

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA  
94th ANNUAL CONVENTION  
SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2013  
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME II  
PAGES 224 - 412

Reported by: Karen A. Andasola, CSR No. 10919

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1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA  
3 94th ANNUAL CONVENTION  
4 SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2013; 8:36 A.M.  
5 PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

6  
7 CALL TO ORDER

8  
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Convention  
10 session is now reconvened. Marge Rye, Department  
11 Chaplain, will offer invocation.

12  
13 INVOCATION

14  
15 CHAPLAIN RYE: Good morning, gracious and loving  
16 Father. We thank you for this day. We thank you for all  
17 the wonderful women here who have come to help and  
18 participate and to learn and guide them in the operations  
19 of our organization of the American Legion Auxiliary. We  
20 ask your guidance and your protection through all of this,  
21 through all of our meetings and through our conclusion of  
22 our convention.

23 Thank you for President Terry. She has done a  
24 wonderful job this year, Lord, and we really appreciate  
25 her. Thank you for your guidance to everyone and help us

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1 to come away with great big smiles on our faces and  
2 additional love in our hearts. And please protect all of  
3 those who are here today. And bless our troops and their  
4 families. Lord we praise you and ask you these things in  
5 your holy name. Amen.

6 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Please remain  
8 standing while our Marshal and our Sergeant-at-Arms, along  
9 with our Distinguished Guest Chairman, please escort our  
10 special guest in this morning.

11 (Processional.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You know, they  
13 may have gotten to go to Burger King along with the rest  
14 of you, but I missed it this morning.

15 (Singing.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,  
17 ladies. I can do that.

18 Don't get too comfortable, Peggy. You're first  
19 up. Department Secretary Peggy Vogeles will call the roll  
20 of officers, chairman, and district presidents. I just  
21 waited until she got her chair scooted in.

22

23 ROLL CALL

24

25 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGEL: Good morning. Roar.

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1 Let's start the roll call. President Terry Mikesell.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Present.

3 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Vice President Anita  
4 Biggs.

5 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.

6 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning, Anita.

7 Secretary/Treasurer Peggy Vogele. Roar again.

8 NEC Woman Linda Fercho.

9 NEC CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Present. Good morning.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER: Chaplain Marge Rye.

11 CHAPLAIN RYE: Alleluia.

12 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning.

13 Historian Carol Fuqua.

14 HISTORIAN FUQUA: (Inaudible.)

15 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Parliamentarian Ruby  
16 Kapsalis.

17 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Here.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Musician Kat Conrad.

19 MUSICIAN CONRAD: Still rolling around.

20 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Sergeant-at-Arms

21 Gloria Williams.

22 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS WILLIAMS: Present.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Marshal Cherie

24 Galvan.

25 MARSHAL GALVAN: Present.

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1 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Finance Committee  
2 Chairman, Norma Billings.

3 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Cha-ching.

4 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Senior Member of  
5 Finance, Kathie Martinez.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's MOA.

7 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: MIA? It's MIA and  
8 DOA. MIA. Okay.

9 Junior Member of Finance, Geri Fitzpatrick.

10 JUNIOR MEMBER OF FINANCE FITZPATRICK: Cha-ching.

11 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Advisory Committee  
12 Chairman Sue Hooker.

13 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Present.

14 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Advisor Committee  
15 Member Odette Cuccaro.

16 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER CUCCARO: Present.

17 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Advisory Committee  
18 Member Pilar Reyes.

19 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER REYES: Present.

20 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Let's go on to the  
21 chairmen. Americanism, Loretta Marsh.

22 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MARSH: Present.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: AEF Fund, Diana  
24 Moreno.

25 AEF CHAIRMAN MORENO: Fairy Godmother is here.

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1           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Children & Youth,  
2   Susie Tozier.

3           CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER:  When you wish  
4   upon a star.

5           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Community Service,  
6   Karen Karanickolas.

7           COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN KARANICKOLAS:  Good  
8   morning.

9           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Good morning.  
10  Constitution & Bylaws, Anita Biggs.

11          DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS:  Oh, I'm still  
12  here.

13          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Okay.  Good.  
14  Convention Commission Chairman Linda Caples.

15          CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES:  Good  
16  morning.

17          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Good morning.  
18  Convention Chairman Estella Avina.

19          CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA:  Everyone's in their  
20  rows.

21          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Credentials, Donna  
22  Scott.

23          CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN SCOTT:  Present.

24          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:  Distinguished Guests  
25  Chairman Linda Workman.

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1 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Yo.  
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Yo back. Yo baby.  
3 Editor Estella Avina.  
4 EDITOR CHAIRMAN AVINA: Here.  
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Education, Wendy  
6 O'Brien.  
7 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Here.  
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Elections, Kathy  
9 Harris.  
10 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS: Present.  
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Girls State, Rhodona  
12 Enright.  
13 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN ENRIGHT: Are you from Girls  
14 State?  
15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah, yeah.  
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Girls State Director  
17 Sherry Schneider is excused.  
18 Junior Activities, Linda Hayes.  
19 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN HAYES: Good morning.  
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning. Junior  
21 Conference Director Stacey Platt.  
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Excused. She's  
23 ill.  
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Leadership, Diane  
25 DeLashmit.



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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: She's ill.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Legislative, Linda  
3 Fercho.

4 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Slay them giants.

5 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: You go right ahead.  
6 You go right ahead.

7 Membership, Danielle White.

8 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHITE: We're getting closer  
9 and closer to the goal.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: National Security,  
11 Tami Bell.

12 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Our troops are  
13 hot, hot, hot.

14 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Past Presidents  
15 Parlay, Norma DuVall.

16 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Good  
17 morning, Madam President.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Poppies, Michelle  
19 Soares.

20 POPPIES CHAIRMAN SOARES: Remembering your  
21 veterans.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Public Relations,  
23 Joan Cannon.

24 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN CANNON: Here.

25 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Resolutions,

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1 Margaret Quinones.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: She's ill.

3 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: What did you guys do  
4 at your dinner last night?

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: What happens at  
6 the dinner, stays at the dinner.

7 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Rules, Barbara  
8 Davis. Rules, Barbara Davis.

9 RULES CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Good morning.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning,  
11 Barbara.

12 VA&R, Harriet Clendenin.

13 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Good morning.

14 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning. Ways  
15 & Means, Jean Cooley-Desmeules.

16 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Money,  
17 money, money, money, money, money.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District presidents.  
19 Kat Concord.

20 DISTRICT 1 PRESIDENT CONRAD: Present.

21 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Nancy Johnson,  
22 District 2.

23 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT JOHNSON: (Inaudible.)

24 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 3, Lola  
25 Ramey.

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1 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: Good morning.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning.

3 District 4, Lori Dowden.

4 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: Here.

5 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 5, Jean  
6 Mueller.

7 DISTRICT 5: This district has a sweet thing for  
8 our veterans.

9 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 6, Alice  
10 Pambid.

11 DISTRICT 6: (Singing.)

12 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you, ladies.  
13 District 7, Beverly Chapman.

14 DISTRICT 7: Good morning.

15 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning.

16 District 8, Tammy Manini is excused.

17 District 9, Dolly Rios. District 9, Dolly Rios.

18 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.

19 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 10, Susan  
20 Peters.

21 DISTRICT 10: Good morning.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 11, Beverly  
23 Villines.

24 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: (Inaudible.)

25 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 12, Lisa

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1 Stuart.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: She had to go to  
3 the Color Guard competition.

4 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: That's right.  
5 District 13, Donita Faltesek.

6 DISTRICT 13: (Inaudible.)

7 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 14, Sandy  
8 Urban.

9 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT URBAN: Here.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 15, Genieca  
11 Risner.

12 DISTRICT 15: (Singing.)

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 16, Marion  
14 Rocha-Carlos.

15 DISTRICT 16: Good morning, Madam President.  
16 (Inaudible.)

17 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I don't think Linda  
18 Fercho got the memo.

19 District 18, Dona Enright.

20 DISTRICT 18: We're the enchanted trolls doing  
21 what we can in the land of good and we are giving a  
22 helping hand. Supporting those who serve us on land and  
23 air and sea. We give them all that they deserve because  
24 they keep us free. Our mission and our purpose is no  
25 fantasy. Even though our name implies, enchanted we must

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1 be. We all stand together united as a team to work our  
2 mystical magic and accomplish all our dreams.

3 (Applause.)

4 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 19, Tammy  
5 Sollazzo.

6 DISTRICT 19: (Inaudible.) Good morning.

7 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning.  
8 District 20, Ann Philcox.

9 DISTRICT 20: (Inaudible.) Good morning, Madam  
10 President.

11 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 21, Jeri  
12 Johnson.

13 DISTRICT 21: Hi-ho, hi-ho. It's off to work we  
14 go. (Inaudible.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Good morning,  
16 ladies.

17 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 22, Barbara  
18 Love.

19 DISTRICT 22: Good morning, Fairy Godmother.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Amen.

21 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 23, Liz  
22 Jones.

23 DISTRICT 23: Good morning, Madam President.  
24 We're here for our magical orders.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,

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1 ladies.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 24, Rebecca  
3 Stewart-Wilson.

4 DISTRICT 24: We are magic.

5 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 25, Kathryn  
6 Doran.

7 DISTRICT 25: (Singing.) Good morning, Madam  
8 President Terry.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Good morning.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 26, Louann  
11 Johnston.

12 DISTRICT 26: The kingdom of crazy is bound to go  
13 home.

14 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 27, Vella  
15 Meyers.

16 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MEYERS: Good morning.

17 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Good morning.

18 District 28, Liz Doidge.

19 DISTRICT 28: (Inaudible.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Good morning,  
21 ladies.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 29, Cheryl  
23 Neiffer.

24 DISTRICT 29: Good morning. It's a whole new  
25 world.

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1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER: Amen to that.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 30, Belen  
3 Telford.

4 DISTRICT 30: Good morning. The desert rats are  
5 here.

6 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Now let's go on to  
7 the hospital reps. Mary Lou Warner is excused. Wendy  
8 O'Brien.

9 HOSPITAL REP O'BRIEN: Here.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Lori Sullivan is  
11 excused. Mary Sinopoli is excused. Pat Klang.

12 HOSPITAL REP KLANG: Present.

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Ruth Briggs is  
14 excused. Cindy Simmons.

15 HOSPITAL REP SIMMONS: I'm still here.

16 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Mavis Kanka.

17 HOSPITAL REP KANKA: Here.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Pat Alvarez.

19 HOSPITAL REP ALVAREZ: Good morning, Missy. I  
20 understand you owe me an apology.

21 SECRETARY/TREASURER: Well, for whatever it is, I  
22 apologize. And here's another one. I'll apologize for  
23 the future for whenever it happens again.

24 Earlene Paige. Earlene Paige.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's here.

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: She just doesn't  
2 know it.

3 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Well, where is she?

4 HOSPITAL REP PAIGE: Here I am.

5 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: All right. Thank  
6 you. Angie Acosta.

7 HOSPITAL REP ACOSTA: Present.

8 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Oh, you know what.  
9 I forgot the name I love saying, Hermine Fosmark. She's  
10 excused.

11 Lois Cornish.

12 HOSPITAL REP CORNISH: Here.

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Madeline Lee.

14 HOSPITAL REP LEE: Here.

15 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: And last, but not  
16 least, Peggy Grabski.

17 HOSPITAL REP GRABSKI: Here.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Madam President,  
19 that is your roll call.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Peggy.

21 Okay. Ladies, we are going to start with  
22 chairmen reports. Michelle, did you talk to your young  
23 lady? What time do you want? Thank you.

24 We're going to start with Children & Youth,  
25 National Security, and then Poppies. So those three



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1 chairmen, please come up to the stage. They'll be taken  
2 in that order. If you assemble over against that wall.  
3 Children & Youth, National Security, and Poppy. And the  
4 lovely Susie has arrived.

5 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I'm here.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You know, ladies,  
7 we're having a short pause here. We're going to sing  
8 happy birthday to Tracy Varnell, District 16. And guess  
9 what? She's 46 today. Someone who can sing better than  
10 me can start. Come on, Tracy, stand up.

11 (Singing.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You know, I wish  
13 I looked that good at 46, but I didn't look that good at  
14 16.

15 Tomorrow is Emily Magwilli's birthday from  
16 District 10. And she's going to be 86 tomorrow, so we  
17 better sing happy birthday to her today.

18 Emily, please stand.

19 (Singing.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Susie, hit it.

21

22 CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT

23

24 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Just don't ask  
25 me to sing. The convention committee on Children & Youth

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1 met in the Oleander Ballroom C at the El Doral Resort,  
2 Palm Springs, California. The statistical report of this  
3 chairman appears on page 14 of the Book of Reports.

4 Donna Mattox, District 25 was appointed  
5 secretary. Debbie Washburn, District 14 offered prayer,  
6 and Debbie Falkenberg, District 28 was appointed  
7 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 26 district delegates  
8 answered roll call and we had four guests.

9 The Committee agreed upon the following. The  
10 code was read and there were no changes. It was reported  
11 that only 194 units and 25 districts provided year-end  
12 reports. Hopefully that will be 100 percent next year.

13 In the National Plan of Work, it says that you  
14 could add pictures to the year-end reports. This is  
15 something we didn't do in the past because we were told  
16 not to.

17 There were three temporary financial aid requests  
18 received by this chairman. Units need to be sure to keep  
19 donating to the Children & Youth Fund. In the near future  
20 we will need more -- we will see more need of help.

21 The Army Operation Military Kids may have closed  
22 in California. Units and Legion families need to keep up  
23 the good work. Tami Bell of District 29 reported on the  
24 Operation Military Kids ball they hosted. Their Legion  
25 Family included five districts and other community groups.

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1 What a good use of resources. This made the event more  
2 memorable to everyone.

3 Second and third place and 100 percent reportings  
4 were presented in committee. No new business or old  
5 business. Meeting closed at 11:30 a.m.

6 May I continue?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

8 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I've already  
9 reported that the statistical report appears on page 14.

10 This year the Auxiliary members made a lot of  
11 wishes come true. Members of California started running.  
12 They started with Operation Military Kids camps and beach  
13 parties. Hero packs and backpacks were given to children  
14 at these events. Parties during the holidays brought  
15 smiles to military family. The Easter Bunny left eggs for  
16 the children. Welcome home parties were held as parents  
17 returned from deployment. These events brought smiles to  
18 several children's faces. Everybody kept saying there  
19 were a lot of smiles. A lot of these events were done by  
20 the Legion Family and other community operations.

21 This year we said goodbye to Operation Military  
22 Kids program funded by the Army. This program was  
23 cancelled because of government budget issues. Even  
24 though the funding was cut for California, units and their  
25 Legion Family still hit the pavement hard and fast to make

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1 a difference in the lives of our veteran and military  
2 families. I know that this program is still alive and  
3 well in California.

4 This year we had three families of children who  
5 needed money through the help of TFA. This does not  
6 include those families that were helped by units and  
7 posts. In the future with the release of military  
8 personnel, we will see more -- we will see more who will  
9 need our help. I hope this year and in the future years  
10 you continue to support the Children & Youth TFA. It will  
11 make a difference.

12 Face painting and food baskets were sent home  
13 with children. These events put a smile on the children's  
14 faces. I did this at 4:30 in the morning because it was  
15 too hot when the air-conditioner went off. I think I  
16 needed to sleep a little bit.

17 Community children have also benefited from our  
18 generosity. Toys and candy were collected all year long.  
19 These were given to the children at their local  
20 communities. Face painting, games, and food made these  
21 events memorable to them. Do not forget the hugs. Units  
22 participated in Send a Kid to Camp, drug and alcohol  
23 programs, and supplies for school.

24 This year the special project for this program  
25 was Feed the Pig for the American Legion Child Welfare

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1 Foundation. Off went the piggy banks for adventures  
2 throughout the state. We collected a total of \$1,974.99  
3 with the help of the piggy banks. This combined with  
4 other donations, \$5,451, to Child Welfare Foundation for a  
5 hotel of \$7,425.99. Well done units and districts.

6 If you wish upon a start, you do make a child  
7 smile and happy. Please keep up the good work and you are  
8 wonderful.

9 May I give the first place awards, please?

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

11 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Our first  
12 award is for April is Children & Youth Month. The winner  
13 is Jackie Robinson Unit 252, District 23.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: There's an  
16 envelope in there for your unit, and that's for you.

17 (Applause.)

18 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Best Support  
19 of Military Children, San Diego Unit 6, District 22.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay. Best  
22 Unit Support, this was also sent out to National, goes to  
23 Los Alamitos Unit 716, District 29.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yes, you saw

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1 me carrying around cases of Mason jars, but they're  
2 getting apple jelly that I made from my garden. It's in  
3 the freezer.

4 Best District Report went to District 22, Ann  
5 Marie Brown.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: And Feed the  
8 Pig. Her friends are going to love that she's not going  
9 to have that pig around anymore. District 27, LuAnn  
10 Capazzi. She collected \$451.24.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN TOZIER: She's the one  
13 that came up with the idea and she really beat the bushes  
14 out there in the high desert. That's for you.

15 (Applause.)

16 Thank you, Madam President, for the fun -- I  
17 didn't do anything. I liked to hear all notes and  
18 e-mails. And I apologize if I spammed you. If you got  
19 spammed, I'm sorry. I have a new e-mail address. But it  
20 was great hearing from you and having pictures. I  
21 forwarded them on to National, so thank you very much.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Susie.  
23 We'll now hear from National Security, Tami Bell.

24

25

NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT

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1

2           NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Good morning,  
3 Madam President.

4           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Good morning,  
5 Tami.

6           NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: We did not have  
7 a typewriter, so the committee meeting report is very  
8 neatly handwritten.

9           The Convention Committee on National Security met  
10 Thursday, June 27th, 2013 in the Canyon Room D in Palm  
11 Springs, California. The statistical report of this  
12 chairman appears on page 19 of the Book of Reports.

13           Lillian Perez of District 29 was appointed  
14 secretary. Cindy Mayfield offered prayer, and Connie Raya  
15 of District 29 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of  
16 22 district delegates answered roll call. There were six  
17 visitors present.

18           We're very easy in our committee that there were  
19 no code changes, there were no resolutions, and there were  
20 no recommendations.

21           Unfortunately we did not receive 100 percent  
22 reporting. Our second and third place and all of our  
23 certificates were given out in committee and the awards  
24 were posted in the office yesterday.

25           If I may, Madam President, go on with my

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1 narrative.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

3 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. The  
4 Department of California National Security Chairman has  
5 been working the Action Steps and Objectives from our  
6 National Plan of Work. This chairman wrote monthly or  
7 bimonthly bulletins with in-depth instructions and program  
8 ideas on how to implement the various objectives and  
9 activities to help each district and unit create a  
10 well-rounded National Security program.

11 One district chairman planned a yearlong program  
12 assigning each unit a different program, and by using the  
13 bulletin how-tos successfully managed to complete at least  
14 five National Security action steps.

15 We also devised an activity that worked under the  
16 POD program, giving some of our smaller units a way to  
17 complete some activities in their National Security  
18 program and also Children & Youth, Membership, Publicity,  
19 and VA&R.

20 We worked with our Legion Family to deliver a  
21 continuing response to the needs of our service members  
22 and their families. Many units adopted troop units,  
23 active duty families and responded to TAL Family support  
24 requests. Those units and districts serving active duty  
25 military bases cooked hundreds of holiday meals, acted as



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1 elves assisting Santa in passing out presents, stuffed  
2 Easter baskets, and donated food, drinks, and games to  
3 many FRG morale parties.

4 One unit has two ladies who donate their time  
5 every Friday babysitting a three-year-old and a  
6 two-year-old of a full-time National Guard whose wife has  
7 stage 2 cancer so they may go to chemo treatments.

8 We have many units that sponsor baby showers for  
9 our expecting solders or wives of soldiers. One unit  
10 associated with Port Hueneme Base donated \$2,617.25 to the  
11 new Baby Sea Bag Program. We have a unit who hosted one  
12 very difficult event, a baby shower for an expectant wife  
13 whose soldier was killed in Afghanistan.

14 We have babysat, helped -- that makes me cry. We  
15 have babysat, helped repaired vehicles, sent kids to camp  
16 and hosted military balls for those children whose soldier  
17 parents have repeatedly been deployed.

18 We have volunteered over 4,138 hours knitting,  
19 crocheting and sewing scarves, caps, and cooling neck  
20 wraps for our soldiers under Operation Comfort Warriors.  
21 The busy sewing bees of one unit made 987 cooling scarves  
22 that were sent to Afghanistan.

23 We have supported the National Security programs  
24 of the American Legion. Our members have participated in  
25 Citizen Corps, completing community emergency response

## FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

1 training. We have a unit that sent six ladies to become  
2 CERT trained, and then they went back to their unit and  
3 hosted a community-based teaching course on emergency  
4 preparedness.

5 One unit presented our Department President a  
6 how-to cooler filled with need-specific first aid items.  
7 One particular area of interest many units learned was how  
8 to take care of their pets in an emergency.

9 We have hosted many activities to support our  
10 Blue Star Mothers and pay homage to our Gold Star Mothers.  
11 A unit worked for four months with their Sons squadron to  
12 plan an afternoon with live entertainment, all proceeds of  
13 which went to their Blue Star Mothers group for sending  
14 troop packages overseas. We gave 64 certificates of  
15 appreciation to our Blue and Gold Star Mothers.

16 We have had 140 volunteers devoting 803 hours  
17 following the POW/MIA initiatives on the Internet,  
18 Facebook, and Twitter. We have supported ROTC and Junior  
19 ROTC, Young Marines and Junior Naval Cadets. We have  
20 hosted pizza party fundraisers for the Young Marines to  
21 travel to their competitions, and given 17 awards to local  
22 ROTC units for their exemplary conduct on behalf of  
23 grateful units of which they assisted in Auxiliary  
24 activities of patriotism and service.

25 We have participated in Department of Defense

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1 programs that support our military and their families  
2 throughout an entire deployment. Many units participated  
3 in Yellow Ribbon programs, explaining the service and  
4 programs of the American Legion Auxiliary to deploying  
5 troops and their families and passing out membership  
6 applications and signing up new members also. One unit  
7 lined all the trees of their main street with yellow  
8 ribbons with the help of their juniors.

9           The Department of California participated in many  
10 welcome home events, providing refreshments, games to keep  
11 the kids occupied and raised welcome home banners made by  
12 our juniors. And, of course, joining in to give our own  
13 hugs and kisses as the soldiers deployed.

14           Our department has also the honor to solemnly  
15 bring home three heroes killed in Afghanistan, lining the  
16 airfield at attention with our Legion Family and Patriot  
17 Guard. And that's really hard to do. We have assisted  
18 with funerals and donated foods for services.

19           We have worked closely with our Department of  
20 California Family Readiness Groups and Operation Ready  
21 Family. We have been personally -- we have been  
22 personally selected by Lieutenant Colonel Lalley of the  
23 California National Guard to be the California National  
24 Guard and AUSA's go-to provider. We have a few Auxiliary  
25 members that have been presented by the Army National

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1 Guard with certificates of commendation for their service  
2 to our troops and their families.

