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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
101ST ANNUAL CONVENTION
THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021
VIA ZOOM TECHNOLOGY

VOLUME I
PAGES 1 - 106

ORIGINAL

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

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1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

3 101ST ANNUAL CONVENTION

4 THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021; 1:10 P.M.

5 VIA ZOOM TECHNOLOGY

6
7 **CALL TO ORDER**

8
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: The 101st
10 Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary is now
11 convened. I'm no longer muted. Okay. Get my chair back
12 here.

13 Welcome to the 2021 Virtual Convention of the
14 Department of California American Legion Auxiliary. Our
15 Department Officers and Chairmen will be reporting on the
16 celebrations held over the past two years. Our 100 years
17 of service spilled over into our 101st year of service as
18 we truly celebrated our history and heritage not only of
19 this great organization, but as a nation as well. I'm
20 looking forward to listening to the reports of your great
21 accomplishments for our 2019-'20-'21 year.

22 Before we proceed further for the business this
23 afternoon, I would like to give our distinguished guests
24 an opportunity to bring greetings.

25 Okay. Liz, we have Sons of American Legion Rider

1 Philip "Tiny" Stuart in the queue? Where did Liz go?

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I muted myself.

3 No.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: He's not in the
5 queue. Our own favorite Son and leading candidate for
6 Sons of the American Legion National Commander Michael
7 Fox. Is he in queue?

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: He is.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: All right.

10 Michael, please join us.

11 SAL NATIONAL COMMANDER CANDIDATE FOX:

12 Absolutely. Thank you, Madame President. Appreciate the
13 opportunity.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you.

15 SAL NATIONAL COMMANDER CANDIDATE FOX: There's --
16 before I get going, I need to say a special thank you to
17 some individuals that have been with me since day one that
18 have worked with me on my campaign since this endeavor
19 started almost six years ago now. Maureen O'Brien-Sacco,
20 Denise Conrad, Christine Evans, Glenda Schultz, my very
21 own Unit 521 who supported me for 41 years now, and all
22 the fantastic ladies from the Sensational Sixth District,
23 along with Past National President Nancy Brown-Park and
24 Linda Workman. You guys have been by my side since day
25 one and supported me, and I appreciate everything you've

1 done for me.

2 Madame President, as you know, over the last two
3 years has been definitely an interesting one that I think
4 none of us have expected. And I definitely figured at
5 this point in time I would be getting ready to go out of
6 office as National Commander and not begin to start my
7 term, but with that being said, I think we've learned a
8 lot of things over the last couple years, new ways to
9 conduct business and to keep things moving. And the
10 Auxiliary has always done that no matter what. They've
11 always helped the Sons regardless of what's going on in
12 the world. And for that and on behalf of the Sons, I say
13 thank you to all of you ladies out there.

14 I would like to announce that on August 29th will
15 be the installation of the National Commander for the Sons
16 of American Legion in Phoenix, Arizona. What we will be
17 doing with your permission is requesting all of the
18 information regarding your delegates to National
19 Convention for the purpose of sending invitations not only
20 for the installation, but if everything goes as planned
21 and I am elected as the National Commander, we will also
22 be holding a private event Sunday evening August 29th as
23 well.

24 So hopefully we can work together and get all of
25 that information so we can make sure everybody gets all of

1 the invitations and knows where they need to be, at what
2 time because I would sure love to see every one of you
3 there for my installation.

4 That being said, I would like to take a special
5 opportunity to introduce my special project for next year
6 to all of you. Now as I said, the God Lord willing and
7 the creek don't rise and I am elected as the National
8 Commander this August in Phoenix, I'm hoping that the
9 Department of California will help me accomplish a goal.

10 I have a special project. This is a project
11 that's near and dear to my heart and is going to honor
12 veterans and pay tribute to their ultimate sacrifice. I
13 would like to announce to you my project name will be,
14 "Flying Flags For Heroes." The goal of Flying Flags For
15 Heroes is going to be to place one million flags on the
16 graves of veterans in our local cemeteries.

17 Now everybody knows about the national cemeteries
18 around the country. And those cemeteries, without
19 question, are filled with our military heroes that have
20 fought to preserve our freedoms, but there are many brave
21 military men and women buried in local cemeteries as well.
22 Over the last 20 years, it has averaged about 400,000
23 veterans have been laid to rest every year in local
24 cemeteries.

25 Our goal on the national level will not only be

1 to honor all veterans, but to highlight those ones that
2 are buried in local cemeteries. We want to honor all of
3 those who have served. We want to honor all of those who
4 have sacrificed for this great country. But not only
5 that, we want to honor those families that have lost an
6 important loved one. We will honor that ultimate
7 commitment of those veterans to the United States of
8 America.

9 Our flag flies with the last breath of our
10 military heroes that have sacrificed everything for our
11 freedoms and our way of life. The goal of Flying Flags
12 For Heros is going to be to honor that commitment, to pay
13 tribute to that sacrifice, and also to provide love for
14 those families. We aim to do that by placing the flag
15 that they fought for, the very symbol of our freedom on
16 their graves. We want to let their families as well as
17 the communities know that the sacrifice of that veteran
18 shall never be forgotten.

19 Now I want to ask all of you to help me next year
20 to be involved in my mission. I'm going to need every one
21 of you to reach down and grab the passion that you have
22 for our military and help me to be at the forefront of
23 this vision. I'm going to need all of you to be champions
24 for the cause. Help me be champions for our veterans that
25 are laid to rest in every one of your communities.

1 Together we can be unstoppable because we are
2 stronger together. Together we can lead a passionate
3 mission to honor veterans and place one million flags on
4 their graves. They fought for all of us and they fought
5 for you. They fought for your family and they fought for
6 all of our freedoms. Now please help me fight for them
7 and honor their service and their sacrifice and their
8 legacy.

9 So, ladies, please help your Sons get involved.
10 Please involve the Juniors and join me next year in Flying
11 Flags For Heroes as we place one million flags on the
12 graves of veterans across the country.

13 Madame President, thank you for allowing me an
14 opportunity to speak. And I look forward to seeing
15 everybody at National Convention in Phoenix and to end
16 this 30-year drought of California having a National
17 Commander.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
19 Michael. Excellent, excellent program. I think you can
20 almost guarantee that the Department of California
21 Auxiliary, Juniors, Sons will get behind you in doing
22 that. That is an awesome program. Thank you. And thank
23 you for joining us today. We so appreciate your time.

24 SAL NATIONAL COMMANDER CANDIDATE FOX: Yes.
25 You're welcome. Thank you.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you.

2 Okay. Moving along, our next guest is the
3 American Legion Riders President Rey Ruiz. I'll get that
4 right yet.

5 Is Rey in queue, Liz?

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I do not see him.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Let's go
8 to the next one then. The American Legion Department
9 Adjunct Barbara Lombrano.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Don't see her
11 either.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Don't see her.
13 Okay. I know this next one is here because I saw his
14 smiling face. The next person we will hear from has been
15 leading the American Legion during these unprecedented
16 times. He has shown exemplary leadership and dedication
17 under extreme circumstances, and as far as I can tell is
18 the only commander to hold this position for two
19 consecutive terms. Please welcome the American Legion
20 Commander Edward Grimsley.

21 Do you want to queue him up there, Liz? There he
22 is.

23 Good afternoon, Commander.

24 AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER GRIMSLEY: Good
25 afternoon. How is my favorite ladies doing?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: We are doing
2 great.

3 AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER GRIMSLEY: I know. You
4 know, I logged in about five minutes before and I just
5 love the conversation that the ladies was having. They
6 was communicating and I just love communication. And I
7 have a smile on my face because they was getting stuff
8 done. And I -- that's what leadership is all about.

9 But you're right, it's been a hard two years. I
10 feel like that I am receiving another discharge from the
11 military. Okay? That's -- I mean, you know, Kathie,
12 that's the way I feel. But I'm going to tell you
13 something, we couldn't have did this without the support
14 of the Auxiliary. You probably hear me say this a lot
15 that you all is the backbone of this organization. And
16 everyone knows that. They knows that. So that's why I'm
17 always behind the Auxiliary. And remember, I was the
18 first member to join the Auxiliary. And I joined District
19 -- I'm in District 22 and I joined 255 Unit. So that's
20 the unit that I joined.

21 And I'm so happy to be a part of this. And, you
22 know, you have some good ladies there. I wish I could
23 call of them by name, but there's a couple that stands out
24 like Donna Smith, she's outstanding. Tammy, she's wow,
25 but she's outstanding. And Linda Fercho and Elizabeth

1 there and Deloris, there's a whole lot. I wish I could
2 name all of you, but, you know, it's -- without your all
3 leadership, we couldn't have pulled this off.

4 You know, we're stuck together and I hope one day
5 that we all can have that joint convention again, you
6 know. That was a lot of -- it was a lot of communication
7 going on there. You know, we was passing the word. And
8 just like Ned Fox just got through saying, you know, he's
9 thanking you ladies. We don't forget you. I want to let
10 you all know that. We do not forget you all. There's
11 some that are a little different; we know that. All
12 right? Some of them is never going to change their ways,
13 but, you know, the way I look at it, I just consider the
14 source and I keep moving because I'm not going to let them
15 hold me back.

16 But I tell you, this is a blessing in disguise
17 that we can come together like this. But I wish I was
18 there with you, young ladies, because I know that every
19 time you have a convention, you all be dressed so nice.
20 And you have your color outfits and everything, you're
21 walking around, you're so happy. But I love it.

22 And we're having some technical problems too.
23 Today that's what we're doing, we're holding meetings and
24 everything, but we're getting through it because we're
25 pulling together just like you all are pulling together.

1 You all keep it that way. You all keep it that way.
2 Don't get upset with each other. Like I tell them, just
3 keep moving and take care of it and we'll move on to the
4 -- you know, to the right direction.

5 So I want to say thank you all for your loyal and
6 support. I saw 252. I saw someone from Chappie James,
7 Ben Bowie and all them. Hello. I hope to get up to see
8 you all one day. But for that, I'm going to say goodbye
9 and you all take care. It's been -- it's been a long,
10 long, long run, but I love doing what I do. I love it.
11 Because I do it from here. See, I don't -- anyone that
12 knows me, they know everything I do is from the heart. I
13 don't sugarcoat nothing. I just let it go like it is.

14 So I'm not going to take up no more of your all
15 time. You all be good and I hope to see you all around.
16 And God bless you and your family. And be safe. Thank
17 you.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
19 Commander. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve
20 with you for the past two years. And I want to thank you
21 from taking -- for taking the time from your convention to
22 be here with us today.

23 AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER GRIMSLEY: You got it.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Good luck with
25 the technical difficulties.

1 AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER GRIMSLEY: Okay. Thank
2 you. We need it.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
4 Commander.

5 Liz, do we have the American Legion National
6 Executive Committeeman Mark Foxworthy in queue? Where did
7 Liz go?

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I have to mute
9 because I have the kids behind me making a bunch of noise.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Mike Foxworthy?

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I don't see him.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Okay. Do
13 we have our Honorary Junior President?

14 Oh, wait a minute, wait a minute. Do we have
15 District 14 Commander Frank Decar in queue?

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I think Mark
17 Foxworthy might have just shown up.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: There he is.
19 Good afternoon, Commander. How are you? Go ahead and
20 unmute yourself. You're still muted, Commander.
21 Commander, please unmute yourself. Commander Stuart?
22 There you go. Good afternoon.

23 SAL JUNIOR PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER STUART:
24 Good afternoon.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: How are you?

1 SAL JUNIOR PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER STUART: How
2 you guys doing today?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Excellent.

4 SAL COMMANDER STUART: You know what, we had our
5 convention last weekend down in San Diego at American
6 Legion Post 731 and we got our business done and we --
7 we're moving on. And I get the rocking chair now because
8 I'm the Junior Past Detachment Commander. But I want to
9 wish you guys a great convention. Ours was rather -- kind
10 of different because ours was actually a hybrid. We met
11 in-person plus virtual. And it went pretty well. We gave
12 them -- you know, we got our business taken care of.

