
45 Assisting me in reading the resolutions are
46 Pat Lindley, President, District 1; and Karen
47 Karanickolas, President, District 29.
48 Thank you, Madam President, for appointing
49 these great ladies. I really enjoyed working with them.
50

1 RESOLUTIONS
2 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Whereas, the
3 management and staff of the DoubleTree Hotel has been
4 effective and courteous; and
5 Whereas, they have made our stay most
6 comfortable and enjoyable.
7 Now, therefore, be it
8 Resolved that we express our gratitude for
9 their outstanding service and cooperation; and be it
10 further
11 Resolved that a letter of appreciation be sent
12 to Todd Simons, Sales and Marketing Director for the
13 DoubleTree Hotel.
14 Whereas, the National Sales Manager of the
15 Ontario Convention Center, Arlette Zavala, has been
16 helpful and cooperative during the planning of this
17 department convention; and
18 Whereas, we appreciate the professional
19 attention to our needs to ensure that our stay was
20 enjoyable and relaxed.
21 Now, therefore, be it
22 Resolved that we send a letter to
23 Arlette Zavala for her assistance during this meeting.
24 Oh, I have to wait for you to say consent.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent, yes.
26 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Consent.
27 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Consent?
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
29 (Applause.)
30 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: It's my first
31 time. Okay. Resolution.
32 Whereas, Paul S. Leon, Mayor of the city of
33 Ontario, has taken time out of his busy schedule in
34 order to visit our convention to bring greetings and to
35 welcome us to Ontario; and
36 Whereas, it was an honor to have him visit our
37 department convention and hear our opening remarks.
38 Therefore, be it
39 Resolved that we convey our sincere
40 appreciation to Mayor Leon for his attendance at our
41 convention and that a copy of this resolution be sent to
42 the Mayor.
43 Consent?
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
45 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: All right.
46 I'm almost done, and I got it. Okay.
47 Whereas, Donna Scott, Le Chapeau Departmental
48 of the Eight and Forty, brought warm and friendly
49 greetings on behalf of the partners of Eight and Forty.
50 Now, therefore, be it

1 Resolved that we express our appreciation for
2 Donna for her attendance at this department convention;
3 and be it further
4 Resolved that a copy of this resolution be
5 forwarded to Donna Scott.
6 Consent?
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
8 1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Whereas, the
9 Department Convention Chairman Norma DuVall and
10 Cochairman Diane DeLashmit and committee have done an
11 outstanding job of providing for our comfort and
12 enjoyment during this convention; and
13 Whereas, Norma, Diane, and the members of the
14 18th and 25th Districts have extended their warm and
15 gracious hospitality and made us all feel welcome.
16 Now, therefore, be it
17 Resolved that we express our sincere
18 appreciation to Norma and her committee for being such
19 wonderful hosts and for making this a successful
20 convention. Both districts played their best to make
21 sweet music for you, Madam President, and for our
22 delegates.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
24 (Applause.)
25 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Whereas,
26 throughout the years the Past Department Presidents
27 continue to serve, to participate, and to support the
28 programs of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of
29 California; and
30 Whereas, they have shared their valuable
31 knowledge and counsel, and they have added much by their
32 presence at this department convention in Ontario.
33 Now, therefore, be it
34 Resolved that we express our appreciation to
35 the Past Department Presidents for their dedication and
36 continued service to our organization by giving them
37 a standing ovation to show our gratitude and love.
38 (Applause.)
39 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Consent?
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
41 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Whereas,
42 Janiyah Sparks has served as Honorary Junior Department
43 President and is here to represent the Juniors of our
44 department with grace and dignity; and
45 Whereas, she has attended the convention to
46 bring greetings on behalf of the Juniors of the
47 Department of California.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Sorry. Please
49 state that she wasn't here.
50 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Sorry.