3 We were asked by the National Guard to provide  
4 the first ever children's military ball for the southern  
5 command of California, of which we gave a resounding, yes,  
6 we can do this. This event was a first in many areas of  
7 our organization. We worked together with the 19th, 23rd,  
8 24th, and 29th districts of the Legion Family, together  
9 with the Mexican American Veterans Association and Orange  
10 County VFW to put on this event. Active duty National  
11 Guard from San Diego to Bakersfield made the trek to bring  
12 their families to this fun party.

13 There were some families whose soldiers had been  
14 deployed three and four times. One Sergeant Major had  
15 been deployed five times. One soldier had tears in his  
16 eyes thanking us for providing his family with such a fun  
17 evening.

18 We have sent thousands of care packages overseas,  
19 which included handwritten cards from local schools and  
20 scout troops thanking the troops for their service. This  
21 chairman has been honored to work closely with our units  
22 and district to provide our troops and their families  
23 ongoing compassion and care.

24 Thank you, Madam President.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Tami,

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 for the report.

2 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Excuse me.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Continue.

4 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you,  
5 Madam President.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Who's going to  
7 pay me now?

8 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Our first place  
9 Unit Supplemental goes to Unit 274 of District 18.

10 (Applause.)

11 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Our first place  
12 District Supplemental going to Connie Raya of District 28.

13 (Applause.)

14 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you,  
15 Madam President, for the challenge of this very large  
16 program. And our Department of California has provided  
17 approximately \$1500 for computers for EMV troops for our  
18 National President's program. Thank you.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Tami.  
20 Next we'll hear from Michelle Soares, our Poppy  
21 Chairman.

22

23 POPPY REPORT

24

25 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Good morning. The

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1 Convention Committee on Poppies met on June 27th, 2013 in  
2 the Canyon Suite B of the Doral Resort, Palm Springs,  
3 California. Susan Baker was appointed secretary, Eleanor  
4 Bray offered prayer, and Lois Cornish was appointed  
5 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 25 delegates answered roll  
6 call and there were nine visitors present.

7 The department code on Poppies was read, and  
8 after some lively and informative Q and A, the committee  
9 agreed on the following report. By the way, all second  
10 and third place winners, 100 percent reporting  
11 certificates, and all of that was also given out in  
12 committee.

13 Code 5 now reads: "Poppy funds shall conform  
14 with American Legion and Auxiliary codes to include the  
15 rehabilitation of all veterans and their families, and to  
16 include hospitalized service personnel returning home and  
17 waiting to be discharged." This was in 1998.

18 Code 5 if adopted will now read: "Poppy funds  
19 shall conform with American Legion and Auxiliary codes to  
20 include the rehabilitation of all veterans and their  
21 families, and to include hospitalized service personnel  
22 returning home and waiting to be discharged and shall also  
23 include active military personnel and their families where  
24 financial and medical need is evident."

25 By direction of the committee I move for this

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1 code change.

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
4 and seconded to change Code 5. Code 5 currently reads:  
5 "Poppy funds shall conform with American Legion and  
6 Auxiliary codes to include the rehabilitation of all  
7 veterans and their families, and to include hospitalized  
8 service personnel returning home and waiting to be  
9 discharged."

10 The recommended change is Code 5: "Poppy funds  
11 shall conform with American Legion and Auxiliary codes to  
12 include the rehabilitation of all veterans and their  
13 families, and to include hospitalized service personnel  
14 returning home and waiting to be discharged and shall also  
15 include active military personnel and their families where  
16 financial and medical need is evident."

17 Is there any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, all  
20 those in favor say aye.

21 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: So any opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

25 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Thank you, ladies. Under

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1 the contests, Code 6(B) now reads: "Poppy monetary prices  
2 shall be awarded per the budget as follows: The poppy  
3 poster contest shall be awarded as follows: All  
4 categories will receive \$20 for first place awards.  
5 Second and third place winners shall receive certificates.  
6 Categories are determined by National. Class I, Grades 2  
7 and 3. Class II, Grades 4 and 5. Class III, Grades 6 and  
8 7. Class IV, Grades 8 and 9. Class V, Grades 10 and 11.  
9 Class VI, Grade 12. Class VII, Students with Special  
10 Needs." This was in 2010.

11 This is more of a housekeeping change, ladies, so  
12 it's very, very slight. You might not even notice the  
13 change. If adopted Code 6(B) will now read: "Poppy  
14 monetary prices shall be awarded per the budget as  
15 follows: The poppy poster contest shall be awarded as  
16 follows: All categories will receive \$20 for first place  
17 awards. The second and third place winners shall receive  
18 certificates. Categories are determined by National."  
19 And then it proceeds on with the classes. I don't think I  
20 need to read all of that.

21 By direction of the committee, I move for this  
22 code change.

23 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
25 and seconded to change the Poppy Code 6(B). Here we go.



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1 "Poppy monetary prizes shall be awarded per the budget as  
2 follows: The poppy poster contest shall be awarded as  
3 follows: All categories will receive \$20 for first place  
4 awards. The second and third place winners shall receive  
5 certificates. Categories are determined by National."

6 It then goes to the classes and the grades. Is  
7 there any discussion?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
10 favor, say aye.

11 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

15 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Under poppy production,  
16 Code 8 now reads: "A year-round poppy production is  
17 authorized at the California Veterans Home at Yountville,  
18 Chula Vista and WAVE Clinic San Diego, as they are  
19 available, to give veterans the opportunity to participate  
20 in the therapeutic and incentive work programs without the  
21 pressures of a short-term production."

22 If adopted, Code 8 will now read: "A year-round  
23 poppy production is authorized at the California Veterans  
24 Home at Yountville, Chula Vista and WAVE Clinic San Diego  
25 and Long Beach VAMC to give veterans the opportunity to

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1 participate in the therapeutic and incentive work programs  
2 without the pressures of a short-term production."

3 By direction of the committee, I move for this  
4 code change.

5 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
7 and seconded to change Code 8, which currently reads: "A  
8 year-round poppy production is authorized at the  
9 California Veterans Home at Yountville, Chula Vista and  
10 WAVE Clinic San Diego and Long Beach VAMC to give veterans  
11 the opportunity to participate in the therapeutic and  
12 incentive work programs without the pressures of a  
13 short-term production."

14 Is there any discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, all  
17 those in favor say aye.

18 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

22 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Thank you, ladies.

23 (Applause.)

24 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: This concludes my  
25 committee report. May I continue with my supplemental and

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1 first place winners?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

3 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Madam Department  
4 President, I am going to make this short, sweet, and  
5 virtually painless as I know you have a lot to get to  
6 today.

7 First of all, I don't know if I want to thank you  
8 or shoot you for this appointment. In all seriousness  
9 though, being the first chairman to come in after a huge  
10 change like Poppy Week to Poppy Month definitely had its  
11 challenges. However, I felt that the Poppy Genies and  
12 Pixies could handle it. And handle it they did.

13 Units first decided to use up some of their  
14 leftover poppies from last year by using them in table  
15 decorations, corsages, Christmas wreaths, Veterans Day,  
16 Pearl Harbor Day, along with many other patriotic holiday  
17 observances. Members would give poppies to everyone in  
18 attendance, and if they didn't know about the poppy, our  
19 members were right there to educate them. Many wreaths  
20 made to lie on veteran grave sites during the year.

21 Speaking of educating, one district genie made a  
22 packet for each of the pixies in her district, giving them  
23 the poppy order form, poppy financial report form, unit  
24 end-of-year forms, poppy seal order form, poppy  
25 identification card holders, and the rules for all of the

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1 various contests within the program. She also included  
2 the poppy story, the poem, "In Flanders Fields" and a copy  
3 of the department code. Now that is what I call a  
4 District Chairman/Genie going the extra mile.

5 Many units across the state sent letters to their  
6 members as well as post members along with a poppy and a  
7 copy of the Poppy Story asking for donations. This always  
8 seems to work well in raising money, but it doesn't always  
9 raise awareness because our members for the most part know  
10 the story.

11 So it was off to the storefronts our members went  
12 offering poppies to everyone that passed by. One unit  
13 with around 87 members ordered 11,000 poppies and raised  
14 over \$10,000 for their unit. How did they do it you ask?

15 (Applause.)

16 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Well, they recruit  
17 workers from outside the Auxiliary, asking area youth  
18 groups to help with distribution. This happened to be  
19 Terry's unit. Yes, Terry, you can take a bow on that one.

20 (Applause.)

21 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Youth groups are always  
22 looking for volunteer activities and it's usually part of  
23 how they advance in their particular programs. So this is  
24 a good way to get help if you need it. This unit was able  
25 to recruit approximately 37 volunteers to help work their

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1 magic. What a great idea.

2 Now for the nuts and bolts of the program. The  
3 units of California ordered 328,664 poppies and another  
4 2,700 were ordered and paid for from other units in the  
5 Departments of Iowa, Vermont, and Oklahoma. We were happy  
6 to help these other departments as there has been a  
7 shortage of poppies this year.

8 Admittedly, there were some problems this year  
9 with poppy quality for a few units, but just to let the  
10 delegation know, this problem has been identified and a  
11 fix has been put into place so as to avoid any future  
12 problems.

13 A large number of our units chose to pay for  
14 their poppies in advance, although they have the option to  
15 pay after the poppies are distributed. As of June 11th,  
16 2013 \$58,495 has been collected, of which 10 cents of  
17 every 18 cents goes directly to the veterans producing the  
18 poppies. I just talked to my dad on the phone and I have  
19 envelopes in my mailbox, so that number will probably go  
20 up.

21 Also as of June 11th we also have \$8,307.96 in  
22 the poppy distribution fund. However, I am still waiting  
23 patiently for those who have not yet turned in their  
24 financial report and I am hoping to see this number  
25 increase greatly as these funds are used to directly help

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1 veterans and their families.

2 Please don't hold your check back. If you  
3 haven't sent it, please do so ASAP. Like I said, I  
4 already have more envelopes waiting for me when I get  
5 home, so I expect that number to change also.

6 This concludes my floor remarks. May I continue  
7 with my awards and the introduction of a very special  
8 guest?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may. Are you  
10 ready for the Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal or which way do  
11 you want to go?

12 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: I'll do my awards first,  
13 if that's okay.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay.

15 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: At DEC we had a poppy --  
16 our poppy usage contest. The first place went to Deborah  
17 Driscoll of Unit 29, District 716.

18 (Applause.)

19 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: For our poppy poster  
20 contest in Class III went to Daniela Hernandez. And she  
21 is from Unit 98, District 4.

22 (Applause.)

23 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: The first place poppy  
24 poster winners get \$20 too, so there's a check in there.  
25 Don't lose it.

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1           First place poppy poster in Class VI went to  
2 Vanessa Garcia Ogden of Unit 598, District 28.

3           (Applause.)

4           POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Our first place Unit  
5 Supplemental goes to Judith Urich, Unit 43, District 24.

6           (Applause.)

7           POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Our first place District  
8 Supplemental. This was the first chairmanship at the  
9 district level that this chairman helped, so I just wanted  
10 to recognize that. She wrote a fantastic supplemental,  
11 and that was Tracy Varnell from District 16.

12          (Applause.)

13          POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Happy birthday.

14          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Will the  
15 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal escort our very special  
16 guest, Rachel O'Brien.

17          (Processional.)

18          POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Rachel is seven years old  
19 and loves working the poppy program. Rachel helped us  
20 distribute poppies to over 5,000 motorcycle riders at West  
21 Coast Thunder which is held on Memorial Day and she plans  
22 to go again. She also gave poppies to her neighbors,  
23 friends, and at her home Post, which is Carl R. Meairs  
24 Unit 289, District 21.

25          (Applause.)

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1           POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: For all of these reasons  
2 and more, she has been chosen 2012-2013 Little Miss Poppy.

3           (Applause.)

4           POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: And Rachel would like to  
5 say a few words.

6           LITTLE MISS POPPY O'BRIEN: Hello. My name is  
7 Rachel O'Brien. I am seven years old and a three-year  
8 Junior Auxiliary member in Riverside, California. I am  
9 going to be the second grade next year. I am excited  
10 about being Junior Miss Poppy. As Junior Miss Poppy of  
11 our unit, I've raised almost half of all the donations  
12 collected by our unit.

13           (Applause.)

14           LITTLE MISS POPPY O'BRIEN: I went to West Coast  
15 Thunder on Memorial Day at the Harley dealer. There were  
16 over 7,000 bikers there. I also collected donations for  
17 Poppies in my neighborhood and other fun events in our  
18 area. Besides my Memorial poppy activities, I like to  
19 help wherever I can. I do this because I care for our  
20 veterans.

21           I really like helping to serve that dinner on  
22 steak night when they are there. For Valentine's Day I  
23 made 65 Valentines and gave them to our vets.

24           (Applause.)

25           LITTLE MISS POPPY O'BRIEN: I like doing stuff



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1 because I care about our veterans. Thank you to everyone  
2 who voted for me. I will be a great Junior Miss Poppy.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Rachel, we have  
5 our National Poppy Chairman here in the room, Ms. Melanie  
6 Taylor, and she would like to have her picture taken with  
7 you. And she is our National Chairman. And I think  
8 Rachel has got some very proud family in the back of the  
9 room. Thank you for bringing Rachel.

10 (Applause.)

11 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: While the pictures are  
12 being taken, I will say that concludes my report. Thank  
13 you.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you  
16 Michelle, great job. Okay. While they're having a  
17 picture moment, next chairman up will be VA&R, please.

18 Okay. We have a member in the room who is  
19 extremely allergic to oranges, even the aroma. Please do  
20 not eat oranges in this room. She can have a very strong  
21 reaction. So any of you ladies who have oranges, please  
22 don't eat them in this room or orange juice or whatever.  
23 Where is she sitting? Do you know?

24 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: What are you  
25 talking about?

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Oranges. She's  
2 very allergic to oranges.

3 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Who?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: A lady over here  
5 on the left. So please don't eat oranges in the room.  
6 Ms. Harriet.

7

8 VA&R REPORT

9

10 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Madam President, that's  
11 going to be very hard to go after that little speech.

12 The Convention Committee on VA&R met on June  
13 27th, 2013 in the Oleander Ballroom C at the Doral Hotel,  
14 Palm Springs. The statistical report of this chairman  
15 appears on page 21 of the Book of Reports.

16 Ellen McClure, District 14, was appointed  
17 secretary. Madeline Lee, District 16, offered prayer, and  
18 Connie Raya, District 28, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.  
19 A total of 22 district delegates answered roll call and  
20 there were ten visitors.

21 The committee agreed upon the following report.  
22 The code was read and there were no code changes.  
23 Certificates for second and third place winners were  
24 presented. Unit donating 73 cents per capita for Gift  
25 Shop Patient Remembrance and 97 cents per capita or more

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1 to the district -- I'm sorry -- Department VA&R funds were  
2 in the packets, as well as district 100 percent reporting  
3 certificates. These went to 3, 4, 9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20,  
4 23, 24, 25, 27, 28.

5 There were no resolutions nor any  
6 recommendations. Prayer was recited. With no further  
7 business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

8 May I go on with my supplement?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

10 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you. Good  
11 morning The Wiz, Madam President.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Good morning.

13 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Your motto of  
14 "Veterans, our biggest treasures" did not fall on deaf  
15 ears. The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Heralders,  
16 District Chairman, and Elves, hospital representatives,  
17 and deputies took this to heart.

18 All units and districts report holiday parties,  
19 bingo, bunco, and poker tournaments that directly are for  
20 our veterans. Whether they are at Veterans Administration  
21 Medical Centers, California veterans homes, or the local  
22 nursing facilities, veterans are treated to all kinds of  
23 fun activities, not to mention homemade cakes, cookies,  
24 and other delectables.

25 Speaking of home service, many hours were spent

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1 by Auxiliary members on quilts, lap robes, and other  
2 handmade items enjoyed by our veterans. Sometimes the  
3 facility needs them but the provider is several hours  
4 away. Arrangements were made to connect the donor and the  
5 facility.

6 Fort Miley is an example of this. Amador Unit  
7 108 has an avid crocheter. At the Gustine workshop Owedra  
8 Dupress, the chief of voluntary services, received several  
9 large bags of lap robes from the Unit 108 members, and the  
10 relationship bloomed.

11 Field service volunteers are ready at the call to  
12 take a veteran to doctors' appointments, clean and  
13 decorate a veteran cemetery, and help a veteran in any  
14 way. During the holidays, shut-ins are provided food and  
15 presents. In nursing homes, veterans are treated to hats  
16 and scarves, lap robes, and other treats.

17 In conjunction with Leadership Chairman, many  
18 members have taken field service orientation courses and  
19 are now able to obtain their field service pins. It is  
20 suggested the units honor these hardworking individuals by  
21 getting the pins from Department.

22 Donations to Department are a little sluggish;  
23 however, we need to be reminded of the importance of doing  
24 so. Out of this money is a very important program of  
25 Temporary Financial Assistance. On the department level,

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1 12 veterans applied and received money. The needs were  
2 for everything from phone bills, rent, storage, and other  
3 necessities. Many of these veterans were getting into  
4 housing after being homeless, so it was an honor for this  
5 chairman to be able to help with this transition.

6 One great story was from Unit 419, District 13.  
7 A veteran and his wife were riding the bus all night to  
8 stay warm. A unit member requested money to help them  
9 out. While paying the storage bill the unit member made  
10 the comment, "The next step is finding you a job." The  
11 storage manager hired the veteran on the spot.

12 Since that comment worked so well, she mentioned  
13 housing, and once again the storage manager had an  
14 apartment complex. Since he knew what he was paying the  
15 veteran, he made the apartment affordable. In one swoop  
16 the veteran had a job, housing, and he didn't need his  
17 storage anymore. This is an example of you never know  
18 what you will say and to whom that will make a huge  
19 difference.

20 Units have also reported helping veterans out  
21 with monetary donations for their bills. Any unit can  
22 submit Temporary Financial Assistance; however, all local  
23 assistance should be exhausted before applications for TFA  
24 are submitted to the department chairman. There are many  
25 organizations and agencies that can help, so it is a good

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1 idea for unit members to be aware of what is available in  
2 their particular area.

3           It has been brought to my attention, units  
4 realize the importance of TFAs and want to make a donation  
5 directly to this fund. The budget for TFA is based upon  
6 donations received to the department VA&R Fund. So please  
7 be generous as there are a lot of veterans and families  
8 out there that can use our help.

9           There seems to be a special place in our hearts  
10 for female veterans. The District 24 held baby showers  
11 and donated baskets of goodies for the moms-to-be.  
12 District 15 also helped a female veteran in transition  
13 housing with baby items right before she delivered her  
14 baby.

15           District 29 reports the "Renew" program at the  
16 Long Beach VAMC which is for women who experienced sexual  
17 trauma while in the military. Most of these women are or  
18 have been homeless, and once a month they host a theme  
19 party. One such party was an application of makeup for  
20 job interviews, while another were yoga classes for stress  
21 relief.

22           There were many terrific projects the Auxiliary  
23 members afforded, especially when it comes to therapeutic  
24 activities. We are all aware of many of our new veterans'  
25 mental health such as posttraumatic stress disorder and

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1 traumatic brain injury. District 28 reports supporting  
2 150 veterans attending a fishing derby sponsored by  
3 Monterey Bay Incorporated and Ride 2 Recovery. While  
4 District 16 also reports R2R plus AmpSurfs, a sailing and  
5 surfing program.

6 Unit 755, District 18 reports supporting Freedom  
7 Dogs, an organization that has trained dogs to assist more  
8 than 100 -- more than one veteran and can do multiple  
9 tasks. Another project is the equine programs. District  
10 25 reports the "Equine Assisted Learning and Therapy For  
11 Veterans With PTSD." This is sponsored through Equus  
12 Medendi.

13 There are similar programs. HOPE in Ojai and  
14 Healing Horses and Armed Forces in Tehachapi. While  
15 looking up these various programs, I saw grant money is  
16 available for this project, so maybe there will be more of  
17 them popping up around the state.

18 Our homeless veterans are taken care of as best  
19 we can. Stand Downs are the most common denominator to  
20 find, reach out, and help these veterans. Many districts  
21 report participation, and there are a few worth  
22 mentioning. District 16 covers three counties and each  
23 county has a Stand Down. Unit participation is reported.  
24 Also mentioned were three Stand Downs in the 29th  
25 District, one being for females only. Units donate

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1 toiletries, clothing, and time. They, along with the  
2 Legion Family, will cook meals and plan and prepare for  
3 the event.

4 Again, due to federal grant money, funding is  
5 available for homeless programs and housing. The plan is  
6 to never have the words "homeless" and "veteran" in the  
7 same sentence.

8 Our junior members report participation in the  
9 AV&R program. While at Junior Conference the younger  
10 juniors made thank you cards which were passed out at the  
11 Santa Maria Clinic. Also, the older girls tied knots on  
12 scarves made of fleece. While there the girls were asked  
13 what they pictured in their mind of a veteran. Most of  
14 them said their parent or grandparent.

15 We were fortunate to be able to introduce a  
16 pretty 23-year-old female and another woman counselor.  
17 They asked questions and learned about volunteer  
18 opportunities that existed for them.

19 While reading reports, this chairman had a few  
20 great idea moments. District 5 reports collecting items  
21 from hotels such as lamps, radios, pillows, toiletries and  
22 bed linens.

23 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Am I in the  
24 right place?

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Now we know why



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1 they're screwed to the desk. District 5, Melanie, I don't  
2 believe you were capable of this.

3 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: I had to ask for them.  
4 They collected them.

5 NATIONAL POPPY CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: This was an  
6 honest acquisition.

7 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: I thought it was a good  
8 idea because we all collect the toiletries which we do  
9 take, but to get radios and lamps and -- okay.

10 Toiletries and bed linens which were distributed  
11 to Pathway House in Yountville and Fort Miley VAMC in San  
12 Francisco. The point of that is we should probably ask  
13 first.

14 They also connected with the HUD VASH social  
15 worker and donated household items and furniture to eight  
16 previously homeless veterans. District 20, Unit 348 had a  
17 car wash for veterans at the Pete Knight Veterans Home in  
18 Lancaster. Free to the veterans, juniors, and seniors  
19 alike along with a Youth Soccer Team washed 18 residents'  
20 cars.

21 District 27 reports during their POW/MIA program,  
22 pieces of paper were passed out to the audience and each  
23 person rose and read the information about that particular  
24 POW/MIA.

25 District 25, Unit 466 reports supporting the Life

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1 Community Development Homeless Women's Veteran's Home in  
2 Adelanto.

3 Our elves report the many activities they  
4 participate in at their facility. Our Gift Shop Patient  
5 Remembrance money gets used up quickly. Elves report  
6 using it for holiday decorations, active wear clothing,  
7 movie tickets, socks, calendars, and the list goes on.  
8 Several also report supporting bingo and other parties in  
9 the Community Living Centers, being the concierge,  
10 providing coffee for the waiting veterans, and having  
11 on-hand ditty bags filled with personal hygiene items.

12 And because there is still time in the day and  
13 money in our coffers, units donate time and money to:  
14 Fisher House, Creative Arts both on the national and local  
15 level, Wounded Warrior Project. And on the local level,  
16 cemeteries and other projects that directly benefit the  
17 veteran.