13 We have a new rack of officers and the -- some of
14 the things that we were able to accomplish, we made a
15 \$10,000 donation to American Legion Baseball that we've --
16 you know, we've had, you know, the opportunity to support
17 for a long time. And the sad part about it is it moved
18 from Yountville down to Fresno, which that long-tendered
19 run up there continued on for all these years. And
20 because of location, it makes it more feasible to be more
21 centrally located in California.

22 Some of the real big highlights that I would say
23 is the Detachment of California through our Ways & Means
24 was -- and Bill Bryant especially because he was our
25 chairman in the Helmets For Heroes program. Over the past

1 two years we donated almost \$23,000 to the Helmets For
2 Heroes program through the helmets. Bill Bryant got a
3 special award from Ed Grimsley and myself for his devotion
4 and helpfulness to the program for Helmets For Heroes. We
5 presented him that on Saturday night in our banquet where
6 the new officers were installed.

7 Bill has been phenomenal doing this program for
8 the last two years and we want to, you know, extend even
9 more support out for the Sons of the American Legion to
10 get that program going within their communities. If one
11 person in two years can collect and donate that kind of
12 money to the program. You know, the one thing that we
13 need to do is get our squadrons doing the same thing and
14 also the Auxiliary. It's a great program. It's there to
15 help our veterans, you know.

16 And then, of course, too with Michael Fox being
17 the next National Commander for the Sons of the American
18 Legion, we must support him also. We have a -- I feel
19 that we have a good team that's taking place. And like Ed
20 said, you know, we are -- you know, we are a pair. I
21 mean, we both got the same opportunity as you have as far
22 as being a -- you know, more than one term in a sense
23 because the term went from one to two because it took us
24 24 months to get through it, so --

25 But we -- you know, we're going to continue

1 working with the American Legion Auxiliary, the Legion,
2 and the Riders to help promote things to make our
3 organization even better. Some of the things that Michael
4 talked about we are going to, you know, make sure that we
5 support him, but one of my things is that we need to start
6 a junior program like the Auxiliary has because we can
7 build leadership from a young age so we get a younger
8 look.

9 We have two young people that we elected for a
10 couple of positions at the detachment level. One of them
11 is a Junior Vice Commander. He's 18 years old. He just
12 graduated from high school with multiple honors. He's
13 going to go to college and he's in line within the next
14 couple years to become our Detachment Commander.

15 We also have a younger Sergeant-at-Arms that's
16 coming in at that level that will go through the chairs
17 and will be a future leader also. So, you know, we're in
18 a rebuild mode. We're into a more youth mode. And one of
19 the other things that we're going to do is along with the
20 junior program, we're going to start and develop junior
21 color guard teams to do, you know, parades and do things
22 in their communities. You know, placing colors at their
23 football games in their communities or assemblies at
24 school or just do parades, but to get that younger look of
25 the Sons of the American Legion out there to attract the

1 younger people. It's -- there's got to be growth. And
2 just like the Auxiliary, if you don't continue moving
3 forward, then you kind of fall backwards and things don't
4 -- don't progress and you don't get that younger look.

5 But those are basically the things that we're
6 going to focus on in this new year. And it's been an
7 honor and a pleasure to work with you, Kathie, as well as
8 Ed Grimsley and Rey Ruiz with the Legion Riders. It's
9 been a great two years. It's been a tough one, but, you
10 know, we've made it through and we have to look toward the
11 future at this point in time.

12 So I don't want to take any more of your time,
13 but thank you for allowing me to have an opportunity to
14 speak.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
16 Commander Stuart. I appreciate you taking the time from
17 your schedule to join with us this afternoon. It has been
18 an honor to serve with you these past two years as well.
19 Thank you and I love the direction you're taking the Sons
20 in in getting these younger Sons involved. That is
21 awesome. Thank you.

22 SAL JUNIOR PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER STUART:
23 Thank you. So I'm going to step out and I'm going to turn
24 it back over to the actual name that's on the screen. So
25 I changed that just for her, otherwise, it would have had

1 my name and you would have thought Tiny Stuart? That
2 don't look like Tiny. So anyway, thank you very much and
3 you have a great day and a great convention.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you.

5 SAL JUNIOR PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER STUART: All
6 righty.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Liz, do we
8 have the Commander from the 15th District Tony Strauss in
9 queue?

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I do not see him.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. We did
12 that. Do we have Mark Foxworthy in queue?

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes, we already
14 talked to him.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: No. That was
16 Michael. This is Mark, National Executive Committeeman.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I don't see him.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Do we have
19 our Honorary Junior President in queue, Shakira?

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I don't see her.
21 Is she with somebody by chance?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Anita or anybody
23 from 23, 252, do we know Shakira's status?

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: No, I don't.
25 Did she receive the link from you directly or did it have

1 to go through the district?

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: It came from Linda
3 Fercho to -- directly to Shakira.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'll text her
5 and find out where she is.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: All righty.
7 Thank you. We will now -- is Geni, I know she was here.
8 President of District 24, Geni Lefler. I'm sorry.
9 District 14.

10 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT LEFLER: That's okay. It's
11 been a morning for everyone, I'm sure. I just wanted to
12 welcome everybody to the convention this year. As much as
13 we wanted to have it in person, at least we get to see
14 everybody's beautiful faces this morning this way. I
15 appreciate you guys all coming and I look forward to
16 another great year.

17 And, Kathie, Madame President, I just wanted to
18 thank you for all your love, patience, and hard work over
19 the last two years. I know it's been a rough one, but I
20 think together we have all learned that unity goes a long
21 way for all of us.

22 So welcome to the convention. Normally you would
23 be in the beautiful town of Visalia and I could tell you
24 all of the fun things to do. I'm sitting right now in the
25 Veterans Memorial Building in Hanford. You can see behind

1 me we have the original fireplace. I would love for you
2 guys to come and visit it while you're here next year.
3 And as well we are kitty-corner from the Superior Dairy,
4 so please come and enjoy a nice dessert and come take a
5 tour of the building with us next year.

6 But I look forward to a wonderful convention.
7 I'm sorry, Kathie, you couldn't do it in person, but
8 everything happens for a reason and it's shown us how much
9 grace you have to stick it out with us for last years.
10 Thank you and welcome.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you, Geni.
12 And I am so looking forward to, along with the rest of
13 this department, to being in Visalia next year and
14 enjoying all of the good stuff that is up in that area.
15 Thank you so much.

16 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT LEFLER: You're welcome.
17 Thank you.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. And I know
19 District 15 -- okay. At this time I would like to take a
20 moment to recognize a very select group of ladies who
21 without their dedication and leadership, we, and most
22 personally I, may not be here before you today. Our Past
23 Department Presidents.

24 In order of service, I don't know if they're all
25 here, but let's try this. Odette Cuccarro 1971-'72. I

1 saw Odette's shining face. There she is.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CUCCARRO: I'm here.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Good afternoon,
4 my love. Beverly Sparks 1989-'90. Judy Lloyd 1995-'96.
5 Ruby Kapsalis 1996-'97. Ruby, are you still here with us?
6 Negative. Linda Workman 1998-'99.

7 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Hi, Kathie.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Hello. Diane
9 DeLashmit 1999-2000. She was here. She'll be back I'm
10 sure. Madeline Lee 2001-2002. Nancy Brown-Park
11 2002-2003. Linda Caples 2003-2004. Melanie Taylor
12 2004-2005.

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: I'm still
14 here.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
16 Melanie. Bonnie Christner 2005-2006.

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Hello,
18 Madame President. Have a great convention.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
20 Bonnie. Sandy Jacob 2006-2007. LuAnn Capazzi 2008-2009.
21 Pilar Reyes 2010-2011. Linda Fercho 2011-2012.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Have a great
23 convention.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. Terry
25 Mikesell 2012-2013. Anita Biggs 2013-2014.

1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Have a great
2 convention. Love you all.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. Susie
4 Tozier 2015-2016.

5 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Have a
6 wonderful virtual convention.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. Wendy
8 O'Brien 2016-2017. Loretta Marsh 2017-2018. She was
9 here. Joan Cannon 2018-2019.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CANNON: Madame
11 President, have a spectacular Zoom convention.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. And
13 it gives me great honor to have Past Department President
14 Odette Cuccarro bring greetings on behalf of our Past
15 Department Presidents. Odette, the floor is yours.

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CUCCARO: Okay. I'm
17 here. Anyway, Madame Department President and good friend
18 Kathie, on behalf of the Past Department Presidents, we
19 wish for you a happy and constructive convention. The
20 past two years have been very hard on you, your family,
21 and the Department of California, but as you retire, you
22 will be retiring with a -- as a lady with a past and you
23 will be joining the wonderful ladies of good leadership.
24 Thank you, Madame President.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,

1 Odette. You are -- without your guidance, yours and
2 Diane's, I would not be here today. Thank you so much. I
3 love you both. Thank you.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CUCCARO: Thank you.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Ladies, we have
6 the best Flappers in the world, and thank you, Past
7 Department Presidents, for all that you have done for us.

8 At this time I take pride in recognizing all of
9 our national representatives. Nancy Brown-Park, Past
10 National President, American Legion Foundation, Finance
11 Liaison, and National Finance Committee Member five years.
12 Melanie Taylor, National Security Chairman. Anita Biggs,
13 Western Division Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman. Linda
14 Fercho, Western Division Community Service Chairman.
15 LuAnn Cappazi, Western Division Junior Activities
16 Chairman. Robin Falkenberg, Western Division Leadership
17 Chairman.

18 Our National Executive Committee Person Linda
19 Workman will bring greetings on behalf of all of our
20 national representatives.

21 NEC COMMITTEE WORKMAN: Madame President, it is
22 my honor and privilege to bring you greetings from the
23 National organization. And on behalf of all the National
24 members, we wish for you all a successful Zooming
25 convention.

1 To you, Madame President, we always say we hope
2 you had a memorable year, but I'm sure these are two years
3 that you will never forget and hopefully still enjoy the
4 fruits of your labor. You have led us through many ways
5 to make it work and still serve our veterans and complete
6 our programs. Our best wishes to you and the outstanding
7 members of the Department of California. Have a great
8 convention.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you, Linda.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madame
11 President?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: For the record,
14 I am the Western Division National Americanism Chairman.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I apologize.

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That's okay.
17 Next year is AEF.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I must have
19 looked at the wrong line when I was looking the
20 information up. And finally, without further ado, our
21 very own Past National President Nancy Brown-Park.

22 PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Hi, members
23 of California. Kathie, you have done a stellar job the
24 last two years. I know each of us having served as
25 department presidents in our group, we couldn't wait for

1 our year to end. And to think that you got to that point
2 and it was a whole another year. And you took it on. You
3 have done an incredible job and learned new things and
4 look where we are today. And, you know, I hear from a lot
5 of different departments in how they do things, and none
6 of them are doing as well we are when it comes to Zoom and
7 bringing our members together. And I know you're going to
8 have an incredible convention and we're right here to
9 support you in everything you do.

10 And to all our members, thank you for all you've
11 done this year. You've done a great job. I know I've
12 watched the Girls State Committee and what they've done
13 and they have done an incredible job with what's been
14 happening legislatively. You were right there to help do
15 all that and get us on track.

16 So thank you very much, Kathie, for your great,
17 great year. And for the all the chairmen and all the
18 officers this last year, have a great convention.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you, Nancy.
20 I can't say enough how proud I am of this department.
21 It's just amazing. I want to thank you all for taking the
22 time from your schedules to bring greetings to our first
23 virtual convention of the American Legion Auxiliary
24 Department of California.

25 At this time I would like to acknowledge two

1 groups of very special people who have been there for me
2 over the past two years. And without them, I am not sure
3 what I would have done. Let me get this a little closer
4 here. The light is better.

5 First, these three ladies have let me know when I
6 did something right, when I did something wrong, and when
7 I should have done something and didn't or did something I
8 probably shouldn't have done. The Advisory Committee,
9 also known as The Senate, Diane DeLashmit, Terry Mikesell,
10 and LuAnn Capazzi. Thank you all so much for your advice
11 and guidance.