American Legion Auxiliary Convention - 6/26/2011

1 Next.
2 Whereas, several members of our department have
3 been recognized by the national organization and are
4 giving their time, effort, and talent in service to the
5 American Legion Auxiliary. We ask them to stand and
6 remain standing until the list is called.
7 Now, therefore, be it
8 Resolved that we express our appreciation to
9 the following for the honor and prestige they bring to
10 our department:
11 Josie Melgard, Past National President and
12 member, National Advisory Committee.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Excused.
14 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Diane
15 DeLashmit, Western Division Girls State Chairman.
16 Nancy Brown-Park, National Children & Youth
17 Chairman.
18 Melanie Taylor, National Leadership Chairman.
19 Midge Farrar, Western Division Legislative
20 Chairman.
21 Norma DuVall, Western Division Auxiliary
22 Emergency Fund Chairman.
23 Anita Biggs, National Security Committee
24 Member; and.
25 LuAnn Capazzi, VA&R Committee Member, Homeless
26 Veterans.
27 Consent?
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
29 (Appause.)
30 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Whereas,
31 a number of distinguished guests found time in their
32 busy schedule to attend our department convention to
33 bring greetings. It was an honor to welcome them and
34 hear their informative remarks.
35 Now, therefore, be it
36 Resolved that we express our appreciation with
37 a round of applause to their attendance at this meeting;
38 and be it further
39 Resolved that a copy of this resolution be
40 mailed to each and that a copy to be sent to the
41 American Legion department office.
42 Ed Landis, Department of National Executive
43 Committeeman.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He didn't come.
45 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
46 Bill Siler, American Legion Department Adjutant.
47 Michael Jonuez, Sons of the American Legion
48 Detachment Commander.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did not come.
50 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:

1 Luis Diaz, American Legion Riders President.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did.
3 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
4 Ted Pasnak, 5th Area Department Vice Commander.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did.
6 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
7 Larry Wible, 6th Area Department Vice Commander.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did.
9 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
10 Frank H. Granado, 25th District Commander.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did.
12 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
13 Gilbert Cardoza, 18th District Commander.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did not.
15 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
16 George Curtis, American Legion Convention Corporation
17 Chairman.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, he did.
19 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
20 Joseph Garcia, American Legion Convention Corporation
21 Cochairman.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: He did.
23 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Consent?
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
25 (Applause.)
26 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Whereas,
27 the American Legion Department Commander Mark Foxworthy
28 has taken time out of his busy schedule to bring
29 greetings to the American Legion Auxiliary convention
30 delegates; and
31 Whereas, he has worked with our Department
32 President to cement a bond within the California Legion
33 family to further the programs of our organizations.
34 Now, therefore, be it
35 Resolved that we express appreciation to
36 Commander Foxworthy for the cooperation and courtesies
37 extended to our Department President and office staff
38 during the past administrative year; and be it further
39 Resolved that a copy be sent to the Department
40 Commander and to the department office of the
41 American Legion.
42 Consent?
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Consent.
44 (Applause.)
45 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
46 QUIÑONES: Madam President, could we have the
47 Vice President assume the chair, please. Just stand
48 right there with her.
49 Whereas, Department President Pilar Reyes has
50 given a year of outstanding service to the

1 American Legion Auxiliary; and
2 Whereas, her capable leadership and friendship
3 as she represented our -- gosh -- organization through
4 our great state of California has inspired our members
5 to reach high notes of service with her theme of
6 M.U.S.I.C., and her sense of humor made it all fun.
7 Now, therefore, be it
8 Resolved that the members and guests assembled
9 at this convention express our love and appreciation to
10 Department President Pilar with a standing ovation for
11 a job well done; and be it further
12 Resolved that copies of this resolution be sent
13 to President Pilar and to her group.
14 (Appause.)
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, I will always
16 remember this. Gee.
17 Thank you so much.
18 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
19 QUIÑONES: Madam Department President, we are all so
20 sorry that your Resolutions Chairman Bonnie Christner is
21 not with us, and certainly our prayers are with her and
22 Thomas.
23 It is a privilege to serve in her absence as
24 she was one of my Dream Catchers, and it certainly was
25 a pleasure to serve with you, Madam President.
26 This concludes the Resolutions report.
27 Thank you.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I want to thank
29 you, Margaret, for stepping in when I called you. Right
30 away you graciously accepted, and I appreciate that very
31 much.
32 And I would like also to thank your -- the
33 ladies, the District Presidents that assisted you.
34 And thank you, Pat Lindley. When I called her,
35 she said, "Yes, I'll do it."
36 And Karen Karanickolas, very willing to do it.
37 And thank you very much ladies. Thank you,
38 Margaret. You did an outstanding job. Thank you.
39 Give her a big hand.
40 (Appause.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you so much.
42 Thanks a lot.
43 Now, I forget where we are now.
44 Is there any further business to come? No?
45 (No response.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No business. I
47 think it is all taken care of.
48 Well, we will have some presentations from our
49 Past Department Presidents, and I would like them all to
50 line up here. Whoever we give presentations, please