18 Our magical, mystical fantasy of making a  
19 difference in the lives of our veterans is clearly shown  
20 by our hardworking members throughout the Department of  
21 California.

22 Madam President, it was an honor and learning  
23 experience to be your VA&R chairman for this year. Thank  
24 you.

25 May I go on with my awards?

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

2 (Applause.)

3 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Okay. My first place  
4 Unit Supplemental goes to Unit 595, District 21, Jennifer  
5 Beiger.

6 (Applause.)

7 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Okay. My first place  
8 Homeless Supplemental went to Linda Farris, District 29.

9 (Applause.)

10 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Linda and Jennifer's  
11 reports were forwarded to National.

12 (Applause.)

13 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Our first place  
14 district -- I'm sorry. District supplemental, District  
15 19, Becky Bullard.

16 (Applause.)

17 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Don't go anywhere.  
18 Okay. The most home and field service hours reported was  
19 by the same women from District 14, Judy. I gave her a  
20 certificate for both her field service hours reported were  
21 8,277 and her home service hours were 7,447.

22 (Applause.)

23 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Okay. My best  
24 Representative's Report went to Pat Alvarez. She's over  
25 there.

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1 (Applause.)

2 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: And we have a Vista  
3 Award Volunteers and Service to Others. And that is a  
4 recommendation from the facility, and that goes to Becky  
5 Bullard at Long Beach VA.

6 (Applause.)

7 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Madam President, may I  
8 please introduce the elves?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may. Ladies,  
10 I don't want you walking in here with any sheets or lamps.

11 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Are they coming up?  
12 Would you please come up, ladies.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Will the  
14 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, better known as R2-D2 and  
15 C3-PO and Chubacca escort our elves to the front.

16 (Processional.)

17 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Okay. As I call your  
18 names, ladies, please step forward. Wendy O'Brien is the  
19 representative from Mather, Sacramento.

20 (Applause.)

21 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Glenda Schultz is the  
22 deputy at Mather, and Barbara Dailey is the deputy at the  
23 Redding Outpatient Clinic. Gloria Sinopoli is a deputy at  
24 Fresno VA&R.

25 (Applause.)

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1           VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Pat Klang is a  
2 representative at Palo Alto.

3           (Applause.)

4           VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Connie Raya is deputy  
5 and Sandy Jacob also a brand-new deputy at Palo Alto.

6           (Applause.)

7           VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: In Livermore we have  
8 Leonarda Estigoy and Cherie Galvan.

9           (Applause.)

10          VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank you. And our  
11 representative from San Diego, Cindy Simmons and Irma  
12 Manthei.

13          (Applause.)

14          VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Our representatives  
15 from Loma Linda, Jerry L. Pettis, Mavis Kanka and Elaine  
16 Gallagher. And we have -- from Long Beach we have Pat  
17 Alvarez, representative of the poppy production manager.  
18 We have Tami Bell, deputy, and we all know Becky Bullard,  
19 brand-new deputy. Earlean Paige, representative West LA.

20          (Applause.)

21          VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Kathy Richardson,  
22 deputy West LA Ambulatory Care Center. CJ Reyes, deputy  
23 East Los Angeles.

24          (Applause.)

25          VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Pam Hicks, deputy East

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1 LA, and Mary Chaba.

2 (Applause.)

3 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Dee Ann Graham,  
4 Bakersfield CBOC.

5 (Applause.)

6 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: And Dorothy Davis at  
7 the Santa Maria OPC.

8 (Applause.)

9 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: At the veterans home,  
10 we have Angie Acosta, Barstow rep.

11 (Applause.)

12 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Lois Cornish at Chula  
13 Vista and poppy production manager.

14 (Applause.)

15 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Madeline Lee,  
16 representative, Ventura.

17 (Applause.)

18 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Ruth Hackney,  
19 representative -- I'm sorry. Deputy at West LA.

20 (Applause.)

21 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Peggy Grabski,  
22 representative at Yountville and Melanie Taylor, her  
23 deputy.

24 (Applause.)

25 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Oh, and poppy

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1 production manager.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Geri Fitzpatrick.

3 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Oh, there you are. I  
4 said Geri Fitzpatrick. And there is one more thing, Madam  
5 President, that I would like to present. There are three  
6 women that we have seen up here for many, many, many years  
7 and they are not here right now. One of them is Hermine  
8 Fosmark who has been the representative at the Santa  
9 Barbara Ambulatory Care Center. And she is now an  
10 honorary representative, so we would like to give her a  
11 certificate for her service to us.

12 (Applause.)

13 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Another one is Phyllis  
14 Holmberg.

15 (Applause.)

16 VA&R CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: From San Diego, also a  
17 fixture up here for many, many years, and we'd like to  
18 present her that she's now an honor way representative.

19 And last but not least, 60 years in service, Mary  
20 Sinopoli.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Can you just say  
22 how many hours she gave? Gloria, where are you?

23 HOSPITAL DEPUTY SINOPOLI: Here, Madam President.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: How many hours of  
25 service has Gloria given us?

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1 HOSPITAL DEPUTY SINOPOLI: 32,283.

2 (Applause.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you. Okay.  
4 Ladies, please come up to the podium on my right.

5 HOSPITAL REP SIMONS: On behalf of the newest  
6 member replacing Phyllis Holmberg who did over 21 years  
7 and tried to get up to 15,000 but just couldn't, may I  
8 present these various gifts. We have a beautiful orchid  
9 so that you can love and enjoy. Since you're going to be  
10 walking a lot, there's actually foot cream. We have a  
11 super fruit juice blend to help keep you healthy. But  
12 last but not least, since you're going to be trying to get  
13 healthy, this beautiful doll to wish to actually get into  
14 a bathing suit. She knows. She knows. A card from us  
15 including a gift card for \$100 so that you can go spend to  
16 your heart's content. Thank you so much.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Cindy.  
18 Thank you, Harriet. Thank you, elves, from the  
19 bottom of our hearts.

20 (Processional.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Donna Scott, I  
22 need the final Credentials report, please. Look at all  
23 these beautiful gracious ladies. At this point in time  
24 we'll have the final Credentials report from Donna Scott.

25



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1 CREDENTIALS REPORT

2

3 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: You'll have to make  
4 changes on this. I may have already had changes even in  
5 the last 20 minutes.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: That's okay,  
7 baby. We're flexible.

8 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: We're flexible.  
9 Madam Department President Terry and members, thank you  
10 for the honor of serving you and the Department of  
11 California as Credentials Chairman. It's been the most  
12 interesting experience.

13 This morning we met with district presidents,  
14 well, some of them, and Department Secretary Peggy to  
15 review procedures and how to poll the districts and what  
16 is expected. Questions were asked and answered and we  
17 anticipate a smooth election, don't we?

18 My sincere thanks to Past Department District  
19 Odette Cuccaro, Department Secretary Peggy, and Carol  
20 Fuqua, Past Credentials Chairman for their help and  
21 guidance. And put also Lois Cornish on there as well.  
22 She was right there as well as the 21st District's Gretta  
23 Starr. Thank you all for your help. It was -- you were  
24 great.

25 And another thank you to all of those who did

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1 submit at the registration tables. Y'all did a great job.  
2 Y'all did a great job.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: She's getting  
4 ready for Texas.

5 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Now you know where  
6 I'm from. It's not Texas though; it's Oklahoma. But the  
7 total voting strength for this -- excuse me. Is 600,  
8 although that's going to change. So divided in half we  
9 need 300 to elect, but that will change as we do the roll  
10 call. I guess that's changes in the last five minutes.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Donna.  
12 Okay. Ladies, we are going to have a 15-minute break.

13 Wait, wait, wait, Liz. I recognized you, lady.  
14 Okay. Please be back here in your seat in 15 minutes.  
15 And while you're jumping out of the room, Peggy wants to  
16 read some crystal ball messages. Read.

17 Fast, Peggy. She's hurrying. The dragon is  
18 arriving.

19 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Linda's Workmen,  
20 Park's Patriots, Bonnie's Prom Princesses and Betty's  
21 Bears will meet here in the hotel around the corner in one  
22 of the rooms on the right before the restaurant.

23 Ladies, at the lunch break there will be last  
24 call for opportunity table tickets. While this afternoon  
25 is in session, tickets will be polled for the baskets.

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1 But that's not all. The 50/50 chance raffle drawing will  
2 start then.

3 District 18 needs tickets to the banquet tonight.  
4 If anybody has extras, please contact Mindy Sinclair. And  
5 also I think you can contact Estella Avina to see if she  
6 has any extras.

7 Also the office will be open until 4:00 o'clock  
8 today and closed between 1:45 and 2:15. Sunday 8:30 until  
9 one hour past convention.

10 And I'm not sure if they're done doing this, but  
11 also if there's -- if someone is going to pay for  
12 someone's membership, you probably should do it pretty  
13 quick. Thank you, Madam President.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,  
15 Dragon. As to the membership thing, our leprechaun will  
16 be reporting on that after lunch.

17 Be back in 15 minutes please, ladies. Thank you.

18 (Recess from 10:03 a.m. to 10:22 a.m.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. Ladies,  
20 please take your chairs. Ladies, we are now reconvened.  
21 Will R2-D2 and C3-PO along with Chubacca please bring in  
22 the Sons Commander of the Department of California Chris  
23 Affolter and the National Sons Commander Christopher  
24 Huntzinger.

25 (Processional.)

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Chris Affolter is  
2 not here.

3 NATIONAL SONS COMMITTEEMAN MEJIA: Well, first  
4 let me say hello, ladies. Hello to all of you. Are you  
5 having a good time? So are we. I'm glad to be here.  
6 This is an amazing event. I can't believe so many women  
7 in one room. Wow, wow. We have one of those stories we  
8 walked in and we had to wait a little bit because there  
9 weren't enough bathrooms, so a lot of women were using the  
10 men's stall.

11 Before I forget, I know some of you here, but my  
12 name is John Mejia. I'm our National Executive  
13 Committeeman for the Sons of the American Legion. My post  
14 is Post 155. A big hello to all of you. It's my pleasure  
15 to be here today to thank you for inviting us today. It's  
16 my honor to introduce to all of you Chris Huntzinger, our  
17 National Commander for The Sons of the American Legion who  
18 hails from Pittsburgh.

19 (Applause.)

20 NATIONAL SONS COMMITTEEMAN MEJIA: I would like  
21 for you to come forward and say a few words.

22 (Applause.)

23 NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: Thank you.  
24 Thank you very, very much. President Terry, members of  
25 the American Legion Auxiliary, members of the American

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1 Legion Family here gathered this morning, and ladies and  
2 gentlemen, it is a good morning and thank you for the  
3 invitation to participate and bring a few greetings on  
4 behalf of the 353,000 members of the Sons of the American  
5 Legion.

6 (Applause.)

7 NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: My name is  
8 Chris Huntzinger and I do hail from Harrisburg,  
9 Pennsylvania. I've been a member of the Sons of the  
10 American Legion, a charter member of Penbrook Squadron 730  
11 in Harrisburg since 1990. And I have my eligibility  
12 through my dad, Paul Huntzinger, who is a Korean War  
13 Veteran. My father, thank the Lord, is still living at  
14 age 81, and my grandfather Paul, or Philip, J. Huntzinger,  
15 Sr. who was a United States Army veteran and was in the  
16 service in the Army stationed at the Carlisle barracks  
17 outside of Harrisburg when the Japanese bombed Pearl  
18 Harbor in December of 1941. He's a career man like my  
19 grandfather, Philip James Huntzinger. So I have my  
20 eligibility from both.

21 (Applause.)

22 NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: Thank you.  
23 I would like to thank all the veterans that are in the  
24 house also this morning because we appreciate the  
25 sacrifices that you made when you gave your years in

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1 serving our great nation in our Armed Forces. And thank  
2 you, veterans, who are here today for your service in the  
3 American Legion so that we can be here.

4 (Applause.)

5 NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: You know,  
6 when I went to my father years ago and I wanted to become  
7 a member, we started Penbrook Squadron 730 Sons of the  
8 American Legion, and I needed my dad to join the American  
9 Legion because he wasn't a member.

10 And I went to Dad and I explained what I wanted  
11 to do, and he said, "Son, I'll join the organization.  
12 I'll do what you want." And I said, "Dad, you've been  
13 eligible to be a member of the American Legion for  
14 decades, why didn't you join?"

15 And Dad said, "Well, son, I didn't know much  
16 about the organization." He said, "I was never asked."  
17 And you get that many times over the years. I never  
18 forgot that. And I know the American Legion -- I see some  
19 heads nodding that you've had that in the American Legion  
20 Auxiliary. Just ask. I know the American Legion; years  
21 ago I wanted to make that a focal point of our campaign on  
22 the SAL membership bandwagon this year as we head into  
23 Houston to get that 105 percent. Because I really do  
24 because that "just ask" works. If you ask a potential  
25 member of the organization to join the American Legion

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1 Family, nine times out of ten they say they will. But,  
2 you know, educate them, they will then return. They will  
3 continue their membership. Ask them to join, educate  
4 them, and they will stay. And I really believe that's  
5 true because education plus communication instills the  
6 motivation, and that equals success in really everything  
7 we want to do.

8           President Terry, congratulations on the project  
9 that you've had this year, Operation Comfort, I believe,  
10 and thank you for what you're doing on that. To help  
11 families of veterans of our warriors returning home today  
12 from around the nation, Iraq and Afghanistan, from the  
13 war.

14           And my project this year was the Fisher House  
15 Foundation. So it's sort of also in the same ballpark  
16 when you think about that.

17           (Applause.)

18           NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: I met a  
19 United States Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War who  
20 was housed at the Denver Fisher House a few months ago  
21 when I was in the detachment in Colorado. And I went to  
22 Fisher House that morning and Jim, who had been getting  
23 chemotherapy and radiation for six weeks, he had a strong  
24 handshake. And his wife Janet said, "Commander, he didn't  
25 have that strong a handshake six weeks ago."

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1           Well, Jim looked at me and he said, "Commander,  
2 the chemotherapy and the radiation, they are working.  
3 It's making me stronger, it really is." And he says, "I  
4 think I can beat this cancer." And he says, "But the  
5 Fisher House has given me the will to live." And I never  
6 forgot that. And I know that any projects that we do for  
7 veterans is going to benefit them with whatever we do with  
8 the American Legion Family.

9           And, you know, your Sons here, you can be proud  
10 of them for what they've done. They donate to the Fisher  
11 House. They also donated over \$18,000 this year to the  
12 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation and across the  
13 nation this year, \$453,599, your Sons of the American  
14 Legion donated to CWF. And I don't know if you know  
15 this --

16           (Applause.)

17           NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: -- but  
18 probably this time of year when we start our 2013-2014  
19 year, we will donate as the Sons of the American Legion  
20 over \$6 million to CWF.

21           (Applause.)

22           NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: Thank you  
23 for your support on that. They also here with the Sons,  
24 they also have a new motorized Wheelchair For Veterans  
25 program that's very costly, but they're asking for



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1 donations from the Sons to be able to give back to that  
2 project for our veterans in wheelchairs that need the  
3 help. And it's fantastic in what they do.

4 One of the Squadrons Post 328 has the food bank  
5 and also Riverside, California that do this and they help  
6 some of the area of San Bernardino in Los Angeles. And  
7 you know something, that food bank that the Sons supports,  
8 they feed and they help with eight million -- I'm sorry.  
9 Eight million dinners, eight million meals a year --

10 (Applause.)

11 NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: -- to help  
12 those in need. But I've taken up enough of your time and  
13 I've seen from the crowds here, I knew -- and you have a  
14 great house there, it's a packed house for the American  
15 Legion Auxiliary Department of California is fantastic.  
16 And I always knew that I was surrounded by royalty, but  
17 now with the crowns I really know I'm surrounded by  
18 royalty.

19 But thank you, ladies, so much for your  
20 hospitality. I appreciate you. God bless you all and god  
21 bless our men and women serving our nation and God bless  
22 our United States of the America. Thank you again.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: And to the  
25 American Legion Foundation this year. Thank you very

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1 much. Thank you, sir.

2 NATIONAL SONS COMMANDER HUNTZINGER: I appreciate  
3 it.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you. Thank  
5 you, gentlemen.

6 (Processional.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: The doors will be  
8 closed so we can start our election process. The  
9 delegates should be seated with their districts. Session  
10 will come to order.

11 Please remember that only delegates and  
12 alternates taking the place of the delegates will be  
13 allowed in the room during the election.

14 Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please see  
15 that everyone that's in the lobby knows that the doors are  
16 being closed for the election process, and if they want to  
17 come in, please do so immediately. Check in your badges  
18 and close the doors. No one will be permitted to enter or  
19 leave except in an emergency until the Chair states that  
20 elections are concluded.

21 We will now have the report of the Elections  
22 Chairman Kathy Harris-Richardson followed by the reading  
23 of the election rules. Will the district presidents  
24 please proceed to the microphones and line up numerically.  
25 District presidents line up numerically. Go ahead, Kathy.

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ELECTIONS REPORT

ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS-RICHARDSON: Madam Department President, good afternoon everyone. Madam Department President, the convention committee on Elections met at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 27th, 2013 in the Canyon Suite C of the Doral Desert Princess Resort, Palm Springs, California. There is no statistical report for this chairmanship.

Vergie Goffney, District 22, was appointed secretary. Denise Coleman, District 23, was appointed chaplain and she offered prayer. JoAnne Adams, District 19, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. And she did a very good job with people coming in and out. A total of 18 delegates answered roll call. There were four visitors present.

Each delegate received a copy of the 2013 convention rules. The election rules were read and discussed. There were no code changes, no resolutions, and no recommendations, but we did have a lively discussion. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Madam Department President Terry, I truly, truly, after you ran me down and sprinkled a little fairy dust on me, I want to thank you for this appointment. It has been

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1 my honor serving as your elections chairman. This  
2 concludes my committee report and I move for its  
3 acceptance.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Kathy.  
6 By your applause, you have accepted Kathy's report.

7 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS-RICHARDSON: And may I  
8 proceed to the reading of the election rules.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Please.

10 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS-RICHARDSON: Okay.  
11 These rules will be found in the Book of Reports on page  
12 12, convention rules numbers 25 through 33. Everybody  
13 ready.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, ma'am.

15 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS-RICHARDSON: Okay.  
16 Yes, ma'am. So old.

17

18 READING OF ELECTION RULES

19

20 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS-RICHARDSON: Election  
21 of department officers, junior member of finance, national  
22 candidate, department delegates, and alternates to the  
23 National Convention shall be held on Saturday morning,  
24 June 28th, 2013.

25 Number 26: The doors of the convention hall

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

7           Number 27: When there is but one nominee for all  
8 department offices and but one nominee for junior member  
9 of finance, the nominees shall be elected viva voce.  
10 Article V, Section 3, Department Constitution. Upon roll  
11 call, the district presidents shall report the number of  
12 units partially or wholly represented by duly elected  
13 delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the  
14 time of roll call. This is to determine that there is a  
15 quorum of units present at the time of the election.

16           Number 28: When there is more than one nominee  
17 for the department offices or junior member of finance or  
18 national office, election shall be by written ballot. The  
19 district president shall, when they are instructed by the  
20 Chair, take a roll call of their respective delegations to  
21 ascertain the total voting strength of their district for  
22 the election, reporting the same to the Chair. When there  
23 is but one nominee for office or junior member of finance,  
24 the ballot may be dispensed with a nominee elected viva  
25 voce.

## FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

1           Number 29: When there are three or more nominees  
2 for an office or a junior member of finance, unless one  
3 nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the  
4 nominee receiving the lowest number of votes shall be  
5 automatically dropped before proceeding with the next  
6 ballot.

7           Number 30: Each district president and district  
8 member of the elections committee shall distribute and  
9 collect the votes cast by the district delegation and  
10 deliver them to the department chairman of the elections.

11           Thirty-one: Department officers, chairmen,  
12 committee members, and past department presidents shall  
13 vote with their respective districts.

14           Number 32: Each delegate shall be entitled to  
15 one vote. The vote of an absent unit delegate, not  
16 represented by an alternate, shall be cast by the majority  
17 of the delegates from the unit. When two delegates  
18 represent three votes, the chairman of the unit delegation  
19 shall cast the third vote.

20           Number 33: A majority of all votes cast shall  
21 elect, except that in the election of the national  
22 delegates and alternates a plurality shall elect.

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

25           Number 35: Roberts Rules of Order, newly

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1 revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all  
2 points not covered by these rules. The department  
3 constitution and bylaws and convention mandates.

4 This concludes the reading of the rules.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Kathy.

6 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN HARRIS-RICHARDSON: May I be  
7 seated?

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, you may.  
9 Thank you. You know, I've known Kathy for years and she's  
10 been my good buddy. And when I needed an elections  
11 person, you know, the fairy dust went down the phone line  
12 and she answered.

13 Okay. The secretary will call the roll call of  
14 districts. Thank you, Peggy. We will now proceed.

15 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 1 -- pardon  
16 me. District 1.

17 DISTRICT 1 PRESIDENT CONRAD: District 1 has one.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Very good. You can  
19 sit down. District 2.

20 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT JOHNSON: District 2 has 13.

21 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: That isn't correct.  
22 We need to change that.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Peggy.

24 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: That is correct.

25 District 3?

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1 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: District 3 has four.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
3 sit down. District 4.

4 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: District 4 has  
5 eight.

6 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
7 sit down. District 5.

8 DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT MUELLER: District 5 has 13.

9 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
10 sit down. District 6.

11 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT PAMBID: We have 19.

12 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
13 sit down. District 7.

14 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT CHAPMAN: District 7 has 15.

15 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
16 sit down. District 8 is not here, so that's a zero.  
17 District 9.

18 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: We have six.

19 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
20 sit down. District 10.

21 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PETERS: District 10 has  
22 11.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Uh-oh. Come over to  
24 the side.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Oh, Susan, you're



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1 breaking my heart, baby.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Hang out on the  
3 side. Okay. District 11.

4 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: District 11 has  
5 14.

6 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Come over to the  
7 side, Beverly.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Beverly. Terry's  
9 Treasures, huh.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 12.

11 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT STUART: We have 12.

12 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
13 sit down. District 13.

14 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FALTESEK: District 13 has  
15 12.

16 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: You may sit down.  
17 Thank you. District 14.

18 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT URBAN: District 14 has 16.

19 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
20 sit down.

21 DISTRICT 15 PRESIDENT RISNER: District 15 has  
22 18.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
24 sit down. District 16.

25 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT ROCHA: District 16 has 30.

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1           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
2 sit down. District 18.

3           DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT ENRIGHT: District 18 has  
4 41 with one member in her own right has left.

5           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. Then I guess  
6 you now have 41.

7           DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT ENRIGHT: Correct.

8           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Correct. District  
9 19.

10          DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT SOLLAZZO: District 19 has  
11 42.

12          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
13 sit down. District 20.

14          DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT PHILCOX: District 20 has  
15 17.

16          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
17 sit down. District 21.

18          DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: District 21 has  
19 38.

20          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
21 sit down. District 22.