12 Second, these two ladies have been with me since
13 day one, long before I ever dreamed of being before you
14 today. One by choice, and the other not so much. I'll
15 let you figure out which is which. The Fantastic Eagle
16 Trackers, my personal pages, Marie Whigham and Heather
17 Martinez Reyes. I will be forever grateful for all that
18 you have done with me and for me over these past two
19 years.

20 To the hardest working group of individuals I
21 have ever had the pleasure of meeting and working with who
22 stood up when the times got really tough and stayed with
23 us through it all, our Department Officers. Thank you.
24 These ladies had no idea that they would be asked to serve
25 for two consecutive years, yet when it came down to it,

1 they stepped up for the good of our organization doing
2 their best to implement all of the programs while adhering
3 to various stay-at-home directions. To our Department --
4 to our Department Chairmen, I cannot thank you enough.
5 Your dedication is remarkable.

6 Our District Presidents, once again, I am amazed
7 at the dedication you have shown in the face of all we
8 have been through during the past two years. Your
9 willingness to retain your position in the face of this
10 pandemic shows that you are truly the Freedom Fighters of
11 this department. Your courage and resilience is amazing
12 and so deeply, deeply appreciated.

13 I would also like to take this opportunity to
14 thank all District Presidents and their units for the
15 friendship, kindness, hospitality and generosity they have
16 shown me during my travels and official visits.

17 To our medical center and veterans homes
18 representatives and deputies, our MASH unit, through it
19 all you have been there for our veterans, even when you
20 could not be there in person. I have heard the stories of
21 what you have done in order to give the veterans a sense
22 of normalcy in this time of anything but normal. You are
23 and have been on the frontline for them through all of
24 this. Thank you.

25 And before we proceed to the business of the day,

1 I would like to take this opportunity to remember a Past
2 Department President that we lost, Harriet Clendenin, who
3 served as Department President 2014-2015. Harriet was
4 more than a Past Department President, more than our
5 Department Secretary. She was a traveling companion for
6 me, she was a mentor, and she was a friend. It gives me
7 great honor to dedicate this Department of California
8 Virtual Convention in her honor.

9 We will now have the roll call of Department
10 Officers and Chairmen by our Department Secretary
11 Elizabeth Liz Doidge.

12 Madame Vice President Dee Ann?

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yes, ma'am.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Can you assume
15 the chair for about two and a half minutes, please?

16 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Absolutely.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you.

18
19 **ROLL CALL**

20
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'm so used to a
22 computer that I don't have a pen. President Kathie. We
23 all know where she is. Vice President Dee Ann Graham.

24 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I'm still
25 here.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Secretary Liz
2 Doidge. I am here still. Treasurer Ruby Kapsalis. NEC
3 Linda Workman.

4 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Present.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Alternate NEC Joan
6 Cannon.

7 ALTERNATE NEC WOMAN CANNON: Present.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Chaplain Cece
9 Harvey. Historian Jean Cooley-Desmeules.

10 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Here.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Parliamentarian
12 Melanie Taylor.

13 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Here.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Sergeant-at-Arms
15 Deborah Straight.

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS STRAIGHT: Here.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Assistant
18 Sergeant-at-Arms Valerie Hill.

19 ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS HILL: Present.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Finance Committee
21 Chair Linda Workman.

22 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR WORKMAN: I'm still here.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Finance Committee
24 One Year Kay Orcutt.

25 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR WORKMAN: Actually, Kay

1 had resigned so I had taken her place as the senior
2 member.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: That's right. And
4 we haven't filled that because now you've taken Martha's;
5 right? So now this is vacant. I'll just put vacant for
6 now and we'll figure that out.

7 Finance Two Year Cathaleen McCoy. No. Advisory
8 Committee Diane DeLashmit.

9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR DeLASHMIT: Here.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Advisory Committee
11 Terry Mikesell. Advisory Committee LuAnn Capazzi.
12 Americanism Tamra Duron. She was here.

13 AMERICANISM CHAIR DURON: I'm here. I'm here.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: AEF Debbie
15 Fletcher.

16 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Here.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Children & Youth
18 Glenda Schultz.

19 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR SCHULTZ: Present.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Community Service
21 Ann Philcox. Constitution & Bylaws Linda Hayes.

22 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIR HAYES: I'm here.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention Chairman
24 Gloria Sinopoli.

25 CONVENTION CHAIR SINOPOLI: I'm here.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention Co-Chair
2 Geneia Risner. Convention City Commissioner Anita Biggs.

3 CONVENTION CITY COMMISSIONER BIGGS: I'm here.
4 Also, Liz?

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes.

6 CONVENTION CITY COMMISSIONER BIGGS: Just FYI,
7 Shakira Abdul-Rauf, the Junior President, she is on.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay.

9 CONVENTION CITY COMMISSIONER BIGGS: Okay.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So as soon as we're
11 done with roll call, we'll have her on when Kathie is
12 back.

13 CONVENTION CITY COMMISSIONER BIGGS: Thank you.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Two Year Member
15 Wendy O'Brien. One Year Member Linda Fercho.

16 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: She's here.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Credentials
18 Danielle White.

19 CREDENTIALS CHAIR WHITE: Here.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Distinguished Guest
21 Linda Fercho. Editor Donna Scott.

22 EDITOR CHAIR SCOTT: Here.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Education Susan
24 Baker.

25 EDUCATION CHAIR BAKER: Here.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Elections Linda
2 Debel.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Excused.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Girls State
5 Chairman Allyn Kau. Allyn? She was here.

6 GIRLS STATE CHAIR KAU: Here.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: There she is.
8 Thank you. Girls State Director Tammy Sollazzo.

9 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR SOLLAZZO: Here.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Junior Activities
11 Maureen O'Brien-Sacco.

12 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Present.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Junior Conference
14 Director Jackie Cleveland. She's been having trouble with
15 Zoom all day. She was on the morning one and then hasn't
16 been able to get onto this one.

17 Leadership Susie Tozier.

18 LEADERSHIP CHAIR TOZIER: I muted myself. I'm
19 here.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: There she is.
21 Legislative Joan Cannon.

22 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR CANNON: Present.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Tracy
24 Varnell-Fercho.

25 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Here.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Support Area 1
2 Terry Mikesell. Support Area 2 Cindy Newman.
3 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 2 NEWMAN: Here.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Support Area 3 Geni
5 Lefler.
6 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 3 LEFLER: Here and ready
7 for the finish line.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Support Area 4
9 Becky Bullard.
10 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 4 BULLARD: Here, here.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Support Area 5
12 Patti Galatioto.
13 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 5 GALATIOTO: Here.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Support Area 6 Jeri
15 Adams.
16 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 6 ADAMS: Here.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Music Deloris
18 Artis? National Security Donna Smith.
19 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR SMITH: Here.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Past Presidents
21 Parley Loretta Marsh.
22 PPP CHAIR MARSH: Here.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Poppy Dee Ann
24 Graham.
25 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: I'm still here.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Public Relations
2 Victoria Ferreira-Allen. Resolutions Cyd Kintzer? Rules
3 Brenda Preston.

4 RULES CHAIR PRESTON: Present.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: VA&R Gloria
6 Williams.

7 VA&R CHAIR WILLIAMS: I'm here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I just saw her.
9 Ways & Means Marion Rocha-Carlos.

10 WAYS & MEANS CHAIR ROCHA-CARLOS: Present.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Ways & Means
12 Committee Jeri Johnston.

13 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE JOHNSTON: Present.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Nancy Heinisch.

15 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE HEINISCH: Present.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Sharon Moore.

17 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: Present.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Personal Pages
19 Marie Whigham.

20 PERSONAL PAGE WHIGHAM: I'm here.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Heather
22 Martinez.

23 PERSONAL PAGE MARTINEZ: Here.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District
25 Presidents. District 1 Sara Hart. District 2 Mary

1 Sanders. District 3 Lola Ramey. District 4 Nancy Brown.
2 District 5 Lynn Jewell.

3 DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT JEWELL: I'm here.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 6 Ann
5 Sanchez?

6 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Here.

7 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT MAR: I'm here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'm not up to you
9 yet. You're 10. I'm at District 7. I'm not that far.
10 District 7 Melise Munroe.

11 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT MUNROE: Here.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 8 Teresa
13 Canonizado.

14 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT CANONIZADO: Here. Present.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: District 9 Vicky
16 Bean. Ten Susan Mar.

17 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT MAR: Here.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 11 Grace
19 Huston.

20 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT HUSTON: Here.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 12
22 Victoria Ferreira-Allen.

23 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT FERREIRA-ALLEN: Present.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 13 Cece
25 Harvey.

1 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HARVEY: Present.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Was that a here,
3 Cece?
4 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HARVEY: Yes, present. I'm
5 here.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 14 Geni
7 Lefler.
8 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT LEFLER: Present.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 15 Genieca
10 Risner. She's excused. District 16 Tammy Wilkening.
11 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT WILKENING: Present.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, she's on.
13 District 17 Yvonne Sarceda.
14 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT SARCEDA: Here I am.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 18 Maureen
16 O'Brien-Sacco.
17 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT O'BRIEN-SACCO: Present.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 19 Rita
19 Lambert.
20 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LAMBERT: Here.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 20 Hila
22 Estrada. Hila Estrada? I know she was here earlier.
23 District 21 Kathy Newlen.
24 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT NEWLEN: I'm present.
25 Here. Here for Kathy Newlen.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you.
2 District 22 Donna Smith.
3 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT SMITH: Here.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 23
5 Patricia Davis.
6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's been
7 trying to get in.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 24 Martha
9 Romano. District 25 Judy Samples.
10 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT SAMPLES: Present.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 26 Peggy
12 Toye. District 27 Danielle White.
13 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT WHITE: Here.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 28 Deniece
15 Clay.
16 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT CLAY: Present.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 29 Carol
18 Borgman.
19 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN. Present.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 30 Wanda
21 Hylton. Do I need to do just the reps here or do I need
22 to do reps and depts? Sorry. Quick question.
23 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: The hospital
24 reps.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Just the reps.

1 Thank you. Fresno VA Sandra Dowell.

2 HOSPITAL REP DOWELL: Present.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Livermore Grace
4 Huston.

5 HOSPITAL REP HUSTON: Present.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Long Beach Pat
7 Alvarez. Los Angeles Ellah Wallace.

8 HOSPITAL REP WALLACE: Present.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Palo Alto Connie
10 Raya.

11 HOSPITAL REP RAYA: Present.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: San Diego Susie
13 Tozier. I know she's here.

14 HOSPITAL REP TOZIER: You've got to move that
15 mute button.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: San Francisco Fort
17 Miley Laurie Sullivan. She is at Fort Miley doing a blood
18 drive today, so we're excusing her. Barstow Cal Vet is
19 Judy Samples. She was here.

20 HOSPITAL REP SAMPLES: Still here.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Fresno Cal Vet Home
22 Rosalie Taylor. Lancaster Linda Hayes.

23 HOSPITAL REP HAYES: Here.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Redding Terry
25 Mikesell. Ventura Madeline Lee. West LA Deloris Artis.

1 And Chula Vista Lois Cornish.

2 HOSPITAL REP CORNISH: I'm here.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And then one last
4 question. Do I have to do department presidents or are we
5 good?

6 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Do you mean
7 district presidents or --

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I did district
9 presidents.

10 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Okay.
11 Department presidents, no.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: No. Okay.

13 PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: You do have
14 to add me, Liz.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I have you on the
16 list and I just went right through it. Past National
17 President Nancy Brown-Park.

18 PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Because I
19 have a vote and I want to make sure it's on there.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah. Thank you.

21 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Nancy, it's
22 been so gosh-darn long since we've had a Past National
23 President, it's not intentional. We just have to get into
24 the routine.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, I will make

1 sure after this that I update our whole spreadsheet and
2 that Past National President is listed on there.