1 come up to this stage if you are down there. If you are
2 up here, you are up here.
3 Is Beverly here? Beverly Sparks? She left.
4 Okay. Phyllis Holmberg?
5 I guess they are all here. We have a lot of
6 them.
7 Odette? Where is Odette? Odette is coming.
8 Are you going to do some sitting again? Odette will be
9 over there. Okay.
10 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Madam
11 Department President, all these Past Department
12 Presidents, I go first.
13 (Applause.)
14
15 DONATIONS
16 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Where
17 is Willie Burke? The Performers that are in the
18 audience, will you please stand?
19 \$80 has been donated and will be given to the
20 VA&R program of the American Legion Auxiliary. \$10 --
21 \$10 to the Past Department Presidents Junior
22 Scholarship.
23 (Applause.)
24 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HOLMBERG: Phyllis
25 Holmberg.
26 Are there any of my Musicians?
27 On behalf of these ladies, it is an honor to
28 donate \$220 dollars to the VA&R Temporary Finance Fund.
29 (Applause.)
30 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BURKE:
31 Good morning, everyone. Willamina -- me -- representing
32 Margie Shanks, Magic Chefs, my Leaders of the Band, and
33 we are giving the Junior Scholarship \$50 and the VA&R
34 \$150.
35 Thank you.
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
38 QUIÑONES: Nobody told me they were putting me out of
39 order.
40 This presentation is on behalf of Margaret's
41 Dream Catchers, Shelby's Actresses, Ruby's All Stars,
42 Jerry's Cards, Goldie's Golden Links, and Betty's Bears.
43 We are making a donation to the Department VA&R
44 fund of \$50 in memory of Frances Morgan, District 3;
45 Department VA&R Fund, \$400; Department President Pilar's
46 Special Project, \$100.
47 (Applause.)
48 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: And
49 Madam President, may I approach your station?
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may approach

1 my station.
2 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS:
3 Madam Department President, Art couldn't be here, but he
4 wanted you to have a copy of your entire Website for
5 your year.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh. Oh.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I forgot to do
9 that.
10 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: On
11 behalf of Linda's Workmen and Park's Patriots we are
12 donating \$20 to the Junior Scholarship and \$285 to the
13 VA&R TFA.
14 (Applause.)
15 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Would
16 Virginia Gandy's Engineers please stand.
17 Judy Lloyd's Editors.
18 And Diane DeLashmit's Circus Acts.
19 Our donations today are in memory of Virginia
20 Gandy, Past Department President. Junior Conference,
21 \$25. Junior Scholarship, \$10. Girls State, \$110, VA&R,
22 \$275.
23 (Applause.)
24 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Sue's
25 Lighthouses and Melanie's Balloon Pilots donate to the
26 VA&R program \$290; to the Junior Scholarship, 70.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
29 Are there any torch runners here besides Bev in
30 District 5?
31 B.J.'s Runners is for the education program,
32 and we have a \$30 donation for the Education Fund.
33 (Applause.)
34 MS. CAPELS: Hi, My name is Linda Capels, and
35 we are representing Linda's Racers.
36 Would you please stand? If you are here, would
37 you please stand? Linda's Racers, would you please
38 stand?
39 Queen Love A Lot's Princesses, Bev's Stars,
40 Madeline's Robots -- any of those groups please stand.
41 Okay. Together we have joined to present \$130
42 to the Junior Scholarship, \$200 to the Education
43 Scholarship, and \$130 to the VA&R TFA Fund.
44 (Applause.)
45 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Good morning.
46 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
47 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: All of Bonnie's
48 Princesses and Sandy's Colonels. Okay. Bonnie sends
49 her love to everybody. She couldn't be with us. She is
50 in Florida with her husband right now.