22          DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT LOVE: District 22 has 48.

23          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Oh, no. Come over  
24 to the side.

25          DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT LOVE: I have explanations.

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1 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT JONES: District 23 has 23.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
3 sit down. District 24.

4 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT STEWART-WILSON: Eight.

5 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: You may sit down.  
6 Thank you. District 25.

7 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT DORAN: District 25 has 65.

8 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: You are correct.  
9 Sit down. District 26.

10 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Nine.

11 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Come to the side.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Louann.

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 27.

14 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MEYERS: District 27 has  
15 15.

16 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: You may sit down.  
17 Thank you. District 28.

18 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT DOIDGE: District 28 has  
19 19.

20 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Come to the side.

21 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT NEIFFER: District 29 has  
22 54.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Come to the side.  
24 District 30.

25 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT TELFORD: We have eight.

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1           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Yes, you do. Thank  
2 you. Madam President, we'll take a few moments to  
3 re-collect and recalculate.

4           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. Ladies,  
5 you know when I was district president the first time, I  
6 gave my count and I didn't know what I was doing. They  
7 called me to the stage; I was so embarrassed.

8           Now let me tell you something I learned, because  
9 next time I had the fortune to sit by Little Miss Odette  
10 and she took care of me. So if you're lucky, you sit by  
11 Odette and you don't get called up front. She has the  
12 magic.

13           District 10, Susan Peters.

14           DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PETERS: District 10 has  
15 11.

16           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. All of the  
17 districts that we just talked to, you line up again in  
18 order. Oh, Louann is escaping. Louann.

19           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We need you  
20 ladies back at the microphone.

21           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. District 10.

22           DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PETERS: District 10 has  
23 11.

24           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You can  
25 sit down. District 11.

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1           DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: District 11 has  
2 14.

3           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
4 sit down. District 22.

5           DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT LOVE: District 22 has 48.

6           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: That I have. You  
7 may sit down. District 26.

8           DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: District 26 has  
9 nine.

10          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
11 sit down. District 28.

12          DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT DOIDGE: District 28 has  
13 19.

14          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
15 sit down.

16          DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT NEIFFER: District 29 has  
17 54.

18          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. You may  
19 sit down.

20          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: As soon as Donna  
21 Scott puts her shoes back on because she's done counting,  
22 we'll have a final credentials report. But she had to  
23 take her shoes off because we had so many changes and she  
24 only had ten fingers. But she still has her skirt on.  
25 Now she's getting a calculator out. My phone probably has

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1 one of those things on it, but I don't know where it is.  
2 Calculator, I mean. And I think I saw my phone last  
3 Tuesday. But if you ask me a question I'll tell you to go  
4 see Cassie in the office who's my daughter-in-law or Linda  
5 Workmen or Peggy. See, you know, so I know nothing.

6 No, Talia, I won't make them ask you. Where is  
7 that ukulele when we need it?

8 (Singing.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Do you have a Lee  
10 Greenwood song in there? Can we take a special request?  
11 God Bless the USA. I cannot carry a tune in a bucket.

12 Kat, do you have Lee Greenwood on your -- oh,  
13 wait a minute. We're ready. Wait a minute. We're ready.

14 Thank you, ladies. Donna, do you and Peggy  
15 agree?

16 Okay. We will now have the final credentials  
17 report from Chairman Donna Scott.

18

19 FINAL CREDENTIALS REPORT

20

21 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Madam President, we  
22 have voting strength of 570. Half of that would be 285.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Madam  
24 Chairman. Does the secretary agree?

25 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I do.

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hallelujah.

2 (Applause.)

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You need 286.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: They said it's  
5 286. I don't want to hear from the back of the room. So  
6 don't want the guilty party to stand up. Should it be  
7 286? Is that right?

8 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: It's plus one.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay.

10

11 ELECTION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

12

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. There is  
14 but one nominee for the department of the president, Anita  
15 Biggs. All those in favor of electing Anita Biggs for the  
16 Department President, signify by saying aye.

17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed say  
20 no.

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: By your applause  
23 you have elected Anita Biggs as your president for  
24 2013-2014. Congratulations, Anita.

25 (Applause.)

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We already voted.  
2 You missed it. Election of Department Vice President.  
3 There is but one nominee for the Department of the Vice  
4 President, Harriet Clendenin.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
7 favor of electing Harriet Clendenin for the Vice  
8 President, signify by saying aye.

9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed say  
11 no.

12 (No response.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You have elected  
14 Harriet Clendenin as the Vice President for the year  
15 2013-2014. Congratulations, Harriet.

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Election for  
18 Junior Member of Finance. There is but one nominee for  
19 Junior Member of Finance, Kathryn Doran. All those in  
20 favor of electing Kathryn Doran for Junior Member of  
21 Finance, signify by saying aye.

22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed say  
24 no.

25 (No response.)



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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You have elected  
2 Kathryn Doran as your Junior Member of Finance for the  
3 year 2013-2014. Congratulations, Kathryn.

4 (Applause.)

5

6 ELECTIONS OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO  
7 NATIONAL CONVENTION

8

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We will now  
10 proceed to the election of delegates and alternates to  
11 National Convention. The secretary will now read the  
12 nominees for delegates to National Convention.

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Delegates nominated  
14 for National Convention: Terry Mikesell, Anita Biggs,  
15 Diane DeLashmit, Melanie Taylor, Peggy Vogele, Pilar  
16 Reyes, Mary Adame, Sandy Jacob, Sandy Urban, Delores Ryan,  
17 Vickie Crowe, Pamela Dixon Hicks, Tammy Sollazzo, Linda  
18 Hayes, Marge Rye, Vergie Goffney, Jackie Cleveland,  
19 Rebecca Wilson, Kathryn Doran, Linda Workman, LuAnn  
20 Capazzi. And Nancy Brown-Park and Linda Fercho go in on  
21 their own right.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It has been  
23 moved -- did you make the motion?

24 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I move that we  
25 accept these nominations.

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1           PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS:   Second.

2           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL:   It has been moved  
3 and seconded.  Is there any discussion?

4           (No response.)

5           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL:   All those in  
6 favor, say aye.

7           ALL PRESENT:   Aye.

8           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL:   Any opposed?

9           (No response.)

10          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL:   Hearing none, so  
11 carried.  You have elected the delegates to National  
12 Convention.  The secretary will now read the list of  
13 nominees for alternates to National Convention.

14          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE:   Bonnie Bradbury,  
15 Janet Wilson, Emily Magwilli, Kathy Smith, Zana Chaney,  
16 Madeline Lee, Lupe Galaviz, Estella Avina, June Coatney,  
17 Ruth Hackney, Donna Scott, Luanne Johnston, Pat Alvarez,  
18 Susie Tozier, Joanne Evans, Darlene Duncan, Gloria  
19 Williams, and Ashley Valentich.  I move that we accept  
20 these nominations.

21          PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS:   Second.

22          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL:   It has been moved  
23 and seconded to elect the alternates as read.  Is there  
24 any discussion?

25          (No response.)

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
2 favor, say aye.

3 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?  
5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You have elected  
7 the alternates to National Convention. Elected delegates  
8 and alternates, you need to pick up your packets in the  
9 department headquarters. And please sign for them.

10

11 RATIFICATION OF ELECTIONS FOR DISTRICT PRESIDENTS,  
12 FIRST VICE PRESIDENTS AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS

13

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We will now  
15 proceed to ratify the election of District Presidents and  
16 Vice Presidents.

17 Madam Secretary, please read the names of the  
18 District Presidents Elect.

19 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District Presidents  
20 Elect. District 1 is Kat Conrad. District 2 is Barbara  
21 Dailey. District 3 is Lola Ramey. District 4 is Lori  
22 Dowden. District 5 is Wenonah Angier. District 6 is  
23 Alice Pambid. District 7 is Janie Bandera.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

25 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Glenda Schultz.

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1 Okay. District 6 is Glenda Schultz. District 7 is Janie  
2 Bandera. District 8 is Tammy Manini. District 9 is  
3 Wendelin Geltz. Okay, District 9. Help me out. How do I  
4 pronounce the last name? Geltz.

5 District 10 is Susan Peters. District 11 is  
6 Beverly Villines. District 12 is Lisa Stuart. I know  
7 this one for District 13 I believe is wrong. I have  
8 Donita Faltesek, but I think we have someone different for  
9 District 13.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Mary Hidalgo.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Spell her last  
12 name, please.

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Mary Hidalgo. Okay.  
14 District 14, Sandy Urban. District 15, Rebecca Hester.  
15 District 16 is Connie Biggers. This may be wrong.  
16 District 18, Dona Enright.

17 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN ENRIGHT: It's wrong.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. Dona, who do  
19 we have?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Is it Judy  
21 Forest?

22 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN ENRIGHT: Yes.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. District 19,  
24 Tammy Sollazzo. District 20, Ann Philcox. District 21,  
25 Jennifer Bieger. Sorry? Twenty is wrong. Who is it?

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1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Cathy Gossling.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER: District 21, Jennifer  
3 Bieger. Okay. District 22. This may be wrong again.  
4 Barbara Love.

5 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT LOVE: No.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Who is your  
7 president?

8 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT LOVE: Karen Bobren,  
9 B-O-B-R-E-N.

10 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: You're saying  
11 Bobren?

12 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT LOVE: B-O-B-R-E-N.

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 23 I have  
14 Liz Jones down because I don't think we got your paperwork  
15 in time.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. Sharon Moore.

17 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. District 24.  
18 Who is it going to be this year, District 24?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Rebecca.

20 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I did get one right  
21 finally. District 25, Debbie Fletcher. District 26,  
22 Louann Johnston? District 26 who is it going to be  
23 this year?

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It is Louann.

25 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: It is Louann. Just

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1 wanted to make sure. Okay. District 27, Vella Meyers.  
2 District 28, I have Liz Doidge, but I don't think  
3 that's -- okay. District 29, Cheryl Neiffer.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,  
5 Cheryl.

6 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: And District 30 is  
7 Kim Vincent. Okay. Let's go through the first vices.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Wait, wait.

9 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I move to accept the  
10 nominations.

11 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CUCCARO: Second.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It has been moved  
13 and seconded that we ratify the district presidents. All  
14 those in favor, say aye.

15 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, you  
19 have elected your district presidents.

20 Madam Secretary, please read the list of District  
21 First Vice Presidents Elect.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 1, Patricia  
23 Lindley. District 2, Nancy Johnson. District 4, I know  
24 I'm going to get this wrong.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: District 3.

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1           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I'm sorry. District  
2 3, Rosemarie Bejcek or Bejcek. Okay. It's Rosemarie.  
3 District 4, Elsa Johnson. District 5, Delores Conroy.  
4 Okay. District 6, who's your first vice?

5           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Maria Lopez.

6           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Maria Lopez. Okay.  
7 District 7 is Bonnie Chavoya. District 8 is Kathleen  
8 Sullivan. District 9 is Dolly Rios. District 10 is Gwen  
9 Woody. District 11 is Toni Domondon. Thank you.  
10 District 12 is Kathy Smith.

11           District 13 I have Donelda Denny. Is that still  
12 correct for District 13? Thank you.

13           District 14 is Elaine McClurg.

14           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correction. It's Ellen  
15 McClurg.

16           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 15, Dee Ann  
17 Graham. District 16 --

18           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Madam President?

19           SECRETARY/TREASURER: Did I skip one?

20           AUDIENCE MEMBER: On District 14, it's Ellen  
21 McClurg, not Elaine McClurg.

22           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. All  
23 righty then. District 15 we have Dee Ann Graham.  
24 District 16, Karen Munch. District 18, Laura Bradshaw.  
25 District 19, Becky Bullard. District 20, Kathy Gossling.

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1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER: Okay. What do we have?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Carol McChesney.

4 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. District 21,  
5 Brenda Wardrip. District 22 is not Karen Bobren, so who  
6 is now the District 22 for first vice? June Coatney.

7 District 23, we know it's not Sharon Moore, so  
8 who is the first vice? Helen Barber. Okay. District 24,  
9 I have Vi Walquist. Is that correct?

10 District 25, Gabrielle Rowland. District 26,  
11 Dolly Vitangeles. District 27, Sharlotte Collins.  
12 District 28, I know it's not Robin, so who is District  
13 28's first vice? Okay.

14 District 29, Elizabeth Tomlin. District 30 is  
15 Belen Telford. I so move that we elect the list of first  
16 vices.

17 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
19 and seconded that we ratify the election of District First  
20 Vices. Is there any discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, all  
23 those in favor say aye.

24 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?



**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You have ratified  
3 the election of first vices.

4 Madam Secretary, please read the list of Second  
5 Vice Presidents Elect.

6 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: District 1,  
7 Marialice Canclini. District 2, Judy Gama. District 3,  
8 Vickie Schillingar. District 4, Jean Edson. District 5,  
9 Sandy Paxton. Okay. District 6, I need to know who your  
10 second is. Who? Ramona.

11 District 7, Julie Slater. District 8 is Teresa  
12 Canonizado. District 9, Kathryn Klingman. District 10,  
13 Leonarda Estigoy. District 11, Kirsten Anderson.  
14 District 12, Ann Kelly. District 13, Cindy Newman.  
15 District 14, Debra Washburn. District 15, Raechelle  
16 Anderson. Okay. Thank you. Fifteen is Raechelle  
17 Anderson. And 16, can you tell me who your second vice is  
18 16?

19 NEC CHAIRMAN FERCHO: It's Raechelle Anderson.

20 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Oh, Raechelle is 16?  
21 Okay. District 15 I need to know who your second vice is.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Karen Herrera.

23 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Karen Herrera for  
24 15. District 18, Mindy Sinclair. District 19, Diana  
25 Livas. District 20, Carol McChesney.

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1           AUDIENCE MEMBER: District 20 is Hila, H-I-L-A,  
2 Estrada, E-S-T-R-A-D-A.

3           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. District  
4 21, Judy Bendzala. Okay. District 22 we have June  
5 Coatney, which we know is wrong. Who's --

6           AUDIENCE MEMBER: April Kochur, K-O-C-H-U-R.

7           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you. Okay.  
8 District 23, who is your second vice?

9           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Ingrid Delany.

10          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I'm sorry. I've got  
11 Delany. What was the first name?

12          AUDIENCE MEMBER: Ingrid.

13          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Ingrid. That's  
14 right. Okay. That's right. District 24, Beatriz  
15 Huppert. District 25, Tamara Duron. That sounds like  
16 somebody else may be related to somebody else maybe.

17          District 26, Arlene Mueller. District 27,  
18 Victoria Langdon Goodchilde. Okay. District 28, I have  
19 Susan Baker, so who is your --

20          AUDIENCE MEMBER: Janet Love.

21          SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. I have for  
22 District 29 Jean Sudbeck. District 30, Loretta Wine.

23          Madam President, I move that we ratify this list  
24 of the nominated second district vice presidents. Hold  
25 on. Loretta Wine. Yes, that's what I have, Loretta Wine.

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1 Thank you.

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It has been moved  
4 and seconded that we ratify the election of District  
5 Second Vice Presidents. Is there any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, all  
8 those in favor, say aye.

9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You have ratified  
13 the election of District Second Vice Presidents. This  
14 concludes the election process and the pages may open the  
15 doors.

16 Will the newly elect department officers please  
17 come to the stage to be presented. While we're waiting  
18 for that, Madam Secretary, do you have any crystal ball  
19 happenings. Do we have any crystal ball happenings?

20 And, ladies, ladies, somebody left this in the  
21 business center.

22 NEC CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Me.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Me. Oh, Fercho.  
24 Wasn't Tracy there taking care of you, Linda?

25 NEC CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Where was she when I needed

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1 her?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We're going to  
3 have crystal ball happenings.

4 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I've only had two  
5 visions since the break. Will everyone involved in the  
6 installation of officers Sunday please stay after the  
7 session for a brief rehearsal. And you can contact Brenda  
8 Shariff. I'm sorry, I forgot what unit and district you  
9 are. She was talking about the special -- oh, there she  
10 is. Special thing at Macy's. It's going through on  
11 Saturday, August 24th. You go to macys.com Shop For the  
12 Cause and you can sign up your unit.

13 You know what, Brenda, would you just come up  
14 here and explain this?

15 And in the meantime, Odette's Performers and  
16 Gwen's Penguins will meet at Saturday's recess for lunch  
17 in Room 138.

18 MS. SHARIFF: Okay. This costs \$5. It doesn't  
19 cost anybody in the Auxiliary. If you go to macys.com  
20 Shop For a Cause, you can join up -- you can join and get  
21 your own coupons to sell. They're \$5. You sell them, you  
22 keep all the money. It's Shop For a Cause. And the  
23 coupon is worth 25 percent off anything in the store on  
24 August the 24th and you can use them on clearance days,  
25 like clearance products. It's a really good deal. And

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1 our unit is going to try to sell us 400 that will us bring  
2 in \$2,000.

3 So sign up on the macys.com Shop For a Cause.  
4 You've just got to do www.macys.com Shop For a Cause.  
5 Sign up. Give them your EIN number, and then go to your  
6 local Macy's store. They'll give you the coupons, you  
7 sell them and you make money.

8 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Thank you.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It gives me great  
10 pleasure to present to you the newly elected department  
11 officers for the year 2013-2014. Department President  
12 Anita Biggs.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Department Vice  
15 President Harriet Clendenin.

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Junior Member of  
18 Finance, Kathryn Doran.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: And they will be  
21 available over by the flags if anybody would like to have  
22 their picture taken with them. They will be available  
23 over by the flags when we're done for photo ops. Photo  
24 ops. Thank you, ladies, from the bottom of my heart.  
25 Especially you, Anita.

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1           Okay. We're going to have a short presentation  
2 from Ms. Wings, the Department Chaplain.

3           CHAPLAIN RYE: Madam President Terry, the Wiz,  
4 boy, has this been a wiz of a year. You were out playing  
5 with the boys yesterday when I gave my report so I did not  
6 get to give you a presentation. May I approach your  
7 station?

8           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may. I could  
9 have come to you, Wings.

10          CHAPLAIN RYE: I can come to you. You're more  
11 important. This is not the traditional prayer book-type  
12 cover, but I thought this one suited you more.

13          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes.

14          CHAPLAIN RYE: And there are a lot of prayers in  
15 there. I had one lady give me 345 prayers and poems and  
16 inspirations and such. So on behalf of all of your  
17 subjects out here, I present you with this prayer book.  
18 And it's not the greatest one in the world because I am  
19 not artsy.

20          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, honey.

21          CHAPLAIN RYE: And I'm very pleased and I'm proud  
22 to serve as a Chaplain this year.

23          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you.  
24 You've done an awesome job.

25          CHAPLAIN RYE: Thank you. Would Lucy Rocca or a

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1 representative please come forward.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: District 16.

3 Linda Fercho, will you accept on behalf of

4 District 16?

5 Oh, here she comes. She's an older subject.

6 Seasoned. Excuse me. She's seasoned. Seasoned. We

7 spent the night together at the Marriott in some town, I

8 don't remember where it was. Oxnard.

9 CHAPLAIN RYE: Lucy, yesterday I called you up

10 and, I'm sorry, but I wanted to present this to you when I

11 presented Madam President with her prayer book because it

12 relates to that. This is for you. At the beginning of

13 the year I had this treasure chest and I promised that I

14 would give it to whoever sent me the most cards and

15 prayers in the -- for the president's book. So on behalf

16 of myself and the rest of the department, these are --

17 this is your presentation. It's got a lot of little

18 goodies in there. And I thank you very much. She sent me

19 245 prayers.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Marge.

22 CHAPLAIN RYE: You're welcome.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Very, very much.

24 Okay. Ladies, we're going to hear from Auxiliary

25 Emergency Fund, Diana Moreno; Public Relations, Joan

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1 Cannon, please.

2 We're going to hear from Diane Moreno, Auxiliary.

3

4 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND REPORT

5

6 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: Thank  
7 you, Madam Great Wiz. The Convention Committee on  
8 Auxiliary Emergency Fund met on June 27th, 2013 in Canyon  
9 A of the Doral in Palm Springs.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Diane, can I  
11 interrupt you for a second? Do you have the copies of the  
12 report to pass out?

13 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: Oh, I  
14 do. Sorry.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Sorry about that,  
16 lady. You can start over, Diana.

17 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: I'm  
18 rewinding. It's a magical rewind.

19 The Auxiliary Emergency Fund Committee met on  
20 June 27, 2013 in the Canyon A Room of the Doral Hotel in  
21 Palm Springs, California. The statistical report of the  
22 chairman -- of this chairman appears on page 13 of the  
23 Book of Reports.

24 Donna Lennox was appointed secretary. Barbara  
25 Rosen offered prayer, and JoAnn Adams was appointed



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1 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 16 districts answered roll  
2 call. There were three visitors present. The committee  
3 agreed on the following report: The code was read and no  
4 changes were recommended. Cheers.

5 (Applause.)

6 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: And,  
7 again, no resolutions or recommendations were submitted  
8 for consideration.

9 (Applause.)

10 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO:  
11 Department certificates of appreciation were presented to  
12 units and individuals donating \$100 or more to the  
13 Auxiliary Emergency Fund. National certificates of  
14 appreciation were presented to individuals donating \$50 or  
15 more. National AEF pins will be forwarded as soon as  
16 Peggy finds them in the boxes at the department office.

17 Second and third place certificates for Best Unit  
18 and District Supplementals were presented.

19 Great Wiz, this concludes my statistical report.  
20 May I continue with my supplemental?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

22 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: Thank  
23 you. In a nation experiencing high unemployment rates and  
24 unmerciful onslaught of extreme weather and catastrophic  
25 events, it is evident that if we are to continue to offer

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1 emergency assistance to members who give so much of  
2 themselves to veterans, the military and their families,  
3 children, youth and the community, we must inspire units  
4 to increase donations to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund -- I  
5 lost my place -- and provide direct aid to our own  
6 members.

7           In the spirit of the Great Wiz Terry's theme,  
8 this Fairy Godmother challenged her Playful Pixies to  
9 sprinkle Pixie Dust upon their units and districts to  
10 magically encourage them to hold mystical fundraisers for  
11 the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. And the wondrous Pixies did  
12 just that.

13           Twenty units held fundraisers in a myriad of  
14 magical ways that netted a total of \$3,539.42 in  
15 donations. Some unit Pixies circulated donation cans, a  
16 treasure box, a Fairy bank, penny banks, and even a  
17 mystical See's Candy jar filled with surprises that made  
18 it fun for members to support this important fund.

19           Other units held opportunity drawings for dozens  
20 of free-range eggs, baskets and candy. While some held  
21 AEF breakfasts, fish fries, and a Mexican dinner. One  
22 clever Pixie's members played a Count Your Blessings game  
23 and one unit collected fines from members caught not  
24 wearing their Auxiliary badge. While another unit fined  
25 members for phones ringing during a meeting. And the

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1 wondrously talented juniors of another unit offered  
2 handmade jewelry for donations at both unit and district  
3 meetings and functions.

4 Five district chairmen raised \$1,111, three by  
5 passing donation cans at meetings, a Pixie purse, a  
6 whimsical hat, and a treasure chest, and two held monthly  
7 opportunity drawings.