3 I am good to go, Kathie, if you're back. And
4 Shakira is present.

5 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: If Madame
6 President isn't back, then, Dee Ann, do you have the
7 agenda script to continue on?

8 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Kathie is back
9 on. She's just muted.

10 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Okay.

11 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Kathie, unmute
12 yourself.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Are we
14 good? Okay. We have Shakira available now?

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Where? I don't
17 see her smiling face. Where is she?

18 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT ABDUL-RAUL: Hello.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: There you are.

20 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT ABDUL-RAUL: Hi.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Hello, love.

22 What would you like to say to us?

23 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT ABDUL-RAUL: I just
24 want to say hello, everybody. Good afternoon.

25 Madame President, I'm bringing greetings from all

1 of the Juniors in California. We all wish you a wonderful
2 convention and I hope to see everybody in person again
3 soon. And I'm looking forward to our next Junior
4 Conference because we have a lot of fun to make up.

5 So thank you and I hope everybody enjoys the rest
6 of their day and enjoys convention.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
8 Shakira. Thank you. And I have to say, I know like the
9 rest of us you did not bargain on two years. And
10 essentially you're going to have three years until we get
11 back together at the next Junior Conference. So I commend
12 you for your just tenacity in doing this. This is an
13 awesome job. You have done well with your Juniors and I
14 so look forward to hearing all of their accomplishments
15 over the past three years.

16 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT ABDUL-RAUL: Thank you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
18 Shakira.

19 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT ABDUL-RAUL: Thank you,
20 thank you. Have a great convention.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. Okay.
22 Our Department Secretary will now read the call to
23 convention.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I move that we
25 dispense with the reading of the call to convention.

1 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Second.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: It has been moved
3 and seconded that we dispense with the reading of the call
4 to convention. Is there any discussion?

5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: There are none.
7 All those in favor? You should have a little screen
8 pop-up. Please vote.

9 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT WHITE: Oh, man. You're
10 just zipping along there, I'll tell you.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: It will slow down
12 later. You'll see. Okay. Nobody else is going, so
13 you're in favor. Or motion carried is the word.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Motion has been
15 carried. Thank you, ladies.

16 We will now have Rules Chairman Brenda Preston
17 will now read the Convention Rules which can be found in
18 your Book of Reports.

19

20 **READING OF CONVENTION RULES**

21

22 RULES CHAIR PRESTON: Thank you, Madame
23 President. Number 1, all meetings of the convention shall
24 be called to order at the designated time or as soon
25 thereafter as a quorum is present.

1 A quorum shall exist of one-third of the units in
2 good standing or partially or wholly represented by duly
3 elected delegates or alternates.

4 Number 3, all computers should remain muted until
5 the Department President recognizes you to speak.

6 Number 4, the Chairman may deviate from the
7 printed program when necessary or expedient.

8 Number 5, the Credentials Chairman shall report
9 registration as directed by the Chair.

10 Number 6, the registration of delegates and
11 alternates shall close at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 26th,
12 2021.

13 Number 7, only qualified delegates shall have
14 voice and vote.

15 Number 8, if a delegate expects to be absent from
16 the convention, except for the purpose of attending a
17 committee meeting, she shall relinquish her delegate's
18 card to her alternate. It is the responsibility of the
19 alternate to inform the District President or Chairman of
20 the designation -- Delegation, excuse me, that they are
21 replacing the absent delegate.

22 Number 9, in the event the delegate does not have
23 the opportunity of reporting to the District President, it
24 shall become the duty of the chairman of the unit
25 delegation to report to the District President the absence

1 of the delegate and the presence of the alternate or the
2 absence of both the alternate and the delegate.

3 Number 10, a delegate wishing the privilege of
4 the floor shall raise the hand function, wait to be
5 addressed by the Chair, address the Chair as Madame
6 Department President, give her name, unit, and district
7 numbers.

8 Number 11, a member speaking in debate on a
9 question shall be limited to three minutes. No one shall
10 speak more than twice on the same question without consent
11 of the assembly.

12 Number 12, delegates attending called Committee
13 Meetings shall be notified when the convention is
14 considering and voting upon adoption of any change in
15 policy on matters reflecting finance.

16 Number 13, reports of committee shall not appear
17 to be -- that do not appear -- which do not appear to be
18 controversial in nature may be adopted by general consent.
19 If there is no objection -- if there is objection, a vote
20 shall be taken. Following the acceptance of the report of
21 the committee, recommendation or resolutions may be
22 presented for consideration and adoption.

23 Number 14, any committee whose proposed changes
24 to the policy -- changes in the policy might conflict with
25 that of the American Legion shall confer with the American

1 Legion before presenting said changes to the convention.

2 Number 15, a committee recommendation --
3 recommending an appropriation of funds for any purpose
4 shall consult with the Department Finance Committee before
5 presenting the recommendation or resolution to the
6 convention.

7 Number 16, all resolutions to be presented to the
8 convention shall be in triplicate and properly signed.

9 Number 17, committees may amend resolutions and
10 recommendations referred to them before favorable
11 reporting the same. Resolutions or recommendations
12 rejected by the committee shall be marked "rejected,"
13 signed by the department -- or the Chairman of the
14 committee, and returned to the Department Resolution
15 Chairman immediately following the committee meeting.

16 Number 18, a unit, district, or members
17 representing a resolution or recommendation shall have the
18 privilege of explaining the same to the committee to which
19 it was referred.

20 Number 19, Committee shall report to the
21 Convention all resolutions properly submitted and accepted
22 by a majority of the Convention Committee.

23 Number 20, a resolution rejected by the Committee
24 may be brought before the Convention by two-thirds vote.

25 Number 21, emergency resolution which may arise

1 during the convention or after the date for submitting
2 resolution may be presented no later than noon of second
3 day of the convention.

4 Number 22, nominations of Officers, Junior Member
5 of Finance, Department Delegates and Alternates to the
6 National Convention shall be held Friday afternoon, June
7 25th, 2021.

8 Number 23, endorsement of candidates for National
9 Office shall follow the nominations.

10 Number 24, nomination speeches shall be limited
11 to three minutes. There shall be no seconding speeches.

12 Number 25, election of Department Officers,
13 Junior Member of Finance, National Candidate, Department
14 Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall
15 be held on Monday morning, June 26th, 2021.

16 Number 26, when there is but one nominee for all
17 Department Officers and but one nominee for Junior Member
18 of Finance, the nominees shall be elected viva-voce. Upon
19 roll call, the District President shall report the number
20 of units partially or wholly represented by duly elected
21 delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the
22 time of roll call. This is to determine whether there is
23 a quorum of units present at the time of the election.

24 Number 27, when there is more than one nominee
25 for Department Officers, Junior Member of Finance, or

1 endorsement of National Office, election shall be by
2 written ballot. The District President shall, when they
3 are instructed by the Chair, take a roll call of their
4 respective delegations to ascertain the total voting
5 strength of their District for election reporting the same
6 to Chair.

7 28, when there are three or more nominees for
8 Department officers, Junior Member of Finance, or
9 endorsement for National Office, unless one nominee
10 receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the nominee
11 receiving the lowest number of votes shall be
12 automatically dropped before proceeding to the next
13 ballot.

14 Number 29, all members seeking National Office
15 shall be endorsed by the Department Convention by a
16 majority of votes not more than three years prior to the
17 date that they are to be a candidate for office. Votes
18 shall be viva-voce unless there is more than one
19 candidate, then a majority vote shall be by ballot.

20 Number 30, each department -- District President
21 and District Member of Elections Committee shall
22 distribute and collect the votes cast by the District
23 Delegation and deliver them to the Department Chairman of
24 Elections.

25 Number 31, Department Officers, Chairmen,

1 Committee Members, and Past Department Presidents shall
2 vote with their respective District.

3 Number 32, each delegate shall be entitled to one
4 vote. The vote of an absent unit delegate, not
5 represented by an alternate, shall be cast by the majority
6 of the delegates from the Unit. When two delegates
7 represent three votes, the chairman of the Unit delegation
8 shall cast the third vote.

9 33, a majority of the votes cast shall elect,
10 except for -- except that in the election of National
11 delegates and alternates, a plurality shall elect.

12 34, these convention rules may be amended during
13 the convention by two-thirds vote.

14 And 35, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised,
15 shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not
16 covered by these rules, the Department Constitution and
17 Bylaws and the Convention Mandates.

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Madame
19 President? Hello?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes. Am I muted
21 again? I can't even find me. No, no, I'm not muted. I
22 can hear you now.

23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Diane
24 DeLashmit, District 25 delegate. On number 25, it was
25 just that an error in reading, but for those that might

1 not have it, she said the vote was going to be on Monday
2 instead of Saturday.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Correct.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Okay. So
5 we just need to fix that.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes. It is
7 printed as Saturday.

8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Right.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay.

10 RULES CHAIR PRESTON: Sorry about that.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Do we have a
12 motion?

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is she going to
14 make the motion?

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: I move to
16 amend rule number 25 to be as read the vote will be on
17 Saturday -- I'm sorry. Yeah, Saturday instead of Monday.

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Second.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: It's been moved
20 and seconded to amend the reading of rule number 25 to
21 show the election shall be held on Saturday. Any
22 discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: All those in
25 favor?

1 DELEGATES: Aye.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Everybody back on
3 mute now. I think we're good.

4 Okay. Where did I go? No, I keep moving. Okay.
5 Do we have a motion to accept, everybody?

6 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: Madame President?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes, Sharon.

8 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: I just wanted to
9 -- on number -- where is this at?

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She didn't
11 carry out that motion.

12 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: Okay. After she
13 does that.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madame
15 President.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you, Anita.

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That amendment.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: The amendment to
19 correct rule number 25 is passed. Thank you.
20 Sharon?

21 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: Yes, Madame
22 President. I was just going to say, you know, there is a
23 function to raise the hand down on the bottom next to --

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

25 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: -- mute.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

2 DISTRICT 14 DELEGATE OLIPHANT: Under reactions.

3 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Just make sure you lower your
4 hand after the fact.

5 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MOORE: Right.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
7 Sharon.

8 PERSONAL PAGE WHIGHAM: Madame President?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madame
11 President? Madame President?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I move that we
14 accept the rules of -- the department convention rules as
15 amended.

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Second.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: It's been moved
18 and seconded that we accept the rules for convention as
19 amended. Is there any discussion?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: All those in
22 favor, raise your hand. I've got to find the hand. Here
23 it is. Okay.

24 Secretary, are we good? I'm getting dizzy.
25 Where did Madame Secretary go?

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'm muted. Sorry.
2 Yes, we're good.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Ladies, please
4 lower your hands. I don't know how to do that. It's in
5 the same place. I'm waving.

6 Thank you. Okay. It has been moved and -- okay.
7 Okay. Thank you, Brenda. I got a little ahead of myself
8 there.

9 Okay. Credentials Chairman Danielle White will
10 give us a preliminary Credentials report.

11

12 **PRELIMINARY CREDENTIALS REPORT**

13

14 CREDENTIALS CHAIR WHITE: Madame President Kathie
15 Martinez, as of 2:15 June 25th -- 24, 2021, there are 91
16 units registered for this convention and you have a
17 quorum. Congratulations.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
19 Danielle.

20 In an effort to move this convention along, at
21 this time I would like to begin our Department Chairmen
22 reports if there are no objections.

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Excellent. Let's
25 start with -- Deloris, are you -- do you have your report

1 ready? Because I did have you on the agenda for this
2 afternoon.

3 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: I do have my report ready,
4 Madame Department President.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Perfect. Thank
6 you.

7
8 **MUSIC CONVENTION REPORT**

9
10 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: The preconvention meeting for
11 Music met on June 24th, 2021 via Zoom. The status report
12 for this Chairman will appear on page 29 of the Book of
13 Reports. Nancy Heinisch was appointed secretary. She's
14 from District 20, Unit 507. Yvonne Evans was appointed
15 chaplain. She's from District 23, Unit 639. And RayVon
16 Porter was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms and she's from
17 District 22, Unit 310. We had a total of eight district
18 delegates that answered roll call and we had one visitor
19 present and she was one of our juniors.