1 But for the Bonnie's Princesses and Sandy's
2 Colonels, for VA&R TFA we're sending \$310.
3 (Applause.)
4 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: For the Junior
5 Scholarship, \$25.
6 (Applause.)
7 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: And, also, this
8 year it was my privilege to be the secretary, I think,
9 of the Past Department -- Past Presidents Parley, and we
10 are doing \$25 to the Junior Scholarship, \$50 to VA&R in
11 memory of Virginia Gandy, and \$50 to Nancy Brown-Park's
12 campaign fund.
13 Thank you, ladies.
14 (Applause.)
15 MS. CAPAZZI: Good morning, ladies.
16 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
17 MS. CAPAZZI: Do I have any of my Ship's
18 Captains in the room this morning? Thank you.
19 We had breakfast yesterday morning together,
20 and our contributions are \$200 to Girls State, \$95 to
21 the Education Program for Scholarships, and for the
22 Wounded Warriors \$75, for a total of \$370.
23 Thank you.
24 (Applause.)
25 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Will all of
26 Norma's Birds of Paradise please stand.
27 We are going to donate \$215 to VA&R TFA cases
28 and \$15 to Junior Scholarship Fund.
29 (Applause.)
30 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
31 QUIÑONES: Madam Department President.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
33 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
34 QUIÑONES: Margaret Quiñones, Past Department President.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing
36 Margaret.
37 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
38 QUIÑONES: May I take a moment of privilege, please?
39 I know that all of you girls out there, you
40 hear all the time about the Department Presidents get
41 together with their District Presidents, we have lunch
42 or we have this or we have that and we do that. And we
43 have fun, and we love getting together.
44 But as you heard, our meetings are a lot more
45 than just a social event. This -- the Past Department
46 Presidents consistently, ever since I have been coming
47 to conventions, have funded a lot of the needs and
48 filled a lot of the holes in our budget and in our
49 programs. You've heard what we did at this convention.
50 I challenge you to go home to your units and to your

1 districts, and let's put VA&R first. We cannot have
2 holes in the budget, the very heart of what we do.
3 (Applause.)
4 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
5 QUIÑONES: So I challenge you for that.
6 Thank you, Madam President.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.
9 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, please escort our
10 guest, who would like to address our assembly.
11 (Processional.)
12
13 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ANNOUNCEMENT
14 MR. SMITH: Good morning, ladies. Sound
15 asleep.
16 Good morning, ladies.
17 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.
18 MR. SMITH: Thank you.
19 The reason why I'm here -- my name is
20 David Smith. I'm the Past Sons of the American Legion
21 State Champion and current third national champion. Now
22 I am going to be the fourth national champion in
23 Minnesota this year.
24 (Applause.)
25 MR. SMITH: That is not the reason why I am up
26 here.
27 Can I have all the Junior Auxiliary ladies
28 stand up, please?
29 (Applause.)
30 MR. SMITH: I am here -- I am here on behalf of
31 the Sons of the American Legion to tender a formal
32 apology. Friday we did have games set up that was
33 announced at the Sons of the American Legion but was not
34 addressed here. I was approached by my good friend
35 Norma, and I do say that she is a great friend; that it
36 wasn't done. And I was going to make a formal apology
37 to the Junior Auxiliary ladies.
38 Ladies, I do want to apologize that you were
39 not included on the games and information that was not
40 brought to you and brought to the floor. I also want to
41 make it clear, and I'll bring it to our floor today, as
42 the Sons of the American Legion, we will make sure that
43 this never happens again.
44 All right?
45 (Applause.)
46 MR. SMITH: So, again, I wish to apologize on
47 behalf of the Sons of the American Legion. You ladies
48 have a wonderful day and a great life forever.
49 Thank you.
50 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Dave, I have
2 something for you. This is for you for apologizing.
3 MR. SMITH: Okay.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That is for his
5 apology.
6 (Applause.)
7 (Processional.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I have some late
9 information to share with you. I heard it from the
10 grapevine, and it is great news.
11 And one of our members has been honored and
12 presented a plaque, and this is for her support of the
13 Sons of the American Legion. And it was presented
14 by the National Commander of the Sons of the
15 American Legion.
16 And I would like to recognize Ruth Hackney.
17 (Applause.)
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Congratulations to
19 you. Thank you.
20 Any more business?
21 Someone wants to give me some good musical
22 notes.
23 Okay. Now I would like to call on our almost
24 Department President to make her -- this information.
25 I don't want to say, though, that word.
26 Okay. Linda Fercho.
27 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: You have
28 done a wonderful job. You haven't said that word the
29 whole convention.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I think I did
31 once.
32 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: What's the
33 word we don't want to say?
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It's to be in the
35 musical notes.
36 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: And it is.
37 We will be -- Madam President, is it okay for
38 me to say we will recess for 30 minutes? Is that
39 permissible?
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, yes.
41 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: It will be
42 while we regroup. My posse is getting ready, and I said
43 that very carefully too.
44 And if you are a chairman for the 2011-12
45 officers, Past Department President, on the other side
46 of the curtains please line up -- is that -- no. Let's
47 see. I have -- oh, District Presidents, First
48 Vice Presidents, Second Vice Presidents, chairmen,
49 officers, Past Department Presidents -- well, that's
50 probably the whole audience. I'm not going to have