8 114 units sent a total of \$5,154.75 to the  
9 National Auxiliary Emergency Fund, well exceeding last  
10 year's donations. Donations to AEF are budgeted line  
11 items of 91 units, with 16 units increasing their  
12 donations and eight increasing their -- decreasing their  
13 donations due to difficult economic times that even their  
14 chairman's Pixie Dust could not overcome.

15 An amazing \$12,920 by units and \$325 by districts  
16 was directly provided to their own members who had  
17 suffered catastrophic losses. Inspiring stories of the  
18 units and districts helping members included paying bills  
19 for two members suffering from terminal cancer and gifting  
20 one member's costs to attend her father's funeral after  
21 first losing her job and shortly after her father.

22 Beautiful stories of selflessness included  
23 providing Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas gifts and dues  
24 paid for a member and her Legionnaire husband who provided  
25 a home for a troubled teenager, despite the fact that they

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1 were both out of work. A unit and district temporarily  
2 helped pay some of the bills of a retired member who lost  
3 her school crossing guard job after going blind in both  
4 eyes due to cancer, and members of a unit that took turns  
5 sitting with the member's gravely ill husband so she could  
6 attend meetings.

7           For this Fairy Godmother, the most inspiring  
8 fundraiser was held shortly after Hurricane Sandy hit the  
9 east coast. During a unit AEF meeting an AEF Pixie whose  
10 unit donated \$200 didn't stop there. She asked for  
11 personal donations and received another \$700 from her  
12 unit's president who matched the -- this was added a  
13 little bit later. Who matched the monies that were  
14 donated out of their entertainment room following the  
15 meeting. She went out and just asked for personal  
16 donations, and then their president matched those funds,  
17 ultimately raising \$1,600. And this is in the span of  
18 like a half an hour.

19           The unit sent the entire \$1,600 directly to a  
20 sister unit in Staten Island where the monies were  
21 distributed to unit members most affected by the  
22 hurricane's devastation. A lesson we can learn is that  
23 sometimes the simplest fundraisers, asking for donations  
24 without the prizes we have grown so used to giving and  
25 receiving is sometimes the most fruitful due to mankind's

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1 inherent eagerness to help others.

2 In addition to holding fundraisers, 141 unit  
3 chairmen actively enlightened members about the Auxiliary  
4 Emergency Fund and 67 handed out AEF brochures resulting  
5 in 21 units submitting applications to National, 19 for  
6 Emergency Assistance and two for Education Assistance.

7 In conclusion, this humble former Pixie, now a  
8 Fairy Godmother, would like to thank the Great Wiz Terry  
9 for appointing me to the exalted position of Fairy  
10 Godmother of the Playful Pixies. Do we have any Playful  
11 Pixies here? Raise your hands.

12 (Applause.)

13 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO:  
14 Hopefully you are as proud as I am of the magic created by  
15 the Playful Pixies who inspired their units and districts  
16 to so generously support the Auxiliary Emergency Fund and  
17 their own members in need this past year. May their  
18 efforts continue in the years to come, even without the  
19 magical, mystical Pixie Dust of this year's Playful  
20 Pixies.

21 Great Wiz, this concludes my remarks. May I  
22 present this year's awards?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

24 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: Thank  
25 you. Best Unit Fundraiser, the certificate goes to La

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1 Mesa Unit 282, District 22, Shannon Hardin.

2 (Applause.)

3 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: That  
4 was the one that raised the \$1600 for the Staten Island.

5 (Applause.)

6 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: Best  
7 Unit Supplemental, District 24, Unit 43's Playful Pixie  
8 Lisa Gould.

9 (Applause.)

10 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: And  
11 last, but not least, first place District Supplemental,  
12 which there were so many supplementals. Thank you so much  
13 because that really helps the department chairmen be able  
14 to write our supplemental if we know what you're doing.  
15 Goes to District 18, very Playful Pixie Peggy McIntosh.

16 (Applause.)

17 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN MORENO: Thank  
18 you, Madam Terry. That concludes my presentation.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Fairy  
20 Godmother. You've done an excellent job.

21 Next Joan Cannon.

22 (Applause.)

23

24 PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

25

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1 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN CANNON: The convention  
2 committee on Public Relations met on June 27th, 2013 at  
3 10:00 a.m. in Canyon Suite A of the El Doral Princess  
4 Resort, Cathedral City, California. The statistical  
5 report of this chairman appears on page 20 of the Book of  
6 Reports.

7 Roberta Stephens, Unit 184, was appointed  
8 secretary. Kim Thompson offered prayer, and Oretha  
9 Calloway, Unit 710, was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms. A  
10 total of 11 district delegates answered roll call. There  
11 were three visitors present.

12 The committee agreed on the following report.  
13 The code was read. No changes were made and there were no  
14 resolutions.

15 Recommendations: Unit 419, District 13, Cindy  
16 Newman suggested coordination between unit and district  
17 chairmen while working projects so as to not duplicate  
18 efforts. Cindy also suggested each unit go to  
19 buildasign.com for a free 3-by-5 banner that can be used  
20 during the four major holidays. Just make sure you obtain  
21 all permissions from the city if you're placing the banner  
22 on any city property.

23 Unit 69, District 28, Sandy Green provided an  
24 example of how to get the word out to our communities on  
25 activities supporting our veterans. They planted flowers

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1 to remember POW/MIA's during Memorial Day. Unit 69  
2 maintains the flower displays, which are red, white, and  
3 blue, year-round. This has brought many questions to them  
4 about American Legion Auxiliary and our programs.

5 Unit 319, District 18 suggested American Legion  
6 Auxiliary members not be afraid to use technology to our  
7 advantage. If you are not sure how to use Facebook, ask  
8 your children or grandchildren for their support.

9 Second place District Award was presented with  
10 gift to District Karen Bobren, Chairman. Second place  
11 Unit Award with gift was presented to Unit 324, Evelyn T.  
12 Rodriguez, Chairman. And third place Unit Award was  
13 presented to Unit 314, Jean A. Cooley-Desmeules during the  
14 committee meeting.

15 Madam Department President, may I continue with  
16 my supplemental?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

18 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN CANNON: Madam  
19 President, your Public Relations Heralds have been working  
20 hard to ensure their networks are established allowing  
21 advancements of American Legion Auxiliary programs.  
22 American Legion Auxiliary members have been working in  
23 their communities supporting our military, their families,  
24 veterans, and the underprivileged. How do we do this? By  
25 keeping informed about the American Legion and the



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1 American Legion Auxiliary.

2           There are 416 subscriptions to e-news, a great  
3 way to keep up with events and special information. Our  
4 generous ALA members have purchased 184 gift  
5 subscriptions, an ideal way to ensure others are provided  
6 with ALA information.

7           We are writing and submitting newspaper articles  
8 on our activities to a tune of 461 with 431 actual  
9 published articles. We are writing to our local editors  
10 making our opinions heard by submitting 64 letters with 35  
11 published.

12           To keep ALA and our benefactors in the public  
13 eye, we submitted 97 letters of appreciation and sent them  
14 to our local newspapers, a great way to promote ALA  
15 programs and say at the same time thank you to those that  
16 support us. And the best part, it's cost free to the  
17 unit.

18           We have been on TV 50 times, had 252 radio  
19 announcements, and were seen on local cable TV 34 times,  
20 each and every time promoting ALA programs and getting the  
21 word out about other military, their families, and our  
22 veterans.

23           And as we gain experience with telecommunications  
24 more units are using social media. Currently we have 34  
25 units with a website and 42 share with their posts. Even

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1 districts are getting involved. Four have their own  
2 website. We have 35 units with Facebook pages, but 337  
3 ALA members with personal Facebook pages all supporting  
4 our programs. With a quick click of a mouse, an  
5 individual can share information which is magically sent  
6 to more people, another cost-free method to ensure  
7 accurate information is available to all unit members and  
8 our Facebook friends.

9           We are communicating with each other in all the  
10 normal ways: telephone, word of mouth, unit meetings,  
11 district meetings, e-mail, newsletters, Facebook, and even  
12 Twitter. We are writing to ALA members, city leaders,  
13 state and federal representatives on veterans concerns,  
14 asking for support, and requesting attendance at local  
15 functions.

16           I want to thank all the unit and district heralds  
17 that submitted end-of-year reports and a supplemental  
18 report. It was not only a pleasure, but also a learning  
19 reading all that our units have done this year.

20           Madam Department President, may I announce my  
21 first place winners at this time?

22           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

23           PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN CANNON: First place  
24 Unit Award goes to Unit 291, District 29, Cindy Widdal,  
25 Public Relations Chairman.

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1 (Applause.)

2 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN CANNON: First place  
3 District Award goes to District 19, Jean A.  
4 Cooley-Desmeules, Public Relations Chairman.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Oh, that chicken.

7 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN CANNON: Madam  
8 Department President, that concludes my report and I thank  
9 you for the appointment and I had a great time.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Joan.

12 By your applause you have accepted the report.

13 Thank you, ladies. We're going to switch it up  
14 here real quick and I'm going to blind side my advisory  
15 committee. Sue Hooker, you're up, please. Yeah, after  
16 lunch we're going to jaunt around the room with our  
17 costumes. Please be prepared to join us immediately after  
18 the jaunt.

19 Now I've got to tell you. I have it on good  
20 authority that Odette is going to be performing during the  
21 jaunt, and you don't want to miss it.

22 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOOKER: They thought  
23 I ran away. Would I do that?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: What? She's  
25 going to keep her clothes on, Sue. Somebody told me she

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1 wasn't, but she is going to be performing.

2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Who?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: My Little Odette  
4 right after lunch at 1:30.

5 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Yeah, I  
6 know. I'm watching her. You will all be amused. Or  
7 entertained. I would like to introduce the rest of the  
8 committee. Past Department President Pilar Reyes.

9 (Applause.)

10 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Past  
11 Department President Odette Cuccaro, and myself.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: And you are?

14 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOOKER: Sue Hooker,  
15 referred to in somebody's report yesterday I think as  
16 heard "Happy Hooker" somewhere. I'm used to that. It's  
17 okay.

18 It has been our pleasure to serve you in the  
19 advisory committee this year. You have served this  
20 department well and with wise thoughts, so our services  
21 were few. We are still here at your service and we  
22 congratulate you in your year and wish you a very  
23 successful convention, which is almost over. And I see  
24 the smile in your face which is nice to see, but it has  
25 been a pleasure to serve with you and for you this year.

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1 So we all wish you well.

2 (Applause.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,  
4 ladies, very, very much. Those ladies are beyond  
5 themselves and they answer the call.

6 Okay. Do we have any more -- the crystal ball  
7 has been busy. And after lunch we will also hear quickly  
8 how much dues we've collected and we'll have a short recap  
9 on that and how much we still need. The leprechauns are  
10 busy working on that.

11 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: I have in my crystal  
12 ball when the smoke is clearing, I have a BOL, which is be  
13 on the lookout. Anita has lost her iPhone in the  
14 restroom, so please.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Anita Biggs.  
16 Call it, Anita.

17 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's on silent.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: What color is it?

19 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Black.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. Ladies,  
21 you're dismissed for lunch. Please be back here at 1:30  
22 in your costumes, please. Thank you, ladies, very, very  
23 much.

24 (Lunch recess: 11:48 a.m.)

25

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1                   AFTERNOON SESSION - 1:31 p.m.

2

3                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Ladies, take your  
4 seats, please.

5                   Mr. Leyser, you can come up and park your little  
6 booty on the stage, please, sir, Mr. Leyser.

7                   Okay. Ladies, we're about ready to start our  
8 parade. If we could start -- get Wood Nymph to start our  
9 music or one of the juniors out in the lobby. Would  
10 somebody stick their head out and tell them I need  
11 Patricia or Talia, please.

12                  CHAPLAIN RYE: Would Harriet Clendenin please go  
13 out and pick up their corsages in the hallway, please.

14                  DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Talia or  
15 Patricia. Patricia Avina or Talia Avina, I need you,  
16 please.

17                  Patricia, there you are. Come over to this  
18 computer and start the music, please. You guys are going  
19 to rock and roll I hope to "Hi-Ho, Hi-Ho; It's Off to Work  
20 We Go" as soon as Ms. Patricia finds it on this lovely  
21 laptop.

22                  Ladies, will you please close the doors on the  
23 left and right side, please.

24                  Patricia, did you find it? Start something with  
25 a little pizazz, please, babe.

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1            Talia, I need "Off to Work I Go." Here we go,  
2 ladies. Let's start our parade. This session is now  
3 reconvened.

4            (Parade processional.)

5            DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. Get up and  
6 do it. Here comes my Burger King king. She's going to  
7 lead the parade. This is Gabby. Follow the king. Come  
8 on, ladies, you guys can still move it. Come on. Follow  
9 the king. Okay. You too.

10           Come on District 6, you're not that old. Come on  
11 Ms. Brenda. Move it, lady. Come on, Belinda. Oh, look  
12 at our beautiful magical, mystical creatures.

13           Ramona, I know you're not too old. Ramona, come  
14 on, come on. Come on, Ramona, come on. Karen Romero, I  
15 saw you move it last week. Come on, babe. Come on,  
16 Karen. Deanne, don't look so startled. Delores. Come  
17 on, ladies. I can see you also, babe. Come on. Cheryl  
18 Neiffer, I can see you. Cheryl Neiffer, I can see you  
19 hiding. Come on. We seem to have a lot of people who  
20 can't hear on the floor.

21           Come on. District 28 is trying to get in. Come  
22 on move it, ladies, move it. Look at Madeline Lee  
23 strutting her stuff back there. "Hi-ho. Hi-ho; It's Off  
24 to Work We Go." Oh, Bonnie, look at you, baby.

25           Now, Mr. Leyser, do you see what you're missing

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1 out on being on the other side of the house? Look at the  
2 stuff that's going by. These magical and mystical  
3 creatures. Harriet. Harriet, shut your mouth and get in  
4 line. Uh-oh, we've got a unicorn. Uh-oh, and I'm not  
5 sure what's leading it either. It may be a gypsy. Oh,  
6 she's so full of magic. On, babies. Oh, oh, Ms. Odette  
7 has retired from the lineup. Ms. Odette's costume is 46  
8 years old. And who made it for you?

9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER CUCCARO: Ethyl Wilson.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Ethyl Wilson made  
11 that for her from the 15th District.

12 Now, ladies, you can find a home or whatever type  
13 of home it is. If it's a troll bridge or whatever. Thank  
14 you, ladies.

15 Harriet, will you please go to the office and  
16 tell our leprechaun I need her?

17 Okay. We're going to start off with our  
18 Leadership Chairman Diane DeLashmit. She's going to give  
19 her report and then she's going to be exiting the room.  
20 So Diane DeLashmit will give our Leadership report.

21 Thank you, ladies, very, very much for dancing  
22 for us. We sincerely enjoyed it, and Mr. Leyser is going  
23 to take good words back to the Legion on our behalf.

24

25

LEADERSHIP REPORT



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1

2 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Madam President,  
3 the convention committee on Leadership met at 9:00 a.m. on  
4 June 27th of 2013 in the Canyon Suite C of the Doral, Palm  
5 Springs, California. The statistical report appears on  
6 page 14 of the Book of Reports.

7 LuAnn Capazzi, District 27, was appointed  
8 Secretary. Narsis Williams, District 21, offered prayer,  
9 and Jeri Adams, District 16, was appointed  
10 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 19 districts answered roll  
11 call. There were five visitors present.

12 The committee agreed on the following report:  
13 The code was read and the following changes were  
14 presented. Number 4 as it now reads: "Newly appointed  
15 Department Chairman will count the number of white cards  
16 remaining from the previous year. She shall request  
17 additional cards to equal 50. She shall request cards  
18 when her supply is low. When lists are received she will  
19 complete the cards and forward to the Department President  
20 for signature. She shall request the Department Office to  
21 order 50 blue cards with the new National President's  
22 signature as soon as possible."

23 The proposed change would be: "Newly appointed  
24 Department Chairman will count the number of white cards  
25 remaining from the previous year. She shall request

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1 additional cards to equal 50. She shall request cards  
2 when her supply is low. When lists are received she will  
3 complete the cards and forward to the Department President  
4 for signature."

5 By direction of the committee, I move the  
6 acceptance of this change.

7 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
9 and seconded. Leadership code number 4 currently reads:  
10 "Newly appointed Department Chairman will count the number  
11 of white cards remaining from the previous year. She  
12 shall request additional cards to equal 50. She shall  
13 request cards when her supply is low. When lists are  
14 received she will complete the cards and forward to the  
15 Department President for signature. She shall request the  
16 Department Office to order 50 blue cards with the new  
17 National President's signature as soon as possible."

18 Proposed change will read: New code 4: "Newly  
19 appointed Department Chairman will count the number of  
20 white cards remaining from the previous year. She shall  
21 request additional cards to equal 50. She shall request  
22 cards when her supply is low. When lists are received she  
23 will complete the cards and forward to the Department  
24 President for signature."

25 Is there any discussion?

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1 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Madam President,  
2 I would just like to state that the cards no longer come  
3 from National, that they send a template with the National  
4 President's signature on it and we make up the cards in  
5 the department now.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you. All  
7 those in favor, say aye.

8 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposition?  
10 (No response.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

12 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Code number 5 as  
13 it now reads: "The Department Chairman shall conduct at  
14 least one workshop during the administrative year. Early  
15 in the year, she shall contact all certified instructors  
16 to ascertain who will be able to hold or participate in a  
17 workshop. She shall work with the instructors that  
18 workshops are held in areas where needed."

19 The proposed change shall be: "The Department  
20 Chairman shall conduct at least one workshop during the  
21 administrative year. She shall work with instructors that  
22 workshops are held in areas where needed."

23 The reason for this change is it's not -- it's  
24 not easy to contact all certified instructors. We had 267  
25 of them listed. So by direction of the committee, I move

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1 the acceptance of this change.

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
4 and seconded to change leadership code number 5. It now  
5 reads: "The Department Chairman shall conduct at least  
6 one workshop during the administrative year. Early in the  
7 year, she shall contact all certified instructors to  
8 ascertain who will be able to hold or participate in a  
9 workshop. She shall work with the instructors that  
10 workshops are held in areas where needed."

11 Proposed change would read: "The Department  
12 Chairman shall conduct at least one workshop during the  
13 administrative year. She shall work with instructors that  
14 workshops are held in areas where needed."

15 Is there any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
18 favor, say aye.

19 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

23 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: We just wish to  
24 reverse the numbers on 7 and 8 to make it flow a little  
25 better. So by direction of the committee, I move the

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1 change of Code 7 and 8.

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
4 and seconded to change the position of 7 and 8. Is there  
5 any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
8 favor, say aye.

9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

13 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: The next one is  
14 to consolidate parts of Code 7, 9 and 13. Code 7 now  
15 reads: "Applications for certified instructors shall have  
16 attended and/or participated in a leadership workshop for  
17 a minimum of six hours. She must complete the application  
18 for certification and turn it into the instructor. The  
19 instructor shall make her recommendation and forward the  
20 completed application with \$1 to the Department Chairman."

21 The proposed change which will now be 8 rather  
22 than 7 is: "Requirements for certification or  
23 recertification of certified instructor: A, passed the  
24 National Correspondence Course. B, attended and/or  
25 participated in a leadership workshop for a minimum of six

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1 hours. C, certified instructors must conduct or have  
2 participated in a workshop every five years to maintain  
3 their certification. D, proper forms must be completed by  
4 applicant and recommendation made by the certified  
5 instructor. E, blue cards will be issued to certified  
6 instructors after receipt by the Department Chairman of  
7 the application and \$1. The date of expiration will be  
8 placed on the back of the card by the Department  
9 Chairman."

10 By direction of the committee, I move the code  
11 change.

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
14 and seconded to consolidate parts of 7, 9, and 13. Seven  
15 as it now reads: "Applications for certified instructors  
16 shall have attended and/or participated in a leadership  
17 workshop for a minimum of six hours. She must complete  
18 the application for certification and turn it into the  
19 instructor. The instructor shall make her recommendation  
20 and forward the completed application with \$1 to the  
21 Department Chairman."

22 Proposed change to read: "Requirements for  
23 certification or recertification of certified instructor:  
24 A, passed the National Correspondence Course. B, attended  
25 and/or participated in a leadership workshop for a minimum

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1 of six hours. C, certified instructors must conduct or  
2 have participated in a workshop every five years to  
3 maintain their certification. D, proper forms must be  
4 completed by applicant and recommendation made by the  
5 certified instructor. E, blue cards will be issued to  
6 certified instructors after receipt by the Department  
7 Chairman of the application and \$1. The date of  
8 expiration will be placed on the back of the card by the  
9 Department Chairman."

10 Is there any discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
13 favor, say aye.

14 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposition?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

18 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Number 9 as it  
19 now reads: "Proper forms must be completed by applicants  
20 for certification and recertification and recommendations  
21 made by the certified instructor. Blue cards will be  
22 issued to certified instructors after receipt by the  
23 Department Chairman of the application and \$1. The date  
24 of expiration will be placed on the back of the card by  
25 the Department Chairman. White cards will be issued upon

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1 receipt of attendance and \$1 each from the certified  
2 instructor. Leadership pins at current cost are also  
3 available and can be ordered from National Emblem Sales by  
4 any attendee, but they do not indicate instructor status.  
5 Monies in full must accompany all requests for pins and  
6 cards."

7           The proposed change: "White cards will be issued  
8 upon receipt of attendance and \$1 each from the certified  
9 instructor. Leadership pins at current costs are also  
10 available and can be ordered from National Emblem Sales by  
11 any attendee, but they do not indicate instructor status.  
12 Monies in full must accompany all requests for pins and  
13 cards."

14           By direction of the committee I move this change.

15           PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

16           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
17 and seconded to change code 9. It now reads: "Proper  
18 forms must be completed by applicants for certification  
19 and recertification and recommendations made by the  
20 certified instructor. Blue cards will be issued to  
21 certified instructors after receipt by the Department  
22 Chairman of the application and \$1. The date of  
23 expiration will be placed on the back of the card by the  
24 Department Chairman. White cards will be issued upon  
25 receipt of attendance and \$1 each from the certified



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1 instructor. Leadership pins at current cost are also  
2 available and can be ordered from National Emblem Sales by  
3 any attendee, but they do not indicate instructor status.  
4 Monies in full must accompany all requests for pins and  
5 cards."

6 Proposed number 9: "White cards will be issued  
7 upon receipt of attendance and \$1 each from the certified  
8 instructor. Leadership pins at current costs are also  
9 available and can be ordered from National Emblem Sales by  
10 any attendee, but they do not indicate instructor status.  
11 Monies in full must accompany all requests for pins and  
12 cards."

13 Is there any discussion?

14 (No response.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
16 favor, say aye.

17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

21 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Code number 13 as  
22 it now reads: "Certified instructors must conduct or have  
23 participated in a workshop every five years to maintain  
24 their certification. All members are encouraged to  
25 complete the Auxiliary Correspondence Course."

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1           The proposed change is: "All members are  
2 encouraged to complete the Auxiliary Correspondence  
3 Course." The other items were addressed in a previous  
4 code.