20 The committee agreed upon the following report.
21 Our code was read and there was no changes. But there was
22 one housekeeping thing that needed to be done, and that
23 was with our 5th code. The number 5 was missing. The
24 code was type up, but the number 5 was missing, so we
25 would like to have that number 5 added to the code. It's

1 just a housekeeping problem.

2 We also discussed the appearance of the
3 end-of-the year report form for both the unit and the
4 district level. It did not have a complete heading for --
5 the report did not show where we were asking for the unit
6 chairman's name, address, telephone number, and email that
7 was missing from the report forms, from both the unit and
8 the district's report form. So we would like to change
9 the current form that's on the website under EOY forms to
10 put the one that has the correct information there.

11 So I don't know if we need to go -- where we need
12 to go to get that approved or is that just something that
13 I can send to the department and we can change the two
14 forms?

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I think that's just
16 supposed to have a recommendation for the next chairman;
17 right?

18 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: Yes. So do I have to do a
19 recommendation for that?

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: That's all you have
21 to do is like put in your book as a recommendation for the
22 next chairman that this get fixed.

23 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: Okay. With that being done
24 then, that ends my pre-convention report. May I move on to
25 my platform remarks?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

2 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: Platform remarks. Madame
3 President, thank you for appointing me to this
4 chairmanship. In the last two years it has been quite an
5 experience for me. To be a chairman of music, one must
6 have some knowledge of the equipment to use, what type of
7 music to play for workshops, luncheons, dinners, and most
8 important for conventions. However, I managed to get
9 through it.

10 Hopefully you will enjoy the music that I have
11 selected for this convention which I sent a list to Liz.
12 I hope that we'll be able to play some of it.

13 Because of the pandemic and dealing with the
14 guidelines that had been established, only 16 districts
15 submitted an end-of-the-year report. Again I would like
16 to thank you for this appointment. May I begin my awards?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

18 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: Only one unit submitted a
19 supplemental and it was incomplete. There was no cover
20 page. There was only two paragraphs, so I could not award
21 that.

22 There were two districts that submitted a
23 supplemental and only one of them was correctly submitted.
24 And that first place award goes to District 21 Alma
25 Jarquin, J-A-R-Q-U-I-N.

1 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT NEWLEN: Jarquin.

2 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: Okay. Thank you for
3 correcting that.

4 Madame President, that concludes my report.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
6 DeLoris, and thank you for hanging in with us for two
7 years. It is definitely appreciated. Thank you.

8 MUSIC CHAIR ARTIS: Thank you.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Auxiliary
10 Emergency Fund Debbie Fletcher. Are you prepared? Is
11 Debbie with us?

12 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Yes, I'm here.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: There you are.

14 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: In five or ten minutes I
15 will be good. I just need to send the information to you
16 via email.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. I'm sorry.
18 You were breaking up. What was that, Debbie?

19 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: If you can give me like five
20 or ten minutes I'll be ready. I'm trying to -- I'm trying
21 to upload all my information and send it to you.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay.

23 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: My reports and stuff, the
24 committee reports.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Not a

1 problem. I will come back.

2 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: All right.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I will come back.

4 Thank you.

5 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Thanks.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Let's go -- let

7 me look at my list here. Linda Workman, National

8 Executive Committeewoman, can you give your report?

9 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: I am ready, Freddy.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Awesome.

11

12 **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN CONVENTION REPORT**

13

14 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Okay. Let me just pull it up

15 here. Excuse me. The pandemic changed how business is

16 done this past year, but that has not stopped our National

17 Headquarters from getting things done. Not only did they

18 get things done, but they enabled all members to share

19 information. Kelly Circle, our Executive Director, has

20 sent out a weekly briefing to share new information and

21 exchange ideas from other members to all of us.

22 I want to thank our Secretary Liz for making sure

23 that these weekly briefings are sent out to the Department

24 mailing list. The DLNC (Department Leadership National

25 Conference) was held online, as well as the NEC meetings.

1 This has saved thousands of dollars for our organization
2 so that these funds can be better utilized to support our
3 various programs.

4 So although things changed dramatically, there
5 was good that came out of it. As they say, necessity is
6 the mother of invention and our National organization took
7 our technology to a new, different, and perhaps better
8 level.

9 As you may have read, there will no longer be
10 mid-year reports to National, but to assure that this
11 information is getting to all members, there will be
12 Facebook pages so that you may share not only what your
13 department is doing in a specific program, but what all
14 members across the country are doing.

15 Additionally, the National website allows all
16 members to have the opportunity to partake in leadership
17 classes by a simple click of the button. To make sure --
18 but make sure you have your member login and password
19 which you can obtain from National.

20 The National website has been updated for easier
21 access to your specific needs. I do want to remind you
22 though that the National website can give guidance, but
23 it's your Department Code, your Department, District, and
24 Unit Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules that you
25 are bound by.

1 Although we haven't met much this year, the
2 members of this department have worked diligently for our
3 veterans, children, and military personnel. Like the
4 eagle you have all soared high and shown our communities
5 that the ALA is always there for them.

6 Now it wouldn't be me if I didn't leave you with
7 a few words of wisdom. And this we really are sharing
8 wisdom. The eagle lives up to 70 years, but to reach that
9 age, the eagle must make a hard decision in its forties.
10 Its long and flexible talons can no longer grab prey which
11 serves as food. Its long and sharp beak becomes bent.
12 Its old-aged and heavy wings, due to their thick feathers,
13 become stuck to their chest and make it difficult to fly.

14 The eagle is left with only two options: die or
15 go through a painful process to change which lasts 150
16 days. The process requires that the eagle fly to the
17 mountaintop where it knocks its beak and talons against
18 the rocks until they are plucked out. After this, the
19 eagle will wait for a new beak and talons to grow back.

20 When its new talons grow back, the eagle starts
21 plucking out the old-aged feathers and after five months
22 the eagle can take its flight of rebirth and live for
23 another 30 years.

24 The moral of this story is many times in order to
25 survive, we have to start a change process. We sometimes

1 need to get rid of old memories, habits, and outdated
2 traditions. Only freed from the past burdens can we take
3 advantage of the present. The American Legion Auxiliary
4 is 100 years old. Let us start a change process like the
5 eagle so that we can live stronger for another 100 years.

6 Thank you, Madame President. This concludes my
7 platform remarks.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you, Linda.
9 Excellent report.

10 Okay. Melanie, Parliamentarian, are you
11 prepared?

12 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Yes, Madame
13 President, I am.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Oh, excellent.

15
16 **DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN CONVENTION REPORT**
17

18 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Madame
19 President Kathie, as the department's Chief Counsel I have
20 been asked many questions many times with regards to the
21 lack of respect for one another and the problems caused
22 within the units and to act as intermediary. These
23 continuing and ongoing problems fester, subsequently cause
24 a lack of respect for one another to the point of name
25 calling, threats, and actual physical fights. This is not

1 acceptable, ladies.

2 The American Legion Auxiliary Vision Statement
3 states: "The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is
4 to support the American Legion while becoming the premier
5 service organization and foundation of every community
6 providing support for our veterans, our military, and
7 their families by shaping a positive future in an
8 atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace, and
9 security."

10 With the COVID pandemic hitting our Auxiliary
11 members hard, no meetings were held and post homes were
12 closed and we were expected to shelter in place in our
13 homes. This did slow down the problems for a while. Then
14 units started meeting via Zoom or FaceTime and were able
15 to accomplish some business, but it didn't stop the
16 problems within the units for long.

17 Our members need to stop and think before they
18 open their mouths and remember why we are here. We are
19 all volunteers and we have to remember this when
20 interacting with one another. We may not hear how we are
21 speaking to someone and they may not hear it completely
22 different than how you meant it. So I ask you to please
23 take a moment before you speak, then make sure that there
24 are no hurt feelings so that everyone can work together.
25 Being courteous to one another goes a long way.

1 I feel the most important part of parliamentary
2 procedure is to practice patience, decency, politeness,
3 and courtesy. So I say to you again please be kind to one
4 another.

5 Madame President, this concludes my report.

6 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Kathie, you're on mute again.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: That's okay.

8 They're doing their job keeping everybody muted. I like
9 that.

10 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Madame
11 President?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
13 Melanie.

14 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Madame
15 President, may I take a personal point of privilege here,
16 please?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Absolutely.

18 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: I would like
19 to thank everyone for all their love, their cards, emails
20 in the death of our son Stephen last year. And now I'm
21 having to go through hell. I almost lost my mother on
22 Monday. And I apologize if my mind is not here. I am
23 trying my best, so please forgive me. But thank you for
24 those who did offer prayers and condolences. Thank you.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,

1 Melanie. And I think I can speak on behalf of this entire
2 department, our prayers are with you and your family at
3 this time. Okay.

4 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT CANONIZADO: Kathie?

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

6 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT CANONIZADO: This is Teresa,
7 District 8. I have something to say too. My Uncle Danny
8 just passed away in the month of February so I know how it
9 feels to lose a family member. My husband has been a very
10 rock to me. And losing a lot of family members, it hurts
11 and all we can do is be supportive and listen to you and
12 Liz. Because people are just -- don't know how far we can
13 go and everything. So it still hurts me that I don't see
14 my uncle anymore.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Right.

16 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT CANONIZADO: And to just --
17 just to say goodbye to Unit 510 meant everything, so --

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
19 Teresa, for letting us know. And again our prayers are
20 with you and your family on your loss.

21 Madame Vice President Dee Ann, are you prepared
22 with your Vice President's report?

23 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yes, I am.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you.

25 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I like this.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: You like this?

2 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yeah.

3

4 POPPY CONVENTION REPORT

5

6 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Madame President, my
7 Sergeant-at-Arms and Secretary was Karen Herrera from
8 District 15. Terry Oclaray was my chaplain. Total of 21
9 delegates answered the roll call. I don't know how many
10 visitors. We didn't count the visitors. I hope there
11 was -- I know Pat Alvarez was there and Lois and a few --

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Dee Ann?

13 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Excuse me. Is
15 this your Poppy report or your Vice President's report?

16 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Oh, which one do you want?
17 I can do poppies. Let me do poppies.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Vice President
19 can be tomorrow.

20 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes, please.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. We can do
22 poppies.

23 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Turn the page.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Page 2. Here we
25 go.

1 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Okay. On page 57 of the
2 code we added a statement, inserted a sentence. And it
3 reads -- hold on. It reads: "If Poppy orders form is
4 not" -- excuse me. Let me find my notes. I'm sorry.

5 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Which Poppy
6 code is this? Which Poppy number code?

7 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Poppy code number 7.

8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you.

9 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: On page 57. The first --
10 the first number 7 on the code. "A statement owing will
11 be sent by the Department Treasurer to each unit who has
12 not ordered poppies." That's going to be added to the
13 code.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Dee Ann, did you
15 send me a copy of your code change?

16 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes, I did.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes, you did.

18 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: And I can do it again,
19 Madame President.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: No, no, no. I've
21 got it right here.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm sorry. I'm
23 trying to find this code 7 that you're talking about.

24 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes, yes. Number 7.

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You're going to

1 read the whole code? Go ahead.

2 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Did you want me to repeat
3 it, Anita?

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm lost
5 because I have a different page.

6 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Oh, on the code? It's the
7 first number 7. Let me see if I can --

8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I mean can you
9 read that code?

10 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: I can read the whole code to
11 you. "Poppy orders shall be accepted only from units of
12 the American Legion Auxiliary. The American Legion may
13 purchase poppies from the units for memorial or for
14 initiations only. Order blanks shall be supplied by the
15 Department Office using only the current forms. Current
16 Department Chairmen's names and addresses is to be on the
17 form and orders are to be forwarded to the Department
18 Chairmen and office by October 1st. If the Poppy order
19 form is not received by October 31st, units will be
20 assessed a \$25 fee and shall be allocated 100 poppies."