1 anybody sitting here.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah.
3 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: And the
4 color bearers.
5 Thank you very much.
6 Recess for 30 minutes?
7 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Madam
8 President?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.
10 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Sandy Jacob,
11 Past Department President.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Sandy
13 Jacob, Past Department President.
14 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Well, you know,
15 it has been a little hectic this week, but I found some
16 more money.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, yeah. When it
18 comes to money, it is okay.
19 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: There was \$170
20 that was presented at our PPP dinner, and it was from
21 the Past Department Gofers. And it is \$170 that goes to
22 your special project.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wow.
24 (Applause.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do we have 50,000
26 now, Doris?
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
28 Close.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: When it comes to
30 money helping out our wounded warriors, every penny
31 counts.
32 But we have more than 30,000 now; so very good.
33 (Applause.)
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Past
35 Department -- well, on behalf of -- I want to thank the
36 Gofers you know, because everything -- the Past
37 Department Presidents, this is the donation, \$175.
38 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: \$175.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And you know where
40 it goes. Thank you so much. Thanks.
41 Doris is doing a great, great job of, you know,
42 keeping track of all the donations.
43 Thank you, Sandy. I thought, Sandy, you have
44 something to say about the USO. You have a few minutes
45 to say. Yeah. I give you that.
46
47 TRAVEL EXPENSE CHECKS
48 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:
49 Madam President -- Madam President, over here.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing

1 Linda Diebel.

2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:

3 Linda Diebel, Finance Chairman.

4 I just want to remind all the department
5 chairmen and officers who have gone counting their
6 travel expense checks that we have them over at the
7 table, and when we recess, they can come pick it up.
8 That way Doris doesn't have to take them home.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. You
10 heard that. I won't have to repeat it.

11 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:

12 Thank you.

13

14 INVITATION TO 2012 CONVENTION

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Recognizing
16 Terry -- our almost Vice President Terry Mikesell,
17 District 2.

18 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
19 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Madam Department President Pilar,
20 I just wanted to extend an invitation to everybody for
21 next June for the Redding convention. There will be no
22 parking charge. You ladies won't have to walk; so
23 please come to Redding next June because we all came
24 down here this June.

25 Thank you.

26 (Applause.)

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: This is June 2012.

28

29

USO UPDATE

30 13TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JACOB: Madam
31 President, very quickly, I would like to take this
32 opportunity to thank the Department of California and
33 every member who sent donations to the USO, especially
34 in the North Travis. We were able to feed and help
35 supply goodies to almost 5,000 military families that
36 were evacuated out of Japan after the horrendous
37 earthquake and tsunami. And if it hadn't been for the
38 kindness and the deep pockets of all these wonderful
39 Auxiliary members, that wouldn't have been possible.
40 Because after they got off that plane after 20-some
41 hours, we had a hot meal waiting for them and clean
42 diapers for the babies.

43 Ladies, thank you.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very
46 much for a great job. Thank you.

47

48

SILVER BRIGADE AWARDS

49 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President.

