

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
95th ANNUAL CONVENTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2014
SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME II
PAGES 217 - 464

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

	I N D E X	PAGE
1		
2		
3	Invocation (Alice Christensen)	219
4	Roll Call (Ruby Kapsalis)	231
5	Children & Youth Report (Sherry Schneider)	277
6	Final Credentials Report (Elizabeth Doidge)	293
7	Convention Chairman Report (Theresa Jacob)	324
8	(Linda Hayes)	327
9	Junior Conference Director's Report th)	337
10	Afternoon Session	359
11	Leadership Report (Wendy O'Brien)	363
12	VA&R Report (Susie Tozier)	386
13	Distinguished Guest Chairman Report	
14	Address by National President (Nancy Brown-Park)	441
15	Adjournment (Anita Biggs)	462
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		
39		
40		
41		
42		
43		
44		
45		
46		
47		
48		
49		
50		

1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
3 95th ANNUAL CONVENTION
4 SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2014; 8:38 A.M.
5 SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA
6

7 CALL TO ORDER
8

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This convention
10 session is reconvened. Alice Christensen, our team
11 spirit, Department Chaplain will offer the invocation.
12

13 INVOCATION
14

15 CHAPLAIN CHRISTENSEN: Let us pray. Let us pray.
16 As we continue our convention, we thank you for your
17 blessing and seek your guidance in our work. Give us
18 strength and ability to accomplish the tasks before us.
19 Help us be mindful of service that we may render to our
20 veterans and their families. Amen.

21 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

22 PRESIDENT BIGGS: The Department Americanism
23 Chairman Diana Moreno will now lead us in the Pledge of
24 Allegiance.
25

26 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
27

28 ALL PRESENT: I pledge allegiance to the flag of
29 the United States of America and to the republic for which
30 it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty
31 and Justice for all.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Linda, are you all
33 ready?

34 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Sure.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Will the
36 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, along with the Distinguished
37 Guest Chairman, please escort from the Palo Alto Veterans
38 Administration Medical Center Tommy Fitzgerald, the deputy
39 director, a 16-year veteran, and a life-time American
40 Legion member to the station.

41 (Processional.)

42 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. Okay. I see I finally
43 got a chance to see everybody. So, first of all, I want
44 to thank everybody for inviting me here this morning and
45 also for giving us this great gift that we're getting
46 ready to receive from the -- oh, I'm sorry. Can you hear
47 me now? I'm a little bit short, so I've got to come down.

48 So, yeah, I want to thank everybody for inviting
49 me here and also thank you for inviting us to receive this
50 very, very heartwarming gift that we're going to get from

1 the Auxiliary today. We're doing great things at the VA
2 Palo Alto. We invite everybody to come out and visit.
3 And I tell you, it's very heartfelt. I served this
4 country for 16 years myself in the United States Army.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. FITZGERALD: Thank you. And I continue to
7 serve. I wanted to tell the Auxiliary members also thank
8 you for your service. We are -- I mean, if you come see
9 our hospital, I mean, we have two billion dollars' worth
10 of construction going. We're taking care of 67,000
11 veterans every day. We have 11 sites of care. So we
12 provide care all the way from Sonora to Monterey. That's
13 where our footprint is. And we couldn't meet our mission
14 without our VSO help, our partners. You know, I was
15 talking to Al in the back, we've got to continue to have
16 partnerships such as this to make it better and whole
17 again.

18 So again, I really, really appreciate it. I
19 thank you. I hope you guys have a wonderful, wonderful
20 convention. And keep doing great things and helping us
21 help each other and taking care of those who serve, their
22 widows, and their orphans. Thank you again.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We just so happen to
25 have in our -- at our convention making her official visit
26 to California from our own state, our National President
27 Nancy Brown-Park. I would like to introduce her. I have
28 one of your pins I'm going to give to Mr. Fitzgerald.
29 This is her pin and I'm going to have you -- I'm going to
30 have you and Nancy and our National Executive Committee
31 Woman Terry Mikesell, she's our past president. She will
32 be making a presentation to you at that station. Thank
33 you very much for coming.

34 MR. FITZGERALD: Thank you.

35 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Anyway, while Nancy is
36 doing her thing back there, as you ladies know, my special
37 project was the families of support while the warriors are
38 receiving service at Palo Alto. And to your generosity or
39 from your generosity, the check I'm presenting today is
40 \$14,291.21.

41 (Applause.)

42 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: With all the love and
43 blessing, here is a check. And I thank you for coming on
44 your day off to accept it.