21 We're adding this statement: "A statement owing
22 will be sent by Department Treasurer to each unit who has
23 not ordered poppies."

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: So you are
25 moving --

1 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Dee Ann, it's
2 Melanie.

3 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes.

4 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Were you
5 going to finish reading that number 7 in its entirety,
6 please.

7 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yeah, I can.
8 "Requests for additional Poppy orders shall be made to the
9 Department Chairman who will conform" -- yeah, "will
10 confirm the availability of extra poppies. Upon
11 confirmation the unit will send an additional Poppy order
12 form to the Department Poppy Chairman with copies to be
13 sent to the Department Office and District Chairman."

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Moving to -- do
15 you have a motion, Dee Ann?

16 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: I'd like -- I would like to
17 make a motion to amend the Poppy code as read.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay.

19 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE RAE: Madame President?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

21 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE RAE: I'll make a second on
22 that.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. It
24 has been moved and seconded to change Poppy code number 7,
25 which currently reads, and I hope I got this correct --

1 the red is part of the change, Dee Ann?

2 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Poppy code
4 currently reads: "Poppy orders shall be accepted only
5 from units of the American Legion Auxiliary. The American
6 Legion may purchase poppies from the units for memorial
7 and/or initiations only. Order blanks shall be supplied
8 to the Department Office using only the current forms.
9 Current Department Chairmen's name and address should be
10 on the form and orders forwarded to the Department
11 Chairman and office by October 1st. If it is not received
12 by October 31st, units will be assessed a \$25 fee and
13 shall be allocated 100 poppies. Requests for additional
14 Poppy orders shall be made to the Department Chairmen who
15 will confirm the availability of extra poppies."

16 The proposed code change will read as follows:
17 "Poppy orders shall be accepted only from units of the
18 American Legion Auxiliary. The American Legion may
19 purchase poppies from the units for memorials and/or
20 initiations only. Order blanks shall be supplied by the
21 Department Office using only the current forms. Current
22 Department Chairmen's name and address is to be on the
23 form and orders are to be forwarded to the Department
24 Chairmen and office by October 1st. If the Poppy order
25 form is not received by October 31st, units will be

1 assessed a \$25 fee and shall be allocated 100 poppies. A
2 statement owing will be sent by the Department Treasurer
3 to each unit who has not ordered poppies. Requests for
4 additional Poppy orders shall be made to the Department
5 Chairmen who will confirm the availability of extra
6 poppies. Upon confirmation, the unit will send an
7 additional Poppy order form to the Department Poppy
8 Chairman with copies to be sent to the Department Office
9 and District Chairmen."

10 Is there any discussion?

11 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Madame
12 President?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Diane
15 DeLashmit, delegate from District 25. I guess I don't
16 understand why it's going to be the Treasurer's
17 responsibility to send a statement if the poppies are not
18 ordered. Generally the Chairman has some sort of chart or
19 something to keep track of that. I don't think that's
20 something she needs to do.

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madame
22 President?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Also, I
25 understand that -- I guess what we're trying to do is to

1 remind the unit, I guess, that they owe the \$25 because
2 they didn't order the Poppy. Because it's an after, an
3 aftereffect because they hadn't ordered it, so they're
4 automatically assessed \$25. The way it's stated, "the
5 statement owing," is to me a little bit -- I don't
6 understand the way that the steps is phrased.

7 I think maybe a billing statement or a reminder
8 statement along the line of what Diane is stating to come
9 from the Poppy Chairman so she knows who has not provided
10 those Poppy orders and to remind that unit that they are
11 assessed \$25. And they can copy the Treasurer so they can
12 get the Treasurer out of to do -- to find these units and
13 keep up with them. I just -- I like the idea, but I just
14 don't like it having to be placed on the Treasurer's
15 responsibility.

16 AMERICANISM CHAIR DURON: Madame President?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Tamra Duron,
18 District 25.

19 AMERICANISM CHAIR DURON: Tamra Duron. I believe
20 the thinking that's behind this is that the payments for
21 the poppies do not go to the Poppy Chairman. They send
22 them into the Department, so the Poppy Chairman does not
23 always know when payment has been received.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: They didn't put
25 in an order. This is based on not ordering, not paying.

1 So you're -- the orders are due --

2 AMERICANISM CHAIR DURON: Oh, okay.

3 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: -- October 1st.
4 You're delinquent if you haven't ordered by the 31st. You
5 don't have to pay until the following year. So you're
6 throwing the Treasurer into something that the Chairman is
7 responsible to take care of. They need to monitor the
8 orders because they put the orders into their spreadsheet
9 and -- you know what I'm saying? The Treasurer shouldn't
10 be thrust into this.

11 If they haven't paid by May, that is a problem
12 that our Department Treasurer has to deal with, that
13 they're not in good financial standing. But orders I
14 think should remain with the Poppy Chairman. That's my
15 opinion.

16 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Madame President?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

18 NEC WOMAN WORKMAN: Perhaps they can word it so
19 that the Poppy Chairman for those units that have not
20 ordered poppies, she can check with the Department
21 Treasurer to find out if the \$25 payment has been made.
22 And then if not, she can send out a statement or the
23 Treasurer can send out a statement.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Still -- Madame
25 President?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Still the
3 assessment for the \$25 is automatic after October 31st. I
4 don't know when the payment is due because we don't have
5 to pay for poppies. And they're paying for poppies,
6 they're just paying for them at 25 cents per Poppy, not
7 due until the following year, until the deadline in I
8 guess May. Whenever it is. June when you do your Poppy
9 financial report.

10 So this is -- there are two things here I just
11 want to reiterate. This is the order, not a payment. So
12 I personally think it should be on the Poppy Chairman, and
13 I won't say it again.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Dee Ann?

15 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: The reason why this came up
16 was the Treasurer asked me if I had sent invoices and I
17 checked the previous Poppy program chairman's program
18 books and there was nothing that they had issued invoices
19 to those units that didn't order, so -- and we don't know
20 if they paid. We don't get that they paid for a hundred
21 poppies if they never ordered or never submitted an order.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Dee Ann,
23 do you have a list of those that were in your committee?

24 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Yes, I do.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Perhaps we need

1 to get the Poppy committee regrouped.

2 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Okay.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: And go back over
4 this. You've heard the concerns. Maybe rewording it.

5 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Okay.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I see where
7 you're going with this. I think we all do. We just need
8 to get it a little clearer.

9 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Okay.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Can we do
11 that?

12 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Sure.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Liz, can we
14 set -- where did you go, Liz?

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'm here.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Can we set up a
17 Zoom link for those that were in Poppy?

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, I can do
19 that.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: So to all of the
21 ladies that are here in this convention who were in the
22 Poppy committee meeting, please give Liz a couple minutes
23 to get that room recreated and go back into committee and
24 see if we can get this clarified a little bit.

25 Thank you, Dee Ann.

1 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Thank you.

2 DISTRICT 18 DELEGATE RAMOS: Madame President?

3 This is Betty Ramos, District 18.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

5 DISTRICT 18 DELEGATE RAMOS: I know it's been
6 difficult that there were units that did not pay their
7 \$25. And when we submit our Poppy orders, we do have the
8 option to pay when we are ordering or to pay later in May.
9 And, however, there was difficulty in collecting the fees
10 from the units and I believe this is why they had come up
11 with this plan to have the Department Treasurer send out
12 invoices to the units to pay their fees for the poppies.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I understand.
14 And as I say, I know -- I understand where this is going,
15 but I think it needs to be clearer, which is why I'm
16 asking the committee to reform and kind of get it
17 straightened out.

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Madame
19 President? Bonnie Christner, Past Department President,
20 District 20. I happened to sit in on that Poppy meeting
21 today, and that's the reason why we came up with the code
22 change, is to get the units who owe the money, give them
23 some kind of accountability. Because if you send a bill,
24 per se, to a unit or district saying that they owe \$25 for
25 their poppies from a District Chairman, I think that

1 they're more apt to want to send that money to the
2 Department if it comes from the Department Treasurer.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Correct. And as
4 I say, I understand where we're going with this. I think
5 it needs to be -- and, please, if I'm speaking out of line
6 here. I know the Chair doesn't really have an opinion. I
7 understand where they're going. It's just the wording
8 that we need to get a little bit more detailed or
9 clarified.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: So maybe
11 after the Poppy program or Poppy month is over and they
12 have not paid their \$25 for their poppies, is that when
13 they're supposed to ask the Treasurer to step in and get
14 the money for the poppies?

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Well --

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: I mean,
17 what happens if they get their poppies, they don't send
18 the money in because nobody told them they had to, so at
19 the end of the Poppy month, are they just going to --

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: They're not
21 allowed to proceed --

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: -- count on
23 the unit to send in the \$25?

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: It tells you on the
25 order form that if you do not order poppies, and it's in

1 the Department Code or -- yeah, the Department Code, that
2 if you do not order poppies, you will be charged \$25 and
3 sent a hundred poppies. It's in --

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: And, Liz,
5 where does that go from there? After -- excuse me. I'm
6 sorry. After they're charged the \$25 for their hundred
7 poppies, what happens after that? Who goes after the
8 money?

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Right now nobody,
10 and that's what we're trying to fix.

11 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: That's what
12 I thought. That's why we decided to make it the
13 Treasurer's responsibility to send them a bill if you want
14 to say or, you know, something to tell them that you owe
15 the Department of California \$25 for the poppies that you
16 are getting.

17 Obviously it's up to the Department -- the
18 District Chairman, the Poppy Chairman to go to their units
19 and tell them you have not ordered your poppies. Okay.
20 So obviously maybe some of the District Chairmen are not
21 following through with getting the orders and making sure
22 that the ladies have put their orders in. So then the
23 Department has to take over, as you said, Liz, to charge
24 them \$25 for their hundred dollar -- their hundred
25 poppies. But the money has to go to the Treasurer anyway,

1 so why is it not the Treasurer's responsibility to send
2 out that bill to those units that haven't paid for their
3 poppies and get the money from them?

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Madame
5 President? Linda Workman --

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

7 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: -- Past
8 Department President. I think it would probably be a lot
9 easier to explain if we didn't incorporate it into a code
10 that's already there. Add number 8 to that code to
11 explain those that did not order poppies, if you have not
12 submitted \$25 for, you know, however it states there, then
13 you will be sent a bill by the Department Treasurer and
14 just make that a whole new code rather than trying to
15 reword number 7. It would be a lot cleaner.

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Madame
17 President?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: I think
20 maybe it needs to go out -- I think the Treasurer sometime
21 around March or April sends out to each District President
22 things that her units and her district have not complied
23 with, that they haven't done donations or whatever it
24 might be. Could she not do it at that time instead of
25 having it -- it's not clear here as to what time frame

1 we're talking about, if it's right after they -- the 31st
2 of or whatever.

3 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: October.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Yeah. I
5 think if it's done later when all the other things are
6 done, I think it might be more effective.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Linda, is that
8 what you're kind of getting at as well?

9 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Just that we
10 make it a code all to itself so that it's very clear for
11 those who do not order poppies. And you can put whatever
12 dates in there that you feel are correct, whether it's the
13 October 31st or May the 15th or whatever you want to do.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madame
15 President, as well, if I may add one more thing now that I
16 can hear all the sides and the rationale behind the code
17 change, it's more like a -- because it does say "assess,"
18 it's an assessment. Maybe as I stated before, to be a
19 notice sent to them that they know immediately that -- or
20 whatever, but it can come from the Chairman or it can come
21 from the Treasurer, but they need to know that they have
22 been assessed a \$25 fee since they may not be reading the
23 form and they don't realize it or whatever the case may
24 be. But they do need to receive a bill or invoice or
25 whatever, and it could be from the Treasurer, to say that

1 they owe the \$25.

2 Now if we do it with the rest of the obligations,
3 that's one thing, but we need to let them know. They
4 should know by mid-year, you know, when we meet at
5 mid-year that they owe this money. Just like we do when
6 you meet with all the District Presidents, you tell them
7 this person owes this and this unit owe that, you haven't
8 done this. They need to know right away that this
9 information -- that they need to pay the \$25.