50 Thank you.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing
2 Membership Chairman Alzora Carter.
3 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: This is something
4 that I must do that was not done. I have four Silver
5 Brigade awards that I need to present.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You need to
7 present.
8 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: I need to. We
9 have -- this is presented to Tammy -- I hope I pronounce
10 the name correctly -- Sollazo --
11 (Applause.)
12 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: -- Unit 486,
13 District 19. She has recruited 25 members.
14 (Applause.)
15 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: That was
16 something.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Where is Tammy?
18 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: The next one is
19 Glenda Schultz, District 6, Unit 521, 50 members.
20 (Applause.)
21 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: That's for you.
22 You're welcome.
23 The next one would be Michelle McEwan,
24 South Bay, Unit 184, District 19, 28 members.
25 (Applause.)
26 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: And the big one,
27 the Silver Brigade Award, 300 members goes to
28 Melveta Mason, Unit 291, District 29.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: More music.
30 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you,
31 Madam President.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Congratulations,
33 ladies. Thank you.
34 And for those who received charters, if you
35 want some pictures taken, they may be taken during the
36 break if you have a chance. And so -- but if -- I have
37 to change first.
38 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK:
39 Madam President, Nancy Brown-Park, Past Department
40 President, Unit 472.
41 I just want to take a point of personal
42 privilege to say thank you to everybody who has made
43 a donation to my campaign. And I'm looking forward to
44 seeing you on the road in California. And I thank each
45 and every one of you for your support.
46 Thank you.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you all for
50 attending the 92nd convention. All of you did -- oh,

1 more, more, more. Okay.
2 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS:
3 Karen Karanickolas, District 29.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Karen.
5 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: I just
6 wanted to make a comment that Kendall Madsen, President
7 of 291, leads the California Americas Press Association
8 Award for best newspaper yesterday.
9 (Applause.)
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Congratulations,
11 Kendall. Thank you.
12 We still have one item here and -- so okay.
13 Music -- musical notes, music notes, or
14 whatever. Beautiful notes.
15
16 ANNOUNCEMENTS
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: One
18 of the ladies asked the men yesterday for a hat. If you
19 are in the convention delegation, would you please come
20 up and get it.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I could use that.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Ask
23 LuAnn.
24 Ladies, if you had a second half compensation
25 as a chairman and you did not return and send in an
26 expense report to me, you may not pick up your check
27 today. If you did, you may. But you may not receive it
28 unless you send in your expense report to the department
29 office.
30 Madam President, I'd also like to remind
31 everyone about the membership cards that will be mailed
32 out next week from the department office.
33
34 PERSONAL PRIVILEGE FROM DORIS KILKENNY
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
36 I would like to take this moment -- darn -- to
37 say thank you to Past Department President LuAnn. It
38 was a pleasure and an honor to serve with you and for
39 you.
40 Past Department President Norma, I'm going to
41 miss you a lot.
42 And Past Department President almost Pilar, you
43 are the most gracious and generous woman I have ever
44 met.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you so much.
46 (Applause.)
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank
48 you. I don't want to shed any more tears.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: All
50 of the PDPs in this department have been wonderful

1 friends to me and have supported me.
2 And I thank you all.
3 (Applause.)
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
5 I really wanted to do that today at this time.
6 (Applause.)
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
8 I thank all of you for your support.
9 And, please, ladies, I just want to say please
10 keep up the good work of the Auxiliary. Keep it in your
11 heart. And Big Mike was an example of what we need to
12 take care of today and for the future.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:
15 There's an awful lot of his group that need our help,
16 and I know you can reach out across the nation for them.
17 The Department of California can surpass every one of
18 the departments in this nation.
19 (Applause.)
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: So
21 for now good-bye, so long. It's been so good to know
22 you.
23 (Applause.)
24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We love you, Doris.
25 (Applause.)
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We will have
27 a recess of 30 minutes, and then please come back for
28 the installation.
29 What time is it now?
30 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:
31 Ten to 11:00.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have a lot
33 of time.
34 Thank you for making my term a very pleasant
35 and enjoyable one.
36 Thank you. Thank you.
37 (10:47 a.m.)
38
39 CONVENTION ADJOURNED
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

1) ss.
2 COUNTY OF KERN)
3
4

5 I, B. Suzanne Hull, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate
7 Number 13495, do hereby certify that the American Legion
8 Auxiliary Convention was taken Sunday, June 26, 2011, at
9 the time and place set forth on the first page hereof.

10 That upon the taking of the convention, the
11 words of the American Legion Auxiliary members were
12 written down by me in stenotypy and thereafter
13 transcribed by computer under my supervision; that the
14 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the
15 testimony given by the American Legion Auxiliary
16 members.

17 I further certify that I am neither counsel for
18 nor in any way related to any party to said action, nor
19 in any way interested in the result or outcome thereof.

20 Dated this 7th day of July, 2011, at
21 Bakersfield, California.

22
23
24 B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50