5           By direction of the committee, I move that  
6 change.

7           PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

8           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
9 and seconded to change Code 13. As it now reads:  
10 "Certified instructors must conduct or have participated  
11 in a workshop every five years to maintain their  
12 certification. All members are encouraged to complete the  
13 Auxiliary Correspondence Course."

14           New 13 would read: "All members are encouraged  
15 to complete the Auxiliary Correspondence Course."

16           Is there any discussion?

17           (No response.)

18           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
19 favor, say aye.

20           ALL PRESENT: Aye.

21           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

22           (No response.)

23           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

24           LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Code number 14:  
25 "The Department Chairman shall maintain a current list of

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1 names and addresses of certified instructors and shall  
2 provide each district with the approved list at the  
3 Department Convention."

4 The proposed change would be: "The Department  
5 Chairman shall maintain a current list of names, unit  
6 numbers, and districts of certified instructors and shall  
7 provide each district with the approved list at the  
8 Department Convention."

9 By direction of the committee I move this change.

10 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
12 and seconded to change leadership code number 14: "The  
13 Department Chairman shall maintain a current list of names  
14 and addresses of certified instructors and shall provide  
15 each district with the approved list at the Department  
16 Convention."

17 Proposed change would read: Number 14: "The  
18 Department Chairman shall maintain a current list of  
19 names, unit numbers, and districts of certified  
20 instructors and shall provide each district with the  
21 approved list at the Department Convention."

22 Is there any discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
25 favor, say aye.

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1 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

5 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: There were no  
6 resolutions or recommendation. 100 percent reporting  
7 citations were given and second and third place winners  
8 were presented. And I have it here, but I've posted it in  
9 the office but I have it. But I have the list and each  
10 district has a copy of it.

11 With no further business the meeting was  
12 adjourned at 9:55 a.m. Diane DeLashmit, Leadership  
13 Chairman.

14 Madam President, may I continue with my  
15 supplemental?

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

17 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Madam Wizard  
18 Terry, this year was very challenging, exciting, and  
19 rewarding for this Fairy Godmother. Special emphasis was  
20 placed on taking the correspondence course. The course  
21 was taken by 70 members. Not all passed. Some members  
22 took the course as many as three times before passing.  
23 Some district chairmen had workshops that focused on the  
24 course. There were three junior members that passed the  
25 junior correspondence course. There is a lot of valuable

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1 material included in this course that can be utilized for  
2 the senior membership as well.

3           This year districts in our vast kingdom were  
4 encouraged to hold a Department School of Instruction, a  
5 leadership workshop, in their area and to invite  
6 surrounding districts to attend. The intent was to offer  
7 opportunities in villages where there had not been any  
8 training for some time. Response was received from five  
9 districts from the San Francisco Bay Area to the Mexican  
10 border.

11           Attendance varied from 16 to 35 present, however,  
12 it was worth the effort since there were a total of 125  
13 attendees, including 14 new members, and 36 first timers.

14           Working with Linda Hayes, the Junior Activities  
15 Chairman, a workshop for junior members was held with 16  
16 attending and five districts represented. There were many  
17 senior members present also that helped facilitate the  
18 program.

19           At each workshop certified instructors were  
20 assigned portions of the program to facilitate. Many  
21 mediums were used in the presentations which offered a lot  
22 of versatility and dynamics. Those in attendance were  
23 encourage to participate in skits, question and answer  
24 quizzes and other fun ways of learning. Hands-on  
25 demonstrations were provided for proper presentation of

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1 Colors, escorting of guests, poppy making, and much more.  
2 Handouts were provided for each attendee. Many subjects  
3 were presented; however there was much in which there just  
4 wasn't enough time.

5           Districts reported 22 new leadership activities  
6 developed in the units and districts. Some were new  
7 member packets that contained information regarding  
8 preamble, emblem, acronyms, Constitution & Bylaws,  
9 standing rules, flag etiquette, poppy stories, and contact  
10 information, et cetera. Some units appointed co-chairmen  
11 to learn the various programs. The correspondence course  
12 was initiated in some. Public speaking experience was  
13 offered in one unit. Unique ways of presenting the  
14 program was a big hit in another unit.

15           A mentoring program was reported by 70 units.  
16 The big sister idea was used at two units. The name of a  
17 seasoned member was given to newer members to contact for  
18 questions and information in another. Many liked the  
19 one-on-one concept. There were many old ideas that were  
20 used for the first time in some units and districts.

21           Some districts mentoring new units or -- let's  
22 see. Some districts maintain new units -- or mentoring  
23 new units or those having difficulty, by attending each of  
24 their meetings for a year to be a resource person.  
25 Depending on how the unit is doing, the mentor from then

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1 on only attends occasionally.

2 All in all, leadership was offered to a vast  
3 amount of members; however, as is always the case, those  
4 that need it the most do not avail themselves of the  
5 opportunity. It is encouraging that many of our seasoned  
6 members continue to learn more and more about our  
7 organization.

8 And now for the awards. Our first place Best  
9 Unit Supplemental goes to Madeline Lee, Camarillo Unit  
10 741.

11 (Applause.)

12 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Congratulations.  
13 One of our seasoned. Thank you, Madeline.

14 (Applause.)

15 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: And first place  
16 District Unit Supplemental goes to Pat Alvarez, District  
17 29.

18 (Applause.)

19 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: I will leave you  
20 with this quote: "True leadership must be for the benefit  
21 of the followers, not the enrichment of the leaders."  
22 From Robert Townsend.

23 Madam Wizard, this concludes my report.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Diane,  
25 you wise old owl.

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1 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Oh, and I forgot  
2 about this. Excuse me.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Before we hear  
4 from our Convention Commission, we are going to have a  
5 quick Membership update report from our Leprechaun  
6 Danielle. It will be very short and sweet.

7 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHITE: Short and sweet is  
8 the word. Okay. We started with 572 members that we  
9 needed to renew. Ladies, first of all, we collected  
10 \$2,213 with you guys. And last night from the Legion we  
11 collected another 300. So we collected \$2,539.

12 (Applause.)

13 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHITE: That's remarkable.  
14 As of now we have paid for 449 members. You can applaud  
15 yourself because --

16 (Applause.)

17 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHITE: But importantly we  
18 still have 124 seniors to renew. We have taken care of  
19 all the seniors at each district and unit, so it took us  
20 all morning to do that. This afternoon we're going to  
21 take care of all the juniors, except for District 13 that  
22 doesn't want them paid. So we will have to get about 124  
23 senior members. But I know you guys. It's getting so  
24 close, so close.

25 So what I'm going to ask you is see if you can be



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1 giving for one more senior and we will make it for sure.  
2 So that's up to you now, the last drop. But we are ready  
3 with a very big smile to see if we can make it. And if we  
4 do, you will know by tomorrow morning. Thank you, ladies.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Dona Enright.

7 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN ENRIGHT: Yes. District 18,  
8 Unit 755 is giving -- okay. I'm sorry; I can't read. 247  
9 is giving you a check for one senior, five juniors from  
10 their unit.

11 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHITE: Thank you very much.

12 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN ENRIGHT: And we have one  
13 other senior from the district.

14 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHITE: Madam President, I  
15 have forgotten -- if I may excuse myself, I have forgotten  
16 to thank you for this Membership assignment. I'm not sure  
17 if I want to say thank you, but let me tell you it was  
18 challenging and the work with Madam President was a  
19 delight. Thank you.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,  
21 Danielle.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Now our little  
24 leprechaun will be in the back of the room and if you are  
25 able to once again contribute so that we can get these

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1 about 120 members paid, it would help. You can go  
2 together to come up with the \$17 per capita. So see the  
3 little leprechaun in the back of the room. Thank you,  
4 ladies, very, very much.

5 Now we are going to have our Convention  
6 Commission Linda Caples, and we have Mr. Jim Leyser from  
7 the American Legion Convention Commission.

8

9 CONVENTION COMMISSION REPORT

10

11 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: Madam  
12 President, a positive note. I have enjoyed this  
13 chairmanship and was very lucky to have already known and  
14 been what I consider friends with those who are on the  
15 American Legion Commission. And have been very helpful  
16 and have kept me informed as to what has been taking place  
17 since the last convention and why no meetings and et  
18 cetera this past year.

19 This has been a very busy year for this chairman  
20 and I am sad to say a very uneventful year due to the  
21 American Legion Department of California moving forward to  
22 become the American Legion Department of California  
23 Convention Corporation. The resolution at the last  
24 convention in Redding to form was presented and passed.  
25 This also meant their writing constitution and bylaws that

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1 would conform to Department and National.

2 Yesterday I was invited to once again attend the  
3 American Legion Convention City Commission meeting at 1:00  
4 o'clock. My co-part, so to speak, and chairman for the  
5 Legion, Jim Leyser, was appointed to run the meeting. The  
6 meeting finished at about 3:00 p.m. and was a very, very  
7 informative meeting.

8 At this meeting they presented their bylaws for  
9 the American Legion Department of California Convention  
10 Corporation. They were read and then discussed, with a  
11 few little housekeeping items. Vote was taken, they were  
12 accepted and they were passed.

13 A little information. The members of the  
14 American Legion Department of California Convention  
15 Corporation will be known as trustees. There will be nine  
16 trustees: three members of the American Legion Department  
17 of California, two members of the Department of California  
18 American Legion Auxiliary, two members of the Sons of the  
19 American Legion Detachment of California, and two members  
20 of the American Legion Riders Department of California.  
21 These trustees shall be elected at the annual conventions  
22 and each trustee shall serve for three years.

23 The American Legion Department of California  
24 Convention Corporation will be taking over next year 2014  
25 after the Santa Clara convention and at that time all

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1 future conventions, at which time it will then be known as  
2 the American Legion Department of California Convention  
3 Corporation instead of the American Legion Convention  
4 Commission.

5 Our future conventions at this time are: 2014  
6 Santa Clara. 2015 Ontario as voted. And possibly 2016  
7 Fresno.

8 It is this chairman's recommendation as was the  
9 past chairman, Beverly Sparks', recommendation in her  
10 convention report that this chairmanship be for a longer  
11 term. They should also be from the north and south to  
12 save expenses for our department as previously in the past  
13 they were all pretty close to one area.

14 You also might like to know that not all hotels  
15 pay for rooms when we tour and sometimes not even lunch or  
16 coffee. This can save our Department on unneeded  
17 expenses. It is also a recommendation that the incoming  
18 Department President form a committee to take on the task  
19 of conforming to the American Legion Department of  
20 California Convention Corporation so that we can continue  
21 to work together in the future without issues and success.

22 This chairman also recommends that this committee  
23 review "The Department Requirements For Convention" and  
24 that it also be revised as we need to have new figures  
25 possibly each year as continuing to go 1,000 for

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1 attendance is extra work, empty chairs, and possibly extra  
2 money for our department. This chairman has put the  
3 figures given in the procedure work for help on this issue  
4 from the Redding convention last year. Thank you, Madam  
5 Terry, for that.

6 I am sorry to have to bring this before you, but  
7 I do know we have awesome, intelligent, and very smart  
8 members and that they know how to get the job done to save  
9 our department unnecessary funds to keep us moving  
10 forward.

11 And at this time I would like to introduce our  
12 Convention Commission Committee members: Our one-year  
13 member, Bonnie Christner.

14 (Applause.)

15 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: And our  
16 two-year member: Melanie Taylor.

17 (Applause.)

18 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: I would  
19 also like to introduce the American Legion Convention  
20 Commission Chairman, Jim Leyser, who will share with us  
21 about the new changes and the American Legion Department  
22 of California Convention Corporation.

23 (Applause.)

24 LEGION CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:

25 Thank you, Linda. Good afternoon, ladies.

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Good afternoon.

2 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:

3 Madam President Terry, so happy to stand up with you with  
4 all the rest of my Past First Mommas. Will they all stand  
5 up who have worked with me in the past years? I have a  
6 bunch of them, I know I do. Where's Madeline Lee? She  
7 worked with me. Bonnie in the back. Norma, there we go  
8 look at that.

9 It's been a real pleasure working with you,  
10 ladies, and I hope to continue for the next few years.  
11 But to give you a little history about the convention  
12 commission, we're getting smaller. They're getting fewer,  
13 so we don't have a lot of places.

14 In fact, 2015 in Ontario right at this moment is  
15 up in the air. We don't have a convention corporation to  
16 put one on down there. Both districts are at odds with  
17 each other so they're not going to put one together. So  
18 that's why or one reason we're hoping to get this  
19 corporation together before that so that we would be able  
20 to move in. When there's not a city corporation available  
21 we'll be able to move in and set it up.

22 And so we're hoping that everybody that gets  
23 elected to the corporation has experience with putting on  
24 a convention at one time or another while they were  
25 members of the Auxiliary.

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1           Number two, we're going to be going into smaller  
2 venues. As you look around you now, you see a lot of  
3 empty chairs. Some people may have left due to illness or  
4 whatever, but look at your opening day and then look at  
5 your ending day. For every chair you see in this room we  
6 pay \$1. They don't fill those chairs anymore. They used  
7 to. When I first started we got the chairs and the  
8 convention city corporations were willing to work with us.  
9 And they still are, but they want us to pay anywhere from  
10 70- to \$80,000 for a convention center.

11           So you can see the importance of this corporation  
12 getting put together so that we can go in and look at  
13 places that have little convention centers in them, but  
14 they're still large enough to take care of us. And so in  
15 that respect, like Linda said, we're asking that each  
16 group, the Auxiliary, the Sons of the American Legion, the  
17 Riders and the Legion as well, look at your needs.  
18 Because we're going to look at them alongside of you and  
19 we want to try to help you, but we're going to have to  
20 downsize.

21           I would rather see -- I mean, you ladies have  
22 done well this year. You're going to be 100 percent, yes?

23           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, sir. Honey,  
24 I want some money out of your pocket. Thirty-four bucks,  
25 please.

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1           LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER: I  
2 want you to know I got robbed in the hallway back there  
3 when the lights were off.

4           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Well, you're  
5 restocked by then. Give me 34 bucks, please.

6           (Applause.)

7           LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
8 What am I giving you 34 bucks for?

9           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Two per capita  
10 for two senior members.

11          LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
12 I'll tell you what. Then I'll give you 40.

13          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, sir.  
14 (Applause.)

15          LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER: I  
16 think you already beat the Legion. When are you going to  
17 have this man.

18          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Well, baby,  
19 that's because we're going to be having a "you do."

20          LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER: I  
21 don't know. Jim is going home. Bad leg, bad leg.

22          Mary, are you listening? I want to introduce my  
23 wife. And this is her first convention.

24          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Uh-oh.

25          LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:



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1 And she's going to -- and she's been my biggest supporter  
2 for 22 years in the American Legion. Mary, stand up.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hey, Jim, does  
5 she have any money?

6 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
7 Not much. Well, she came down here now.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Keep doing it  
9 there, dude.

10 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
11 There. That's all of it.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: On, baby.

13 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER: So  
14 now you get an idea. See, you guys have fun and  
15 camaraderie and everything. I love that. It's really  
16 great to come over and see you guys and visit with you  
17 once in a while.

18 Oh, thank you. I'm going to frame this and put  
19 it in a glass case; that's the most expensive mug I ever  
20 held.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It just cost him  
22 \$77 because he made another additional \$37 donation.  
23 Thank you, Jim.

24 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
25 You're welcome. So please think about it and work with

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1 it. We're hoping to get this corporation off the ground  
2 before 2015. We just got the bylaws passed today so now  
3 we can go to Sacramento and get the corporation papers,  
4 and then we'll be going on to elect the members and get  
5 that done. So American Legion, on the American Legion  
6 side the first year they will be appointed, and then after  
7 that they will be elected in staggered form, three, two,  
8 and one. And so is there any other questions?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We want you to  
10 give out your phone number so these ladies can call you  
11 with a question. He has a cell phone, but he's pretty  
12 tricky because he gives you the number, but not the area  
13 code.

14 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
15 Terry, I live in Fresno.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes.

17 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
18 Everybody knows the area code for Fresno.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: No, they don't.  
20 I get lost in a shoebox, dude.

21 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
22 All right. Get your pen out.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: I've got it. I'm  
24 ready.

25 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:

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1 Area code (559) 907-1804. And I'll let you know, Mary  
2 screens all my calls so it better be legitimate.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, sir.

4 LEGION CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LEYSER:  
5 You're more than welcome. Any other questions? Thank you  
6 very much and thank you for your time.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you. Will  
8 the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please escort Mr. Jim  
9 Leyser from the room.

10 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: Thank you,  
11 Jim. And his honey too.

12 (ProceSSIONAL.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: While this was  
14 going on, Margaret Quinones and Ruby Kapsalis donated \$102  
15 for six seniors in memory of Veronica McGough.

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Now what we've  
18 all been waiting for for days.

19 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: Wait,  
20 wait.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Oh, excuse me.  
22 Sorry, Linda.

23 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: Madam  
24 President, this concludes my report and I thank you for  
25 this appointment. It has been an honor to serve you and

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1 our department.

2 Madam President, may I also approach your station  
3 for the purpose of a gift?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

5 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: I was  
6 Linda's convention chairman in Redding and we had sinful  
7 ice cream at the pool. And it was good.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: I should have  
9 done this when Jim was here. He could have opened it.  
10 Yeah, you can pop and we don't care. Oh, isn't she a  
11 beautiful fairy. And she has a crystal ball. Thank you,  
12 Linda. Beautiful, Linda. Thank you.

13 CONVENTION COMISSION CHAIRMAN CAPLES: Thank you.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We are going to  
15 hear from the Finance Committee and the budget.

16 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT PHILCOX: Madam President.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, ma'am.

18 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT PHILCOX: May I interrupt  
19 just a second? It's my honor and pleasure to let you know  
20 that Pat Haus from District 20, Unit 520 -- I mean,  
21 district -- yeah, District 20, Unit 520 also donated a  
22 hundred dollars for membership in Veronica's name.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you. Norma  
25 Billings, our finance chairman, Kathy Martinez, our senior

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1 member of finance, and Geri Fitzpatrick, our junior member  
2 of finance.

3

4 FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND BUDGET

5

6 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Good  
7 afternoon, ladies.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Before we start,  
9 do we have copies of the budget?

10 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Oh, I'm  
11 sorry. Do we have budgets for the members? All the  
12 members have a copy of the budget?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We're going to  
14 step back.

15 NATIONAL POPPY CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Madam  
16 President. While we're waiting for the copies to go  
17 around, I wanted to share something with all of you. As  
18 National Poppy Chairman this year, I received an e-mail  
19 from a unit in Grand Rapids, Michigan. And one of the  
20 ladies got this brilliant idea of going to her bakery and  
21 asking if she would make poppy cookies. The lady at the  
22 bakery said she would be honored to, and so that unit  
23 raised monies for their VA&R program by offering these  
24 poppy cookies to the public.

25 So I called the owner of the bakery and I said,

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1 "Marge, this is Melanie Taylor. I live in California.  
2 I'm the American Legion Auxiliary National Poppy Chairman.  
3 Would you please ship me three dozen of your poppy  
4 cookies. I want to take them Houston, Texas for the  
5 National Convention."

6 And she said, "Oh, honey, I can't really do that,  
7 but I know you have a lot of bakeries in California. Why  
8 don't you contact one of them?"

9 Well, I have a very dear friend who owns a bakery  
10 in my town of Healdsburg. And it's a gold medal,  
11 nationwide baker. And I called Will Seppi and I said,  
12 "Will, would you help my unit raise monies for the poppy  
13 fund to help our veterans at the Yountville Veterans  
14 Home?" We have a PTSD ward over there and it was  
15 mentioned earlier in the VA&R report by Harriet.

16 This PTSD ward gets no money from federal or  
17 state funding, and these are veterans who have suffered  
18 TBI and PTSD while serving our country in Iraq and  
19 Afghanistan. So Will said, "I would be honored to do  
20 that."

21 He made these poppy cookies and sold them for \$3  
22 and 50 cents to the general public gave my unit \$2 for  
23 each cookie sold, and in two weeks' time I had a check  
24 from that bakery in the amount of \$450.

25 (Applause.)

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1           NATIONAL POPPY CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: This is a white  
2 sugar cookie about this big. It was frosted in a hard  
3 crunch frosting. It has our Flanders Field poppy on one  
4 side and written across the top are the words, "We  
5 remember." And he only did this with two weeks' notice  
6 and in two weeks he sold almost 18 dozen cookies. Like I  
7 said, \$450, and that money I used to buy gasoline cards  
8 for the van that the new residents will be using. They  
9 have to travel over to Travis Air Force Base in Sacramento  
10 to see doctors over there. They have to go down to Fort  
11 Miley in San Francisco and they have to go to the Palo  
12 Alto VA down there, you know, because they have had TBIs,  
13 traumatic brain injuries.

14           So that \$450 helped put a lot of gas in the van  
15 to get those residents down to those medical facilities.  
16 So, you know, these -- these cookies are beautiful. They  
17 taste fantastic. So, ladies, check with your bakeries in  
18 your local town in the month of May and let's have some  
19 poppy cookies. You know, that's an easy way, you know, if  
20 they will help you to make money for your poppy account.  
21 And so three programs, three national programs were  
22 covered in this promotion: VA&R because the money went to  
23 the veterans, public relations, because it went into all  
24 the local newspapers. It was on the radio stations. It  
25 was in San Francisco and Oakland TV stations. And it's

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1 also poppy. So why not. What a sweet way to remember our  
2 veterans. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Norma.

5 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Oh, you're  
6 welcome. Madam President, there are going to be some  
7 extra copies. May I ask the district presidents to hold  
8 them up? Each district should have received 16 copies.  
9 So if you have extras, can you please hold them up so that  
10 we can have our juniors collect them?

11 Okay. Madam President Terry, may I proceed with  
12 my statistical?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Your committee  
14 meeting, yes, ma'am.

15 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay. The  
16 convention committee on Finance met on June 27th, 2013 in  
17 the Oleander Ballroom B of the Doral, Palm Springs,  
18 California.

19 The statistical report of this chairman appears  
20 -- that's not applicable. Kathie Martinez was appointed  
21 secretary, Geri Fitzpatrick offered prayer, and Sandy  
22 Jacobs was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 19  
23 district delegates answered roll call. There were six  
24 visitors present.

25 The committee agreed upon the following report:



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1 Code was read. Finance Department Code Number 9 reads:  
2 "A fee of \$25 will be charged to any Unit, District,  
3 Department Officers, and Chairmen, Past Department  
4 Presidents, and individual members who wish to receive  
5 monthly mailings in paper form. All recipients of monthly  
6 mailings via e-mail will not be charged. 2010."

7 The proposed change: "A fee of \$25 will be  
8 charged to any Unit, District, Department Officers and  
9 Chairmen, Past Department Presidents, and individual  
10 members who wish to receive bimonthly mailings in --  
11 excuse me -- paper form. All recipients of bimonthly  
12 mailings via e-mail will not be charged."