10 So I'm not -- I'm not against it as an assessment
11 and as a charge to them and that they get the information
12 that they owe the \$25. I think that's what the problem
13 is, they're not paying it and nobody is going after them.
14 So the Treasurer probably would be the best, although I
15 think it should start with the Department Chairman.
16 That's my opinion.

17 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT NEWLEN: Madame President,
18 can I speak?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes, Kathy.

20 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT NEWLEN: One of the things
21 that I had made a suggestion to Liz, and we've gone back
22 and forth on some of these issues, on the actual form when
23 we do the order form, why not instead of saying that
24 they're going to be assessed \$25 unless, and let's say
25 they decided they don't want to order anything, have them

1 mark a box with an acknowledgment saying they are going to
2 literally either pay the \$25, they're not going to order
3 poppies, or acknowledge that they're going to absolutely
4 be billed for that and receive a hundred poppies.

5 Make it so that they understand they're going --
6 not just say, oh, well, if you don't do this, this is
7 what's going to happen. Make them check a box. I don't
8 know if you can do something on the form like that or not.
9 It's just a suggestion.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Carol, your hand
11 is up.

12 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: I had problem
13 with -- I had problems with this in my district. Instead
14 of ordering -- instead of paying the \$25, they just
15 thought, well, when I do my financials at the end of the
16 year, I will get a hundred poppies anyway so I'll just
17 include my \$25 in the donations that they get. Several
18 said they didn't want any poppies. They didn't need them,
19 but they still had to pay the \$25 and they were still
20 going to get them. So if they're still going to get them,
21 wait until the end of the year. That's what they said.
22 So I think you need to figure out some way that that's
23 going to be different. I agree with Kathy.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Ladies, before we
25 have any more discussion on this, we have the court

1 reporter. You guys need to make sure that you are saying
2 who you are when you speak. I am Elizabeth Doidge,
3 District 28, and then say your peace. Because she is
4 trying to take minutes for us today. So please remember
5 that as we speak today. Thank you. Back to poppies.

6 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: Do you want me to
7 say --

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Susie, I see your
9 hand up.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yeah, I have a
11 comment, quick comment. I think the initial by November
12 30th, the Department Chairman should notify the District
13 Poppy Chairman and the District President those units that
14 have not -- that did not submit orders and that were
15 assessed the hundred dollars. It should be first
16 Department Chairman and then the -- by mid-year we -- you
17 know, if they don't pay, then we send out a bill. But I
18 think it has to go from -- first from the Department
19 Chairman to the District Chairman to the District
20 President notification.

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Okay.
22 Bonnie Christner, District 20. May I speak to Susie,
23 please?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: That's fine.

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: So if they

1 do send out by mid-year, who's sending out the bill? Is
2 it still going to be the Treasurer of the Department of
3 California?

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Whatever you
5 decide. We can come up with some kind of standard format
6 that maybe the Department Chairman can do it, but -- the
7 Department Chairman can do it, but the District --
8 Department Treasurer needs to know so that she can set up
9 a receivable for that unit.

10 POPPY PRODUCTION MANAGER CORNISH: This is Lois
11 Cornish and I am a Poppy Production Manager. And we had
12 one heck of a two years that we just came through. My
13 thinking is if the units are told certain things, where is
14 your leverage? So they don't order poppies. You tell
15 them they have to order poppies if they want to sit on the
16 convention floor. Two-thirds of them don't go to
17 convention. That's the problem.

18 I don't know what the solution is, but there's
19 got to be a solution somewhere. You say they have to do
20 things, but you don't give them any -- any "or else." And
21 I don't know. I think it ought to start in the district
22 at the unit level. Get everybody involved, let them know
23 why they have to do that and why we have the poppies.

24 We've had so many new people coming into our
25 organization that have never been to a leadership meeting

1 they ask questions. Any time you go where there's new
2 people, they'll say, oh, I didn't know that. I have been
3 to units that have been in operations for 40 years and you
4 say something, well, I never heard that. So we ought to
5 get to the point where we're teaching them, letting them
6 know why these things happen.

7 But I think it's got to start at a lower level
8 and give them responsibility. They're all adults. We
9 should be able to reason things out. But two-thirds of
10 the people I run across don't, so --

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Ladies,
12 we're going on longer and longer and longer. Let's take
13 this back to the committee and we will revisit it once the
14 committee has reviewed it. I think they've got the gist
15 of what we're thinking about.

16 So, Dee Ann, I believe your committee meeting is
17 -- committee meeting room is open.

18 Liz; is that correct?

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Dee Ann, do you
20 want to do that now or do you want to do that --

21 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Can we do it after the
22 close?

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do you want to do
24 it so it's not conflicting with the other meeting?

25 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Can we do it after the close

1 today?

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes.

3 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Do you need a list of names?

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes. If you have
5 that, can you send it to me and I'll be sure that
6 everybody gets put into a meeting room.

7 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Okay.

8 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE RAEL: Madame President,
9 this is Carol Rael, District 26 Treasurer, Unit 105
10 President. I will rescind my second on the motion.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. Dee
12 Ann, are you withdrawing your motion?

13 POPPY CHAIR GRAHAM: Madame President, I withdraw
14 my motion for the proposed Poppy change to Code 7.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Moving on,
16 Dee Ann, do you have a Vice President's report? I think
17 she ran away. Dee Ann?

18 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I have a bunch
19 of papers like you.

20

21 **DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT**

22

23 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Two years.
24 Who would have thought? And we thought the '60s were
25 crazy, huh? I have something for you. At DEC, this

1 morning's DEC I forgot to mention that I have -- I have to
2 dust off this gift behind me, put fresh flowers in it for
3 you, but I also have a gift from our DEC for you. And I
4 was planning to present it to you at Sunday -- on Sunday
5 when we -- I saw you in person.

6 So I will have those with me, but I want to thank
7 not just you, Madame President, but all the officers, the
8 District Chairmen, the District Presidents for hanging in
9 for two years. It seems like a blur now, but sometimes
10 when we look back, it definitely looks like that was a
11 long time. And I think what made it long was we didn't
12 get to see each other, have our -- what do I want to say?
13 Just see our friends, hug our friends, and share many,
14 many stories that we're not able to do on Zoom.

15 So, Madame President, I hope your convention
16 continues to be successful and expedient.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you, Dee
18 Ann.

19 Liz, do you have your Secretary's report
20 prepared?

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I do.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Excellent.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I just have to find
24 it again. That one. No, that's not mine. I have too
25 many things open.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: And to all the
2 Department Chairmen, while Liz is looking for her report,
3 please make sure you send a copy of your platform remarks
4 to myself, the secretary, and the historian. I know Liz
5 has put together a little webpage thingy, but I would
6 really appreciate it if you would send it to me via email.
7 I'm having troubles getting to that spot. And I know it's
8 just on my part. So if I could ask for all the Department
9 Chairmen to please be sure to forward me a copy of their
10 reports by email.

11 Liz, are you ready to go?

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yep.

13

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY CONVENTION REPORT

15

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. They say
17 starting a new job is one of the more stressful life
18 changes. Then we added a global pandemic to the mix, the
19 offices were shut down, and suddenly kids could no longer
20 go to school or daycare. Challenge accepted.

21 This past year has sure been a learning
22 opportunity for myself and the Auxiliary. Thanks to my 25
23 years in the Auxiliary, a lot of paperwork that came
24 across my desk and your questions over the phone and email
25 were familiar.

1 Still with the other changes, I felt like I was
2 in a brand-new world. I've definitely learned the
3 importance of the Department Code, Department Constitution
4 and Standing Rules this year. I think I referred to them
5 at least three times a week.

6 We also figured out how do a remote convention.
7 Hopefully this will be the only one and we'll never have
8 to do it again. Thank you, everyone, for challenging me
9 and keeping me on my toes. I want to say how grateful I
10 am for many of you who supported me this year. Linda
11 Workman who was willing to come to the office any time I
12 needed help once the building reopened, who let us use her
13 home for supporting membership, and any time I needed a
14 laugh, that was for sure.

15 Ruby who answered who knows how many questions
16 for me this year. Her knowledge and experience is always
17 invaluable, especially when someone comes up with a
18 situation that is outside the usual.

19 And thank you to Kathie for trusting me with the
20 Secretary position this year. Thank you to everybody who
21 called in and was patient enough to wait for an answer
22 because I need to look through filings cabinets in the
23 office or was dealing with my girls.

24 Schooling from home while trying to work full
25 time was not the challenge I was preparing to face this

1 year. There are many more people I would like to thank,
2 but we only have three days to get through convention.

3 Luckily our department year has come to a close,
4 as well as the school year, and we made it. In only a few
5 more days I will have officially completed my first year.
6 I definitely know that I can do the job as I don't think
7 it can get much harder than it has been this past year.
8 Everyone, please find a piece of wood and knock on it for
9 me.

10 Next year I'm hoping that we can continue
11 improving our communications coming out of the Department
12 Office, making sure everyone knows what is due and when,
13 and hoping the unit and district officers feel that they
14 are well supported to succeed in their new positions.

15 Again thank you, Kathie, for this position. It's
16 been challenging, but it's been fun. So thank you. And
17 that's it.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you. You
19 have done an awesome, awesome job. Thank you.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'm going to sleep
21 good tonight, that's for sure.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes, you will.
23 And you'll sleep even better Sunday night.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Speaking

1 of Treasurer, Ruby, are you prepared with the report at
2 this point?

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: She emailed and
4 said she wouldn't have one.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. All right.
6 See, we are getting through these reports left and right,
7 ladies. That's a good thing.

8 Debbie, are you ready for your report since I had
9 you up first?

10 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay. I'm ready.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay.

12 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Have you received my email?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I'm looking. Let
14 me refresh. I've got emails on my tablet, so give me just
15 a minute. I will look for it, but go ahead and proceed.

16 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay.

17

18 **AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CONVENTION REPORT**

19

20 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: So Auxiliary Emergency Fund
21 committee meeting minutes. The virtual committee meeting
22 for the AEF was called to order at 12:28 by Chairman
23 Fletcher. Ramona Tafoya, District 6, was appointed
24 chaplain and Sandy Tollefson, District 12, was appointed
25 as secretary. Madeleine Reed, District 10, was appointed

1 sergeant-at-arms.

2 The chaplain offered prayer and the Pledge of
3 Allegiance was recited. Roll call was answered by eight
4 District Chairmen and one guest were present. The
5 statistical report is on page 23 I believe.

6 So the code was read and there was one change
7 that is recommended. And actually, it's like verbiage.
8 I'm going to read the whole paragraph. So as it reads
9 now: "The purpose of the Fund is to provide temporary
10 assistance to eligible Auxiliary members who have suffered
11 a financial setback or crisis resulting from an emergency.
12 The types of aid available are temporary assistance during
13 time of financial crisis when no other source of aid is
14 readily available to pay for shelter, food, and utilities;
15 disaster relief for food and shelter to eligible members
16 related to weather-related emergencies and natural
17 disasters; and educational assistance for training when
18 the eligible member becomes the main means of support for
19 their family to help them obtain the necessary skills and
20 training needed to enter or re-enter the workforce or
21 needed to upgrade skills and training to obtain a better
22 paying position, suddenly find themselves in need of funds
23 and no other sources are immediately available."

24 This last sentence is the one that we want to
25 change. So it reads: "The program includes assistance to

1 displaced homemakers (women who find themselves as head of
2 households and are in need of funds to update and/or
3 acquire skills in order to enter the work field)."

4 Do I need to read the whole paragraph again where
5 we want the changes or can I just change that last
6 sentence?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: No, you have to
8 read it with the changes. And I am trying to pull that up
9 on my email right now because I will have to read it as
10 well.

11 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Yes, you will. Okay.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: So I am
13 refreshing my emails.

14 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: It's code number 4. Okay.
15 So this is the change proposed. It's basically due to men
16 now being able to be in the Auxiliary. Okay? So it
17 reads: "The purpose of the Fund is to provide temporary
18 assistance to eligible Auxiliary members who have suffered
19 a financial setback or crisis resulting from an emergency.
20 The types of aid available are temporary assistance during
21 time of financial crisis when no other source of aid is
22 readily available to pay for shelter, food, and utilities;
23 disaster relief for food and shelter to eligible members
24 related to weather-related emergencies and natural
25 disasters; and educational assistance for training when

1 the eligible member becomes the main means of support for
2 their family to help them obtain the necessary skills and
3 training needed to enter or re-enter the workforce or
4 needed to upgrade skills and training to obtain a better
5 paying position, suddenly find themselves in need of funds
6 and no other sources are immediately available. The
7 program includes assistance to displaced Auxiliary members
8 who find themselves as head of households and are in need
9 of funds to update and/or acquire skills in order to enter
10 the work field."

11 So the last sentence, that last sentence is where
12 the change was. Did you catch it?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: No.

14 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Debbie, hold on
16 just a moment.

17 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay.

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Madame
19 President, while you're looking for that, this is Linda
20 Workman, Past Department President.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: I would think
23 that because of -- and this might be a Melanie question --
24 I think because of how National has changed the genders in
25 all of our documents, this might be a housekeeping change

1 to just change the word "woman" in that last sentence to
2 "member."

3 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Linda -- Madame President
4 and Linda, well, it says -- the original sentence says
5 "homemakers." Are we going to say --

6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Well, men can
7 be homemakers too.

8 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: That's what I said. That's
9 what I said.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Men can be
11 homemakers. And you just put "the member who find
12 themselves as head of household."

13 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: So just take out "woman" and
14 put in --

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Put in
16 "member."

17 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: -- put in "Auxiliary
18 member"?

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Yes.

20 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Because that's how we have
21 it.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Yeah.

23 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: So can we just do that then
24 instead of code changes? It's just like a housekeeping
25 thing.

1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's a code
2 change.

3 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Is it a code change?

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You're changing
5 "women" to just say "member." You don't have to say
6 "Auxiliary," just "member."

7 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay.

8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This particular
9 program only applies to Auxiliary members, so you just say
10 members.

11 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: And my
12 question was making it a housekeeping change because
13 National has changed all of our language to say they,
14 them, not, you know, he and she, she and me or whatever.

15 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Her, yeah. So just make it
16 a housekeeping change?

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Mel, are you
18 still around?

19 I don't know if she's here. Okay. Well, it
20 wouldn't make any difference.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: What about Diane?

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Is it okay
23 if I chime in? I believe just changing "women" to
24 "members" is fine, but I do think it requires a code.
25 It's not just a word change or a misspelling or something

1 like that, it is actually changing "women" to "members."

2 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay.

3 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Either way it
4 works.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay.

6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: I move that
7 you have this code change.

8 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: All right. So am I ready?

9 DISTRICT 27 DELEGATE CAPAZZI: Sorry. I would
10 like to make a suggestion. This is Joanna Capazzi,
11 District 27. If we can make that guidance a little more
12 -- a little freedom because there will be some instances
13 no doubt where just the simple word "Auxiliary member"
14 will not fit as just a word-for-word change.

15 So maybe in terms of that guidance, make it a
16 little more -- obviously make the change from the feminine
17 gender to, you know, something more generic, but not limit
18 the changes to be so specific as to have to say "Auxiliary
19 member."

20 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay. I changed -- I took
21 the "Auxiliary" off and just was going to put in
22 "members."

23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: I think
24 that's fine. Just "member."

25 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Just to be "member,"

1 singular.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Yeah. It's
3 head of household, so Junior members would not be head of
4 household, so --

5 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: All right.

6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Go ahead,
7 Debbie.

8 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: So I move to accept -- is it
9 a code -- it is a code change?

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

11 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: I move to accept this code
12 change as read.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I am printing it
14 now, Debbie, so just give me however long the printer
15 takes.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Debbie, while she's
17 doing that, can you send it to me as well, please?

18 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: I thought I did.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I haven't received
20 it.

21 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Madame
23 President, I'm also wondering -- this is Diane DeLashmit,
24 District 25 -- that maybe the parentheses should be
25 removed.

1 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Yeah, I did remove them.
2 I'm sorry.

3 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Oh, okay.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: That's just a
5 housekeeping thing. Okay. Okay. So the highlighted is
6 what we're changing?

7 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Right.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. It has
9 been moved to change Auxiliary Emergency Fund Code --

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Four.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: -- 4. That's not
12 on here. Okay. Which currently reads: "The purpose of
13 the fund is to provide temporary assistance to eligible
14 Auxiliary members who have suffered a financial setback or
15 crisis resulting from an emergency. The types of aid
16 available are temporary assistance during time of
17 financial crisis when no other source of aid is readily
18 available to pay for shelter, food, and utilities;
19 disaster relief for food and shelter to eligible members
20 related to weather-related emergencies and natural
21 disasters and educational assistance for training women
22 when the eligible member becomes the main means of --
23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You can't have "training
24 women."

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's not in

1 there.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: It's not in
3 there. She just read it wrong.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She read it
5 wrong. It's not there.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Okay.
7 What I'm reading is the code as here and there is no
8 "women" there.

9 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Down below.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Right. You
11 said it. You said "women" though.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. But I have
13 to read the current code and then the changes.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Right, but
15 when you read it, Kathie, you said "women" instead of
16 "when."

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. "Support
18 for their family help them obtain the necessary tools and
19 training needed to enter or re-enter the workforce or
20 needed to upgrade skills and training to obtain better
21 paying position, suddenly find themselves in need of funds
22 and no other sources are immediately available."

23 Current code 4; correct?

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: There's a
25 little bit more to it.

1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Yeah.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. The
3 highlight, Debbie, is that what we're adding?

4 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: The highlight, yeah, the
5 last sentence.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. So then --
7 so then the sentence would include the last sentence;
8 correct?

9 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Correct.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Now I have to
11 read the code with the change.

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You were just
13 reading it and you just -- you need to read the last
14 sentence as the code change.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I thought I had
16 to read as-is and proposed change.

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Debbie read
18 as-is and proposed change. You're reading as proposed
19 change so we can vote on that.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: I'm good with
21 that. I am good with that. Okay. Continuing on. "The
22 program includes assistance to displaced homemakers" --

23 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Huh-uh. Kathie, that's not
24 the one.

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Say "members"

1 instead of "women."

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: "Members who find
3 themselves as head of households and are in need of funds
4 to update and/or acquire skills in order to enter the work
5 field."

6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madame
7 President?

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

9 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I move that we
10 accept this code change.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Second?

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Second.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: It is --

14 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN TAYLOR: Please
15 remember to identify yourselves for the court reporter.

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Anita Biggs,
17 District 23 Delegate, Past Department President. I move
18 that we accept this code change.

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Linda
20 Workman, PDP, sorry. I second.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: It has been moved
22 and seconded to change Auxiliary Emergency Fund Code 4 as
23 read. Is there any other discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: All those in

1 favor, please do your little tablet thing.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Motion carried.
3 I'm like I can't remember words.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Motion is
5 carried. Thank you, Debbie.

6 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Thank you. May I continue
7 on?

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

9 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay. So this chairman
10 received one district supplemental with no unit
11 supplemental attached. The First Place Supplemental --
12 oh, it's going to be announced on the floor. Again, these
13 things -- there was 100 percent reporting certificates
14 that are -- five of them. I don't know, do I announce
15 them?

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes, you can
17 because you're giving your floor report, so --

18 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay. So 100 percent
19 reporting certificates for -- through the districts were
20 Districts 3, 9, 10, 17, and 24. Their certificates are
21 going to be mailed following the convention.

22 And certificates to members who donated \$50 or
23 more were awarded to Venus Bramvilla, District 21; Kathy
24 Newlen, District 21; Kathleen Jane, District 21; Kathy
25 Trost, District 21; and Kathleen Blake, District 19.

1 Those certificates will also be mailed after the
2 convention. With no further business, the meeting
3 adjourned at 12:52.

4 May I continue with my supplemental and my first
5 place winner?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

7 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Okay. Madame President, the
8 Department of California's Auxiliary Emergency Fund for
9 the past two years have been called the Rescue Squad. The
10 California AEF has tried our best to fundraise as much as
11 we could with all the different levels of lockdown that
12 we've had endured. I'm very proud of our Rescue Squad for
13 all the monies raised. I know it's been a trying year, to
14 say the least.

15 With that said, I will continue with my report.
16 The year-end reporting was minimal due to COVID, however,
17 I did receive 13 reports. Still donations were \$1,956.42
18 for both units and districts. There are three districts
19 that donated a total amount of \$199 and there were 29
20 units which donated a total of \$1,757.42, which is awesome
21 since we did not have meetings in person.

22 There are 25 units that have a line item in their
23 budgets. There are nine units that discussed its increase
24 in the budgets. This year there are no districts that
25 held fundraisers, however, there were seven units.

1 Fortunately there are no applications for either emergency
2 disaster education or for expedited emergency fund. And
3 they also handed out AEF brochures. There are seven units
4 that handed out AEF applications. We have four members
5 who donated -- and, actually, there was five -- who
6 donated \$50 or more, so they'll receive their AEF pins.

7 There was one unit who submitted a supplemental
8 report and one district that submitted a supplemental to
9 this chairman. Some of the districts had to put their
10 fundraising on hold due to the pandemic and are hopeful to
11 go full blast within this next year.

12 One district passes a basket around before their
13 meeting which is one way to fundraise if you can meet in
14 person. These past two years have been a challenge for
15 all of us here in California; however, I'm very proud of
16 the work accomplished throughout this year. Working this
17 program for two years now has enlightened me quite a bit.
18 I have enjoyed working this program for the great
19 Department of California and have learned a lot and
20 understand more so why this program is so important to
21 helping our members.

22 Madame President, your Rescue Squad will be ready
23 to sore into action when the situation arises to being
24 members helping members. Madame President, this concludes
25 my report. And now I have my first place.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yes.

2 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: First Place District
3 Supplemental goes to Alma -- is it Alma Jarquin? I don't
4 know how to pronounce her name, but she's in District 21.
5 And then the largest --

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Yeah, that's
7 fine.

8 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Did I already say the
9 largest district donation? The largest district donation
10 is District 21 with \$691 donated which is first place.
11 And District 22 donated \$504.42 which came in second
12 place. District 11, \$300 in third place. And that
13 concludes my report.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Thank you,
15 Debbie. Excellent job. Raising money in this day and age
16 is not easy and you did an awesome, awesome job. Thank
17 you.

18 AEF CHAIR FLETCHER: Thank you.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. You know,
20 I think we're all about ready to call it a day. So what I
21 would like to do now, Cece, are you ready to do your
22 memorial program?

23 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HARVEY: Yes, ma'am.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. How long
25 do you need to get set up?

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DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HARVEY: I just did set up. So I apologize I was late, you know, when the convention opened because I had to drive from home to the post so we can set up.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: No problem.

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HARVEY: And I got one member who help me and it's set up now.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Okay. Are you ready to go or do you need a couple minutes? Let's take five minutes.

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HARVEY: Okay.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: And then we'll come back and then we will call it a day. We've got a lot accomplished today so, yeah, we can call it.

All right. Let's get up, stretch your legs, use the facilities, get a cocktail -- no, I didn't say that. And we will reconvene at 3:45.

(The American Legion Auxiliary Convention was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.)

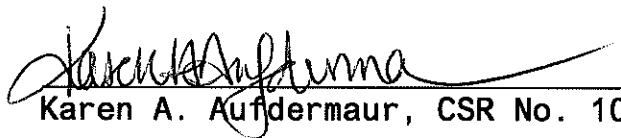
1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2 COUNTY OF STANISLAUS) ss.

3
4
5 I, Karen A. Aufdermaur, 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 101st Annual
9 Convention was taken Thursday, June 24, 2021, 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 100th 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 101st 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 15th day of July, 2021, at Modesto,
23 California.

24 
25 Karen A. Aufdermaur, CSR No. 10919