13 I move the acceptance with approval of committee  
14 of this code change.

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
17 and seconded to change finance code 9, which currently  
18 reads: "A fee of \$25 will be charged to any Unit,  
19 District, Department Officers, and Chairman, Past  
20 Department Presidents, and individual members who wish to  
21 receive monthly mailings in paper form. All recipients of  
22 monthly mailings via e-mail will not be charged. 2010" to  
23 "A fee of \$25 will be charged to any Unit, District,  
24 Department Officers and Chairman, Past Department  
25 Presidents, and individual members who wish to receive

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1 bimonthly mailings in paper form. All recipients of  
2 bimonthly mailings via e-mail will not be charged."

3 Is there any discussion?

4 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Yes. Madam President,  
5 Michelle Soares.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, Michelle.

7 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: Is this going to double  
8 the amount of paper in the mailings? And if so, then it  
9 would pretty much double the costs, so what is the savings  
10 here.

11 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: That's a  
12 good point. We want to eventually get everybody on  
13 e-mail. There's about a hundred units that do receive. I  
14 know I'm kind of veering away from the answer here, but  
15 yes, the paper will be doubled.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Excuse me.  
17 Recognize Ruby Kapsalis, Past Department President.

18 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: The idea behind this  
19 is postage costs cost the Department of California \$18,000  
20 this year. That's just strictly for the mailings. The  
21 idea is to have the Department only do a bimonthly mailing  
22 and have the officers and chairmen do a bulletin directly  
23 to the district counterparts instead of department. So  
24 the officers and chairmen would be sending bulletins to  
25 the district chairman to disseminate to the units six

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1 times a year and the bimonthly mailings would be going out  
2 six months a year. So you would still be getting  
3 information the 12 months and it would not be doubling the  
4 cost of -- the paperwork would not be doubled.

5 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Wasn't her  
6 question the paperwork being doubled?

7 POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: That's fine. That  
8 answers it.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: So any further  
10 discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, all  
13 those in favor say aye.

14 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

18 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay.

19 Department Code Administrative 1. The Department  
20 Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized and charged with  
21 responsibility of investing Department -- oops. I'm going  
22 to back up one more.

23 Let's go back to Department Policy Code Number 17  
24 which reads: "The budget status report and a trial  
25 balance report prepared by the Department Office shall be

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1 sent to the Department President and Finance Committee  
2 quarterly."

3 We've deleted in its entirety as it is a  
4 duplication of Finance Code Number 5. So Code Number 5  
5 will be eliminated, and for housekeeping we will renumber  
6 the balance of codes accordingly. So 18 will become 17  
7 ending with 25 becoming 24.

8 I move the acceptance with approval of committee  
9 this code change.

10 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
12 and seconded to delete Code 17: "The budget status report  
13 and a trial balance report prepared by the Department  
14 Office shall be sent to the Department President and  
15 Finance Committee quarterly." The motion is made to  
16 delete that entirely and to renumber number 18 through 24.

17 Is there any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Hearing none, all  
20 those in favor say aye.

21 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

25 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Next code.

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1 Department Code Administrative Code Number 1: "The  
2 Department Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized and  
3 charged with the responsibility of investing Department  
4 funds in savings accounts, certificates of deposit, et  
5 cetera, interest bearing checking accounts, where  
6 practical. The investment of funds must be made in major  
7 banking institutions insured by the federal government."

8           The proposed change: "The Department  
9 Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized and charged with  
10 the responsibility of investing Department funds in  
11 savings account, certificates of deposit, et cetera,  
12 interest bearing checking accounts, where practical. The  
13 investment of funds must be made in major banking  
14 institutions insured by the federal government."

15           The addition to this: "A, the Department  
16 President and Secretary/Treasurer shall serve as  
17 signatories on all financial accounts. The Department  
18 Vice President shall serve as a signatory on bank  
19 accounts, but not investment accounts. Annually the  
20 Department Secretary/Treasurer will send a letter to the  
21 appropriate financial investment institution/institutions  
22 with copy of election minutes from the Book of Proceedings  
23 and Post Convention Minutes for nomination/election of the  
24 Secretary/Treasurer updating current authorized  
25 signatories on all financial investment accounts."

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1           Okay. I move the acceptance with approval of  
2 committee this code change.

3           PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

4           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
5 and seconded to change Department Code Administrative  
6 Number 1. As it currently reads: "The Department  
7 Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized and charged with  
8 the responsibility of investing Department funds in  
9 savings accounts, certificates of deposit, et cetera,  
10 interest bearing checking accounts, where practical. The  
11 investment of funds must be made in major banking  
12 institutions insured by the federal government."

13           The proposed change: "The Department  
14 Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized and charged with  
15 the responsibility of investing Department funds in  
16 savings account, certificates of deposit, et cetera,  
17 interest bearing checking accounts, where practical. The  
18 investment of funds must be made in major banking  
19 institutions insured by the federal government.

20           "A, the Department President and  
21 Secretary/Treasurer shall serve as signatories on all  
22 financial accounts. The Department Vice President shall  
23 serve as a signatory on bank accounts, but not investment  
24 accounts. Annually the Department Secretary/Treasurer  
25 will send a letter to the appropriate financial investment

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1 institution/institutions with copy of election minutes  
2 from the Book of Proceedings and Post Convention Minutes  
3 for nomination/election of the Secretary/Treasurer  
4 updating current authorized signatories on all financial  
5 investment accounts."

6 Is there any discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
9 favor, say aye.

10 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

14 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay. The  
15 budget was read and the following changes were made:  
16 \$8500 relocation expense is being moved from the General  
17 Fund Reserves. GF62411, rent-parking-utilities, decreased  
18 to \$500. GF62461, national candidates reserve, \$500.  
19 WF68505, expense account as well as gift shop, patient  
20 remembrance, corrected to reflect donations received at an  
21 amount of \$13,888.48. The WF48733, income-restricted  
22 funds account, increased by \$2025 from reserves to cover  
23 total scholarship awards. WF68702, scholarships-general,  
24 increased to 10,000.

25 A question regarding the totals in the actual

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1 columns were addressed. We do not have correct/accurate  
2 totals in these columns due to incorrect postings in the  
3 general ledger.

4 The finance committee had to reconvene after the  
5 memorial program to discuss a proposed code change from  
6 Past Presidents Parlay Committee meeting. This one --  
7 there was a motion seconded and carried by Norma DuVall  
8 -- Madam President Terry, should I read this?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: No, ma'am.

10 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay.

11 Thank you. Madam President Terry, this concludes my  
12 report. May I proceed with my supplemental?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

14 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay. The  
15 finance budget meeting met May 18th through the 20th of  
16 2013 at Red Coach Inn and department office. Attendees:  
17 Terry Mikesell, Department President; Anita Biggs,  
18 Department First Vice President; myself, Finance Chairman;  
19 Kathie Martinez, Senior Member of Finance; Geri  
20 Fitzpatrick, Junior Member of Finance.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We don't have the  
22 budget committee meeting minutes, Norma.

23 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay.

24 Anyway --

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Can we go right



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1 to the budget, babe?

2 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: I would  
3 just like to go over who attended our budget meeting. We  
4 discussed the proposed budget 2013-14 and our discussions  
5 lasted three days. We were going over each line item with  
6 a fine-tooth and comb, pardon the expression. All went  
7 well and a lot was accomplished. We diligently expressed  
8 the need for accuracy. We completed the proposed budget  
9 and the end result was a deficit budget. We continued to  
10 discuss where we need to decrease our Department's  
11 operational expenses.

12 Discussions continued with various issues,  
13 specifically possible raises for the Department office  
14 staff. We felt at this time due to a deficit we could not  
15 approve.

16 The Department office's relocation expenses were  
17 discussed, specifically a parking space that would incur a  
18 yearly cost. Secretary/Treasurer Peggy Vogele informed us  
19 that we need a parking space for the staff. The area in  
20 her -- well, in her estimation is not a very safe area to  
21 be in due to gangs and the homeless. The parking space  
22 would also be available to the Department President,  
23 Department Vice President, and other business visitors.

24 Okay. And also since Mr. Van Ho will no longer  
25 be with us -- he was our auditor for last year. Or this

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1 year. He will be retiring. We received a proposal from  
2 Wai S. Chui, CPA. Mr. Chui stated in his proposal that he  
3 will not prepare our organization's federal and state  
4 returns for the fiscal year-ending June 30th. We will  
5 continue to contact other CPAs to reduce our expenses.

6 So with that being said, Finance received another  
7 proposal that will reduce the costs of auditors to  
8 decrease by approximately 9,000 creating a balanced budget  
9 possibly.

10 Personnel policies were reviewed and there were  
11 proposed changes as well as discussion on Finance and  
12 Department codes proposed changes. The code changes will  
13 be presented at convention in Palm Springs.

14 Okay. All in all, I know we will continue to  
15 make all things flow and flow as smoothly as possible. I  
16 want to thank you Ruby Kapsalis for her continued efforts  
17 as financial advisor. I want to thank Madam President for  
18 her support. I want to thank Secretary/Treasurer Peggy  
19 for her hard work.

20 Okay. So we're going to go ahead and vote on  
21 this new proposal. You can have it back because I have it  
22 right here.

23 Okay. We received a proposal from Troy Van  
24 Sloten & Associates. And they will prepare the  
25 organization's Federal and State Information Returns for

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1 the period ending June 30th, 2013. I just highlighted a  
2 few things on my proposal here. They estimate our fees  
3 for these services will range from 6,000 to 8,000 for the  
4 audit and 1,000 for the information returns. The fee  
5 estimate is based on anticipated cooperation from your  
6 personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances  
7 will not be encountered during the engagement. So we're  
8 looking at a cost of possibly \$9,000.

9 So I move to accept this proposal from Troy Van  
10 Sloten.

11 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
13 and seconded to accept a proposal from Troy Van Sloten,  
14 CPA, to do our audit and taxes for \$9,000. Is there any  
15 discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Are there any  
18 questions?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
21 favor, say aye.

22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Passed.

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1 Thank you, Norma.

2 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Thank you.  
3 Thank you, Madam President. Again, I want to thank Ruby  
4 Kapsalis for her continued efforts and advice. I'd like  
5 to thank Madam President for her support and also for  
6 Secretary/Treasurer Peggy for her hard work.

7 And last but not least, it has been an honor to  
8 serve as the Finance Chairman for this fiscal year. And  
9 it has been quite challenging and I feel my dedication to  
10 the Auxiliary has made me feel proud to be a part of this  
11 organization's finances. This is definitely a position  
12 that takes a three-year commitment. And my three years  
13 are complete.

14 (Applause.)

15 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: I'm  
16 puzzled. I put all these pieces together and it's  
17 complete.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Norma.

19 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: So this  
20 concludes my supplemental report. And, Madam President,  
21 may we proceed with the reading of the proposed budget?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You may.

23 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Senior  
24 Member Kathie Martinez will start the reading.

25 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Good afternoon,

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1 ladies. Everyone has a budget I hope. If not, look at  
2 your neighbor's. Madam --

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: She takes no  
4 prisoners either.

5 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: No, I don't.  
6 Madam President, would you like this to be read line by  
7 line?

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, ma'am.

9 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Thank you.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You're welcome.

11 Let me tell you something, ladies. When there is a  
12 problem during the year and the total budget is not listed  
13 in the convention proceedings, you do not have a legal or  
14 a clear record to refer back to. Sorry, ladies. Line by  
15 line. The wizard has spoken.

16 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Thank you,  
17 Wizard. All right, ladies, here we go. Make sure I'm on  
18 page 1. Would you like for me to read the code as well,  
19 Madam President, or just the title?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Title, as long as  
21 you don't get lost.

22 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: I have a piece  
23 of paper to keep me even. Line 1, Americanism Donations:  
24 \$7,750. Ladies, this is your income. Dues and  
25 Membership, Senior and Junior: \$350,023. Dues - Unit

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1 1,000: \$17,570. Dues - Auxiliary News Assessment,  
2 \$22,865. Postage Income: \$3,500. Department Supply  
3 Orders: \$1,000. Ways & Means - Fundraising E-Script -- I  
4 dropped down two lines, ladies; I got ahead of myself --  
5 \$50. Ways & Means - Other: \$3,000. Current Department  
6 President's Pins: 6,100. Donations In Living Tribute:  
7 \$1,200. Donations President Club: \$500. Interest Income  
8 - Unrestricted: \$7,500. Administrative Income - Other  
9 Accounts: \$17,000. Administrative Income - Girls State:  
10 Zero. Fidelity Bond: \$1,029.50. Delegate Fees -  
11 Convention: \$18,000. Income/reimbursement from National:  
12 \$1,000. Department Convention Proceedings: \$200.  
13 California Disaster Fund Fund: \$2,000. Sweepstakes:  
14 \$9,000. Department President Special Project: \$10,000.  
15 Leadership Cards: \$100. Department Convention Banquet:  
16 \$4,000. Department Past Presidents Parlay Luncheon:  
17 \$3,500. Midyear DEC meals: \$2500. National Convention  
18 Income: \$1,700. Are there any questions to page 1?

19 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: I recognize  
20 Melanie Taylor.

21 NATIONAL POPPY CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Melanie Taylor,  
22 past department president. I'm looking at in particular  
23 the GF42462 - Midyear/DEC Meals. What was budgeted for  
24 2012-13 was 2250. Actual is 5815. I just have a question  
25 why that's doubled.

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1 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: To answer your  
2 question, that included the luncheon -- we have luncheons  
3 -- the banquet. We had a special luncheon on Saturday.  
4 We had the hospital reps and depts. Is that in there too?  
5 And it was at Travis Air Force Base. Everything was in  
6 that amount?

7 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yeah, that was  
8 all the meals.

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: It shouldn't be  
10 that many meals at the next meeting.

11 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Thank you. Any  
12 other questions to page 1?

13 DISTRICT 16 DELEGATE CROWE: Yes.

14 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Anita.

15 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm sorry  
16 recognizing the delegate at the microphone.

17 DISTRICT 16 DELEGATE CROW: Thank you. Vickie  
18 Crowe, District 16, Unit 741. Dues membership per capita  
19 is not 16, it's 17.

20 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is that due to  
21 the dollar assessment?

22 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes. That does  
23 not include the dollar assessment for the Auxiliary dues.  
24 That is in a separate column.

25 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Auxiliary dues

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1 is a dollar out of the 17.

2 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes, it has been  
3 broken out.

4 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you done?  
5 Do you have a question?

6 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: I like that.  
7 Good deal. Good deal. Moving to page 2. Live Units --  
8 everybody on page 2? Live Units: \$200. Relocation:  
9 \$8,500. I do not have -- oh, there it is. Total income  
10 General Fund: \$499,787.50.

11 General Fund Expenses - Administrative. Salary  
12 Net: \$102,500. Payroll Tax: \$14,000. Insurance:  
13 \$1,780. Supplies: 5,000. Postage Mailing Service:  
14 \$16,000. Telephone Telecommunications: \$3,300. Computer  
15 License Website: \$300. Employee Insurance: \$750.  
16 Workers' Compensation Insurance: \$650. Equipment Rental  
17 and Maintenance: \$14,000. Rent, parking, utilities:  
18 \$500. Fidelity Bond - Dishonesty Insurance: \$1,029.50.  
19 Depreciation and Amortization: Zero. Finance Committee:  
20 \$3,500. Accounting Audit: \$16,000. Payroll Services:  
21 \$1,500. Auxiliary News Editor: \$50. Auxiliary News  
22 Publishing: \$21,540. Finance Chair: \$50. Filing Fee &  
23 FTB Fees: \$200. Sales Tax FTB: Zero. We should not be  
24 paying sales tax.

25 Bank Fees and Returned Checks: \$1,500. New



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1 Computer/Office Equipment: \$1,000. General Fund  
2 Administration: Zero. Petty cash: \$100. General Fund -  
3 Administrative Expense: \$205,249.50. Do we have any  
4 questions for page 2?

5 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Do you have a  
6 question?

7 DELEGATE HICKS: Yes.

8 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Could you come  
9 to the microphone? I'm sorry, Pam.

10 DELEGATE HICKS: I can't walk. If you just voted  
11 to accept that auditing fee of \$9,000, shouldn't that  
12 16,000 be reduced on line 62415?

13 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes, ma'am.

14 DELEGATE HICKS: That should be reduced to  
15 \$9,000.

16 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes, ma'am. The  
17 question was -- Pamela Hicks cannot get to a microphone,  
18 but the question was because we just voted on the auditing  
19 contract for \$9,000, our auditing expense should be  
20 reduced from 16,000 to 9,000 which General Fund -  
21 Administrative, line GF62415, Accounting and Audit, should  
22 be reduced to 9,000. And we do have the computer back  
23 here so as we get to the totals we can give you the  
24 updated total with any changes that are being made at this  
25 time.

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1 Do we have any other questions on page 2?

2 DELEGATE MONROE: Marsha Monroe, District 11,  
3 Unit 249. Just wondering on line 62405, the actual last  
4 year was \$4,000 and we only used 39 percent of the budget,  
5 and then it was increased so the budget was 16,000. And  
6 then it says a decrease of \$2,000. I just didn't  
7 understand that.

8 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: There have been  
9 -- how do I do this very correctly? There have been  
10 instances of mispostings into general fund accounts. It  
11 is unfortunate that the figures in the actual column are  
12 not accurate. We as a finance committee along with Madam  
13 President, our advisor, Ruby Kapsalis, have been working  
14 diligently with the department office to get the errors  
15 corrected. Some of them have been. Unfortunately not all  
16 of them have been, and this is an instance of incorrect  
17 postings.

18 DELEGATE MONROE: Thank you.

19 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: You're welcome.  
20 And again, ladies, as we're waiting for any other  
21 questions, this is one of the reasons we went to a  
22 bimonthly mailing, to reduce this cost. It is horrendous.  
23 Do we have any other questions?

24 DELEGATE PEREZ: Missy Perez, District 25, Unit  
25 229. It's on the return check ones. I have a question.

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1 Is it from the Department of California returned checks or  
2 are they checks from the unit or district? And do you  
3 charge the unit or district the late fees?

4 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes, we do.

5 DELEGATE PEREZ: Okay.

6 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: If it is a unit  
7 or a personal check that is returned from the bank that  
8 individual unit or person is charged the return check fee.  
9 Because of the volume of checks that we deposit, we incur  
10 a per item fee to deposit our money. Yeah, this is where  
11 a lot of this expense comes in. And this is -- yeah, and  
12 we have recently acquired a scanner. We had one -- we had  
13 issues with it and it could not handle the volume that we  
14 were putting through it. We have gotten the upgraded one  
15 and I know the department is using it so our bank fees  
16 should reduce. Because that's what 90 percent of this is  
17 is bank fees.

18 DELEGATE PEREZ: Thank you.

19 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Thank you.

20 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: While we're talking  
21 about this, this is where the units and districts can help  
22 out here because if you will combine your checks as is  
23 suggested now, and there are forms on the website telling  
24 you which donations you can send out a check. The banks  
25 in San Francisco, after we deposit, I believe, maybe 300,

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1 they take 50 cents out of every check we deposit. We're  
2 paying them to put our money in the bank. And if we  
3 reduce those checks -- yes, if you will reduce your checks  
4 by combining your donations, that will help us  
5 tremendously and it will make more of the money go towards  
6 the programs rather than to the Wells Fargo Bank or the  
7 other one.

8 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Thank you, Ruby.  
9 Okay. Everybody got on page 2? All right.

10 Page 3, General Fund Other Expenses.

11 Relocation/Office Expenses: \$2,920. I'm sorry. Did I --  
12 okay. Charitable Trusts: \$75. Relocation/Storage:  
13 \$2,280. You all are confusing me.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Ladies, you need  
15 to have your little piece of paper so you can put it on  
16 there like a ruler so you can follow it across.

17 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yeah, not all  
18 line items have dollar figures in them and I'm trying my  
19 best not to read a line item if there is no dollar figure  
20 there.

21 National Dues: 193,739. Department President  
22 Pins: \$2,000. Fundraising Pins, Charms, Promos: \$3,000.  
23 Ways & Means Other: 1,000. Departments President's  
24 Special Project: 10,000. Membership Junior and Senior:  
25 \$3,700. Total General Fund - Other Expenses: \$218,714.

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1 Ladies, I do have the figure with the new figures  
2 on the audit. Total bottom of the page 2 -- we kind of  
3 got sidetracked with the return check thing. Are you  
4 ready? \$198,249.50. Did everybody get that? Does  
5 everybody have it now? Okay.

6 Okay. Continuing on page 3, General Fund -  
7 Executive Expense. Department President: \$7,500.  
8 Department Vice President: \$200. District Presidents:  
9 \$4,500. Training and Program Workshops: \$4,000.  
10 Parliamentarian: \$25. Authorized travel: \$2,000.  
11 Executive Committee Meeting: 12,300. Distinguished  
12 Guests: \$400. Secretary/Treasurer Travel Allowance:  
13 \$500. Past Department President Pin: \$300. National  
14 Candidates' Reserve \$500. National President's Visit:  
15 \$1,500. Do we have any questions on page 3?

16 Moving to page 4. Officers & Chairmen's  
17 Liability D & O: \$1,800. National Department Leadership  
18 Conference: \$2,000. Musician: \$25. Total General Fund  
19 Executive Expense: \$37,550.

20 Department Convention Including Mileage:  
21 \$15,000. Department Convention Proceedings: \$400.  
22 Convention Reporter \$5,500. Convention Commission Chair:  
23 \$200. Convention Chair Department: \$150. American  
24 Legion Convention Commission: \$2,500. National  
25 Convention: \$6,000. Total General Fund Convention

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1 Expense: \$29,750.

2 General Fund Committee Expense. Auxiliary  
3 Emergency Fund Chair: \$50. Americanism Chair: \$75.  
4 Constitution & Bylaws Chair: \$225. Chaplain Chair:  
5 \$150. Community Service Chair: \$50. Historian Chair:  
6 \$375. Junior Activities Chair: \$50. Leadership chair:  
7 \$150. Legislative Chair: \$50. American Legion Auxiliary  
8 DC Conference: 375. Membership Chair: \$350. Membership  
9 Promotion: \$650. National Security Chair: \$50. Are  
10 there any questions on page 4?

11 Moving to page 5. Public Relations Chair: \$50.  
12 Public Relations Press Book: \$50. Ways & Means Chair:  
13 \$50. Americanism Essay Awards/Grants: \$6,200. Disaster  
14 Fund Expense: \$2,000. Americanism Administrative Fee:  
15 \$1,550. Total General Fund Committee Expense: \$12,500.

16 Summary of General Fund. General Fund Program  
17 Income: \$499,787.50.

18 General Fund Program Expense -- Geri is taking  
19 over there here. Never mind.

20 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: I've got to  
21 have my ruler. Okay. General Fund Program Expense.  
22 General Fund Administrative: 205,249.50.

23 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Geri, that page has  
24 changed.

25 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: That's changed.

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1 That's the one I gave you.

2 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: Okay.

3 Ladies, I have some corrected figures that even makes me  
4 feel better. Okay. Because of lowering the auditor's  
5 costs, the General Administrative Fees then would be  
6 198,249.50.

7 Okay. Other Expenses: \$218,714. Executive  
8 Expense: 37,550. Convention Expenses: 29,750.  
9 Committee Expense: 12,500. The program expense now is  
10 \$496,763.50, putting us on a positive side of \$3,024.

11 (Applause.)

12 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: \$3,024. Any  
13 questions? The total -- the expenditures are what --  
14 okay. 496,763.50. Okay. Anything else?

15 Okay. General Fund Reserves and Restricted  
16 Summary. General Fund Reserves: \$298,908.76. Okay.  
17 Well, I thought we had more money than we do.

18 Americanism Essay: 55,585. California Disaster:  
19 \$43,557. Auxiliary News: \$26,616. Display Case:  
20 \$3,093. National Candidate: \$500. Total General Fund  
21 Restricted: \$129,351. Total General Fund Reserve:  
22 \$169,557.76. Any questions on page 5?

23 Page 6. Poppy Orders: 600,000. No. 60,000.  
24 I'm sorry. They should have put the commas in there.  
25 Poppy Distribution: 120,000. No. 1200 -- 12,000. Okay.

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1 I'll get it right yet. Okay. Interest Income Restricted:  
2 There is none. Poppy Production From Income: 72,000.  
3 Poppy Production Fund Expenses. Poppy Production  
4 Manager: \$2200. Poppy Proceeds Distribution: \$1200.  
5 Administrative Fee, \$6,000. Poppy Production Labor:  
6 \$4,000 -- 40,000. Here we go again, the commas. Okay.  
7 Poppy Production Poppy Kits: 18,000. Poppy Awards: 200.  
8 Poppy Chair: 175. Bank Fees/Service Charges: We don't  
9 have any in there, so that's good. Poppy Production Fund  
10 Expenses: \$67,775. And then we have another \$4,225.  
11 Okay. We budgeted more income over the expenses. Let's  
12 put it this way, ladies, we're not in the deficit on the  
13 Poppies.  
14 Okay. And then the Poppy Fund Reserves is  
15 \$15,692.48. And a lot of this -- another reason that this  
16 will probably go down is because too many poppies were  
17 ordered last year and they're already paid for, so that's  
18 some extra money for us.  
19 Okay. Welfare Fund/VA&R. 22,000, Donation/Units  
20 Income. Poppy Proceeds Distribution: \$300. Donations -  
21 Gifts/Patient Remembrance: 13,000. Interest Income -  
22 Restricted: We don't have any. We don't have the figures  
23 on that. The VA&R TFA: \$1,000. Welfare Fund VA&R:  
24 \$36,300.  
25 Welfare Fund VA&R Expenses. Administrative fee:



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1 5,500.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Oh, my \$5 just  
3 rang.

4 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: What's the  
5 matter? Oh, somebody owes \$5. We need it.

6 Administrative Fee: \$7,100 -- that's the TFA.  
7 Got it. Wrong line. Okay. Patient Welfare Funds:  
8 \$1200. VAMC Tours: \$1,900. Gift Shop/Patient  
9 Remembrance -- wait. That's not right. Is it correct,  
10 the 13,000?

11 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes, it is.

12 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: Okay.  
13 \$13,888.48. And what goes into this fund, ladies, has to  
14 go back out.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What is TFA?

16 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: Temporary  
17 Financial Assistance.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

19 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: VAMC tours is  
20 when the president and the hospital representatives take  
21 tours of our medical facilities; right?

22 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Yes.

23 Continue on with page 7. Hospital Representatives: 2700.

24 Midyear Meetings/Representatives: 2500. Chairman: 400.

25 There were no bank fees. We have Creative Arts. It was

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1 not budgeted here, so that's a zero. For a total of  
2 \$35,188.48. And this is also -- actually it's in the  
3 positive. The total didn't come out on here  
4 unfortunately, but it's 1111.52. That's the difference  
5 between the income and expense.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: What line are you  
7 on, Norma?

8 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: That is for  
9 the totals. For some reason it didn't pick that up.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Can you give me a  
11 GF code?

12 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: The GF code  
13 is WF68500. Welfare Fund Expense VA&R, page 7. The total  
14 for WF68500 Welfare Fund Expense VA&R, total is  
15 \$35,188.49. So your income less your expenses gives us  
16 \$1,111.52. \$1,111.52. So our income is going to be more  
17 as well on the VA&R. We're on page 7.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Norma.

19 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Yes, Madam  
20 President.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: To me, I don't  
22 understand. We should never have an overage in VA&R. So  
23 why do we have an overage in VA&R? I got totally lost  
24 there.

25 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay. I

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 guess apparently --

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: What changed on  
3 income? We never changed the income.

4 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Well, let's  
5 see. We had decreased our gift shop/patient remembrance  
6 and --

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: To balance the in  
8 and out.

9 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Yes, to  
10 balance in and out.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Now it doesn't  
12 balance. Now we have an overage of \$1,111.52. My  
13 suggestion would be to put it back in there.

14 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: That's what  
15 we should do because it will balance it out at 363. Okay.  
16 I would like to move to make that change on our VA&R Gift  
17 Shop/Patient Remembrance, WF68505 to go back to the  
18 original proposed figure of 15,000.

19 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you. All  
21 those in favor of that change, say aye.

22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 ladies. Great discussion.

2 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Thank you,  
3 Madam President.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Aren't you ladies  
5 glad I don't belong to your unit?

6 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: It should  
7 be balance at \$36,300.

8 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT DOIDGE: District 28,  
9 Elizabeth Doidge. Madam President, if we change the gift  
10 shop/patient remembrance to the 15,900 from last year,  
11 you're now negative by like 900 bucks.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We changed the  
13 15,000 in the proposed budget.

14 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Not the  
15 actual on the previous column.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Norma, you have a  
17 request to read your final again.

18 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: I'm sorry?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You have a  
20 request to read the final amount again, the 36.

21 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: For the  
22 total on the VA&R, it's \$36,300 for income, and for  
23 expense it's also \$36,300.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: So line total  
25 WF68500 now reads 36,300.

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Yes, ma'am.

2 Next the VA&R Fund Reserve are at \$78,734.50.

3 Our Welfare Fund/Children & Youth. Children & Youth  
4 Donation/Unit Income: 7,000. Poppy Fund Distribution:  
5 300. And the Welfare Fund/Children & Youth total is 7300.

6 Looking at the income, the administrative expense is  
7 \$1,750. The TFA Welfare Cases: \$5,400. Chairman is  
8 \$150. Balanced at 7,300.

9 And we have -- as of 3/31/2013 we -- actually,  
10 that's not there. I was looking at the reserves for  
11 Children & Youth: \$43,898.42. Well, it's actually  
12 43,998.70 and it's on there according to the Ameritrade  
13 statements, but in last year's audit we had \$43,898.42.  
14 Not much of a difference. Yeah, we haven't made much at  
15 all. The market is showing a depreciation in some of our  
16 reserve accounts. Any questions?

17 Going on with Education. Our Education  
18 Donations/Income is \$17,500. Poppy 10 percent  
19 Distribution is \$300. Income - Restricted Funds is  
20 \$2,025. Income Poppy Seals, 2,000, with a total of  
21 \$11,825.

22 Going on to Education Expenses. Administration:  
23 \$1,875. Our Scholarship - General we did increase this to  
24 10,000. Poppy Seals: \$1,000. Chairman: 150. And the  
25 total is \$13,025, which brings us with more expenses due

## FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

1 to that increase in scholarships, but that's -- that gets  
2 pulled out of reserves. So I'm just trying to say it's  
3 not a big concern. Any negative number should be a big  
4 concern but -- Past Presidents Parlay. Donations:  
5 \$10,200. Poppy Fund Distribution: 300, with a total of  
6 \$10,500.

7 Past Presidents Parlay Expenses. Administrative  
8 Fee: \$1,625. Nurse Scholarships: \$8,275. \$100 for the  
9 Chairman. And then our Welfare Fund for the PPP luncheon  
10 awards: \$500, with a balance of \$10,500, total balance.

11 And then going on to the summary of our welfare  
12 programs. Summary of income: The Welfare Fund/VA&R:  
13 \$36,300. Children & Youth: 7300. Education Income,  
14 there's a change in this one; right, Kathie?

15 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yes.

16 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: So we have  
17 11,825 for the Education Income and 10,500, so our total  
18 comes to \$65,925. And the summary of the expenses, this  
19 is where there was a change, a little bit of change in  
20 that one.

21 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Yeah.

22 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay. So  
23 we're looking at the same \$36,300, 7300, 13,025, and  
24 \$10,500 with a total of -- total on the expenses for the  
25 welfare accounts -- okay. Well, my total here for the

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 VA&R is still saying 35,188 and we changed -- that should  
2 be changed because of the remembrance, the gift account.  
3 It should be 36,300. That needs to be changed on the VA&R  
4 summary of accounts on page 9, the very last page.  
5 Because we want it to balance, those two accounts. So  
6 you're looking at WF68500. Okay. That's your total,  
7 67,125. And is there an over and under?

8 I'm not showing a deficit of \$1200 due to that  
9 one account that we changed to the scholarships account to  
10 10,000 that made us go into a deficit. Because originally  
11 -- okay. That sounds good to me. Because we're in a  
12 balanced budget and that's a good thing.

13 Okay. Summary of Welfare Reserves. Veterans  
14 Rehabilitation. We're looking at last year's audit  
15 report, and that came up to 11 -- \$114,476.46. As of  
16 Ameritrade, we've got was 78,734.50. Audit last year,  
17 32,110.48. Ameritrade, 43,998.70. Last year's audit,  
18 41,538.82. I'll have to repeat that. 43,898.42, and then  
19 that was Past Presidents Parley, 55,577.30. And the  
20 totals on the welfare reserves as of last year's audit:  
21 232,024.18. And as of 3/31/13: 231,572.08. So there's  
22 not that much of a loss.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. Wait.  
24 Don't you dare do that, Ruby.

25 Okay. Do you have the motion that I made in the

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1 Finance Committee regarding the reserves and the  
2 disbursements and that from the Finance Committee meeting?

3 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: We did make  
4 a motion on that, did we not?

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, we did and  
6 it passed, and the reserved figures do not reflect the  
7 motion.

8 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Okay.  
9 Well, I move to amend that motion. Can I do that or no?  
10 We can't amend that. I just --

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. It was a  
12 consensus of the committee. Okay. Ladies, I don't know  
13 if this is official or approved or whatever, but I'll give  
14 you a little history because at the time I happened to be  
15 on the Finance Committee.

16 When I was on the Finance Committee, we didn't  
17 have any way of tracking what was in the reserves. So we  
18 took it kind of tongue and shoe, whatever you want to call  
19 it, and disbursed the reserves as we felt that -- Anita is  
20 covering her head up. Don't listen to me, Nancy.

21 So since that point in time it's been brought to  
22 our attention that our reserve figures are not correct.  
23 Education reserves should be \$41,538.82. VA&R allocation,  
24 it should be \$114,476.46. Children & Youth reserves  
25 should be \$32,110.48. Past Presidents Parlay should be



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1 43,898.42. Oh, they've moved them over a column. Well,  
2 Norma, you little rat.

3 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: I just  
4 added my additional figures, so there wasn't nothing taken  
5 away from what we motioned.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Because the way  
7 we had it disbursed before was incorrect. We were taking  
8 money from VA&R and putting it in other programs.

9 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Excuse me.  
10 Madam President, I don't think it was incorrect.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: I was on the  
12 Finance Committee.

13 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: Well, I've  
14 been on the Finance Committee for three years. I'm sorry.  
15 You don't know my past two years' experience. I'm sorry  
16 and I appreciate your input, but apparently that -- I  
17 totally disagree, so I'm sorry. That's all I can say.  
18 I'm sorry. So with that said --

19 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Madam Department  
20 President --

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Recognize Ruby  
22 Kapsalis, Past Department President.

23 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Our Department  
24 President is not incorrect. This -- what happened was it  
25 was before Norma got on the Finance Committee that I

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 believe that this occurred and the error was not brought  
2 to the attention of the Finance Committee until this  
3 session, so --

4 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BILLINGS: You might  
5 be more credible than I am, but I've been on this Finance  
6 Committee for three years. I understand my commitment to  
7 this committee and I respect your knowledge. I respect  
8 you for what you have done in this past year, but I have  
9 three years, so I totally understand. So I'm sorry if I  
10 have to say that, but --

11 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: What we did is, Norma,  
12 the Finance Chairman's figures on the Ameritrade are  
13 correct from the Ameritrade account. What we did -- what  
14 we did -- the motion that was made in the Finance  
15 Committee was to adjust those figures to coincide with the  
16 percentage that was reduced three years ago that should  
17 not have been done. There was an injustice. The VA&R  
18 went down. I can bring the figures if I can find them in  
19 my book. I'd have to look for them.

20 But basically you'll see there's very little  
21 difference between the Ameritrade and the middle column in  
22 your budget. They're almost the same. There's a  
23 difference of -- there's 232,024.18. That was the motion,  
24 and so those figures would be what we would carry on in  
25 those reserves for those programs in the future regardless

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 of what the Ameritrade account has. The Ameritrade --  
2 those are all -- that's one figure in the Ameritrade  
3 account. Okay? And so the committee voted to  
4 redistribute those funds back to where they should have  
5 been and never taken away from.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: And that was the  
7 motion that was made in the Finance Committee and it was  
8 passed.

9 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Okay. We got it  
10 straightened out.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, ma'am.

12 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Okay. Now that  
13 that's cleared up, Madam President, I move the adoption of  
14 this budget as presented to the body.

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN KAPSALIS: Second.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: It's been moved  
17 and seconded to accept the budget as presented. Is there  
18 any discussion?

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: All those in  
21 favor, say aye.

22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Any opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. You have a

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 budget, ladies. Thank you.

2 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: And, Madam  
3 President, at this time may we approach the station?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You certainly  
5 may.

6 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Madam President,  
7 on behalf of the Finance Committee, as a token of our  
8 appreciation, Madam President, on behalf of the Finance  
9 Committee, a little token of our appreciation and our  
10 love. I know you will enjoy that. This way you can be  
11 comfortable.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: If only Odette  
13 will let me wear it.

14 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: We'll whisper  
15 sweet nothings in her ear.

16 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER FITZPATRICK: I only hope  
17 the hamburger that was in there didn't split.

18 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: There is  
19 something in there, in her Happy Meal.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: I've got the toy  
21 and a gift card. Thank you, ladies, very, very much.

22 SENIOR FINANCE MEMBER MARTINEZ: Thank you.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We are going to  
24 retire the Colors tomorrow, but at this time we are going  
25 to have the Distinguished Guest Chairman's report from Ms.

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 Linda Workman.

2 While we're waiting, Talia Avina real quickly is  
3 going to have a listing of junior officers.

4 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT AVINA: Okay. So to  
5 get away from the tension in the room and get off the  
6 topic. I don't know what that was about, but I felt like  
7 I was going to get slapped or something. So as you know,  
8 I'm the Honorary Department Junior President, but as we go  
9 on we have to retire. So me and Terry had a wonderful  
10 year together, had a splendid time at Junior Conference,  
11 especially with Anita. And so as I was hearing from a  
12 couple of the fairies around the room -- I don't know why  
13 you picked fairies, but I'm -- I'll go with it.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Did you have a  
15 choice?

16 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT AVINA: No. As I was  
17 hearing around the room, some of you do not know the new  
18 Honorary Department Junior President and I wanted to  
19 announce her and her officers. So as president going into  
20 this year will be Deja'Nae Trimble. Can you come up here?

21 (Applause.)

22 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT AVINA: So me and her  
23 go way back in the day. When we first met it was awkward  
24 and weird, but we're kids so it doesn't make sense. It  
25 doesn't matter. So as her vice president is Maya Novicki.

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1 She was here, but I guess is not in -- oh, she's with her  
2 parents. Okay. So the secretary is my sister. I don't  
3 know where she's at. She's outside somewhere with my  
4 grandma. My stomach is grumbling. Sorry. Chaplain is  
5 Dolina Freeman. She's in here somewhere. Can you come up  
6 on stage?

7 (Applause.)

8 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT AVINA: Historian is  
9 Katherine Pope. She's not here sadly.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Talia, my buddy,  
11 keep on track.

12 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT AVINA: I'm sorry.  
13 Sergeant-at-Arms is Nicole Garcia. She could not make it.  
14 And Marshal is Iona Evans, and she could not make it also.  
15 But as the two that are here, I'm glad that you get to go  
16 to 2013-2014.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Will any Past  
19 Honorary Junior Presidents please rise.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Susan, Nancy,  
22 Susan Gallegos, Nancy Brown-Park. Are there any more in  
23 the room? You want to come up and get a hug? Thank you,  
24 ladies, for your service and your continuing to serve.

25 Miss Linda.

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1

2

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN REPORT

3

4

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Hello.

5

It's a little limp. Okay. We'll just work with it.

6

How's that?

7

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Linda, do you

8

want to borrow Peggy's basketball?

9

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Okay.

10

Madam President and Delegates, it has been an honor to

11

serve the Department of California this year. I think

12

that Madam Wiz must have used her magic wand to speed up

13

time because this year has passed us so quickly. From the

14

installation of your magical court to being the only one

15

who wasn't freezing at the midyear meeting where our

16

National President made her official visit. Unfortunately

17

I had to leave Chewie at home as he doesn't do well in

18

this 115 degree heat.

19

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: I wish I was with

20

Chewie.

21

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: I must say

22

though that I was a little concerned at the meeting that

23

our Department Vice President Anita was going to lose her

24

husband to the National President Peggy. Lonnie does have

25

a way with women, and Peggy was ready to take him home.

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 It's okay, Anita.

2           Okay. And here we are, a quick five months later  
3 in Palm Springs listening to the accomplishments of this  
4 great department. I am looking forward to my last few  
5 duties as your Distinguished Guest Chairman with the  
6 banquet this evening. And I know that all of you in  
7 attendance, you won't want to miss this one. Oh, my God.  
8 The entertainment will be like nothing you have ever seen  
9 before. And I do mean nothing.

10           And, of course, I am looking forward to my very  
11 last duties assisting you with the States dinner at the  
12 National Convention in Houston, Texas in August where we  
13 will be showing our pride in California when our own Nancy  
14 Brown-Park will be installed as our National President.

15           (Applause.)

16           DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: What an  
17 exciting conclusion for your year as Department President.  
18 I also want to thank you for R2-D2 and CP-30. They have  
19 done a fabulous job this year and are always keeping  
20 Chewie on her toes.

21           Now normally, you know, I leave with you my  
22 little bits of wisdom, but I wanted to end my platform  
23 remarks with a very touching story this time. A young man  
24 saw an elderly couple sitting down at lunch in a fast food  
25 restaurant. He noticed that he only ordered one meal with



**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 an extra cup. As he watched, the gentleman carefully  
2 divided the hamburger in half. Then they counted out the  
3 fries, one for him, one for her, until each had half of  
4 them. Then he poured half of the drink into the other cup  
5 and sat it in front of his wife. The old man then began  
6 eating and the wife sat watching with her hands folded in  
7 her lap.

8           The young man decided to ask if they would allow  
9 him to purchase another meal for them so that they didn't  
10 have to split theirs. The old gentleman said, "Oh, no.  
11 We've been married 50 years, and everything has been and  
12 always will be 50/50 shared." The young man looked over  
13 at the wife who was just sitting there and he asked her if  
14 she was going to eat her lunch. And she said, "Oh, no,  
15 dearie, it's his turn to use the teeth first."

16           Madam President, this concludes my platform  
17 remarks.

18           (Applause.)

19           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you, Linda.  
20 Okay. If we had Grandma Stella in here, we would have the  
21 Editor's Report, but I don't see Stella. She's preparing  
22 for the banquet. So the crystal ball has been busy and  
23 Peggy has just been getting potions and things magically  
24 happening up here.

25           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Okay. I would like

## FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

1 Faye Sanchez in District 3 to stand up and Linda -- I'm  
2 sorry -- Lisa Stewart, District 12 stand up. Okay. You  
3 two match up because you're going to swap tickets. One  
4 has a ticket and one has a ticket, so there you go. It's  
5 like a match game.

6 District 20 has two tickets for sale. They're  
7 sold already. Okay then. Forget that one.

8 The office will be open until 5:00 o'clock, and  
9 if you haven't already done so, I have your membership  
10 cards for all the districts for this 2014 year. So I'm  
11 going to be there until 5:00, so please, please, please,  
12 District Presidents or your designated person come get  
13 your membership tickets for 2014.

14 Also, there's a winner on basket number 9, and  
15 they put down Susan Jensen. They wrote down District 29,  
16 but I've been told that's the wrong district. So, Susan  
17 Jensen, if you're here, you need to go check for basket  
18 number 9 to see if it's really your prize.

19 And the ball is getting cloudy and all the  
20 visions are going away, so that is it.

21 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT STEWART: Madam President.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Rebecca.

23 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT STEWART: Can I ask all the  
24 members to please check their envelopes to make sure they  
25 do not have tickets for District 24.

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1           SECRETARY/TREASURER VOGELE: Hang on a second.

2           DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT STEWART: We're missing the  
3 four tickets. The last names would be Cressi and  
4 Walquist.

5           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. If you  
6 have your tickets for the banquet tonight, would you  
7 please check your envelope for Cressi and Walquist.  
8 District 24 is missing some tickets. District 28 has  
9 them. Michelle.

10          POPPY CHAIRMAN SOARES: We have the Walquist  
11 tickets.

12          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. I don't  
13 want to play the ticket game. You have to go see Grandma  
14 Stella.

15

16                                    ADJOURNMENT

17

18          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay. So I hope  
19 to see you at this banquet tonight. Cocktails will be at  
20 6:00 o'clock, dinner at 7:00. We'll be meeting across the  
21 hall tonight for the banquet.

22           Otherwise, ladies, I'll see you at 8:30 in the  
23 morning. I'm escaping. Good night.

24    ///

25    ///

**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention  
2 was adjourned at 4:01 p.m. to be reconvened  
3 on Sunday, June 30, 2013, at 8:30 a.m.)

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**FIRST DEPOSITION REPORTERS & DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
2 COUNTY OF STANISLAUS ) ss.

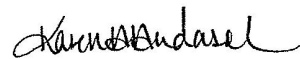
3  
4

5 I, Karen A. Andasola, a Certified Shorthand  
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate  
7 Number 10919, do hereby certify that the American Legion  
8 Auxiliary - Department of California 94th Annual  
9 Convention was taken Saturday, June 29, 2013, at the time  
10 and place set forth on the first page hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the meeting, the words of  
12 the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California  
13 94th Annual Convention members were written down by me in  
14 stenotypy and thereafter transcribed by computer under my  
15 supervision; that the foregoing is a true and correct  
16 transcript of the oratory given by the American Legion  
17 Auxiliary - Department of California 94th Annual  
18 Convention members.

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

22 Dated this 11th day of July, 2013, at Modesto,  
23 California.



24  
25

Karen A. Andasola, CSR No. 10919

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**Index: \$1..\$200**

	<b>\$1,780</b>	<b>\$1200</b>	391:4	287:11
<b>\$</b>	383:13	398:8		369:19
				381:11
<b>\$1</b>	<b>\$1,800</b>	<b>\$129,351</b>		
340:20	388:17	390:21		<b>\$198,249.50</b>
341:7,20				388:4
342:7,23	<b>\$1,875</b>	<b>\$13,025</b>		
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