45 MR. FITZGERALD: Thank you.

46 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Thank you, sir.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Terry, can you
48 repeat the last thing you said? Can you just repeat just
49 the last thing that you said? 14,000 --

50 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: 14,291.15. Thank you,

1 ladies.
2 (Applause.)
3 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So I had the
4 opportunity to visit your hospital and it's absolutely
5 incredible.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Can't hear you.
7 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Okay. Can you
8 hear me now?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We need to turn the
10 microphones up, whoever is in charge.
11 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So we want to
12 thank you for all that you do for our veterans and we want
13 to thank you for your service to our country and for your
14 life service in the Legion. And I want you to have one of
15 our --
16 MR. FITZGERALD: Thank you, Ms. Brown.
17 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Thank you.
18 (Processional.)
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, Tommy.
20 Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the
21 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort to this station
22 the National Executive Committeeman from the State of
23 California, Mr. Al Lennox.
24 (Processional.)
25 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: Good morning.
26 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Good morning, sir.
27 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: Please -- the Reverend
28 Billy Graham had a speaking engagement and his chauffeur
29 came to his house to pick him up. And he felt like
30 driving. Of course, it's long past since he's had a
31 driver's license, but his chauffeur said, "Sure, Mr.
32 Graham, if you want to drive."
33 So the reverend was driving down the freeway and
34 a young CHP just out of the academy pulled him over. And
35 he came up to the window and Reverend Graham rolled down
36 the window and the young officer said, "Excuse me."
37 He went back to his car, and he called in. He
38 said, "Sergeant, I can't give this man a ticket."
39 And he said, "Well, wait a minute. You were told
40 in the academy there's no favoritism."
41 And he said, "Well, sarge, I can't give him a
42 ticket."
43 And he says, "Well, who is he? Is he the mayor?"
44 "No. He's higher than that."
45 "Is he the -- is he the governor?"
46 "No, he's higher than that."
47 "Is he the president of the United States?"
48 "No, he's higher than that."
49 "Well, who the heck is he?"
50 He said, "Well, it must be Jesus because he's got

1 Reverend Billy Graham as his chauffeur."

2 (Applause.)

3 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: Thank you for having me
4 this morning. Madam National President, Madam State
5 President, ladies, thank you for having me. I'll start
6 off with thank you, thank you, thank you and thank you for
7 what you do. The world is changing. America is changing
8 and many of those core values are being lost in that
9 change. And it is our job and our responsibility as
10 members of the American Legion, the American Legion
11 Auxiliary to make sure that we remember those changes and
12 that we remember the heritage of our forefathers and
13 forewomen.

14 Americanism, the four pillars that we honor so
15 greatly. We need to remember Americanism. We need to
16 remember our children and youth, our national security,
17 and our primary function, taking care of our veterans and
18 their families. That's a big job in this day and age, but
19 I am absolutely sure that the American Legion and the
20 American Legion Auxiliary can make it happen and make a
21 difference in this country.

22 I firmly believe that without our organization
23 and what we do, there would be a hole in America today.
24 There would be a void that could not be filled. I believe
25 that.

26 (Applause.)

27 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: And you make it happen.
28 You make it happen every day at your local units,
29 districts, areas, and right here now. And I salute you
30 for that.

31 Just a quick summary of my two years. I am
32 terming out in August at the national organization. My
33 goal was to do two things well, and that was to
34 professionally represent California and then to
35 communicate up and down this state what was going on back
36 at the national organization. In all humility, I think
37 I've accomplished my goals.

38 When I left, I had several past national -- well,
39 more than several past national banners and the national
40 judge advocate ask me, "It's too bad you guys can't run
41 again." And that was a very, very nice compliment. So
42 obviously my goal to be professional at all times paid off
43 a little bit.

44 We had great challenges back at the national
45 organization. Some of the things we did, we revitalized
46 our membership plan. Don't forget; we're coming up on a
47 hundred years. We need to work on that. We couldn't help
48 losing the greatest generation, but now as that generation
49 passes, it's time to take the gauntlet up and move
50 forward.

1 We revitalized our financial reporting back at
2 National to make sure it was more current with today's
3 financial needs. And I think the largest thing we did in
4 the last two years was we restructured and revitalized all
5 our commissions and committees. Many of them were
6 antiquated, many of them were not germane to today's
7 society, and we were lacking in some areas also. We took
8 a hard look at that. We made some good changes and I
9 think we will better serve those four pillars in the years
10 to come.

11 You know, the largest issue pending right now is
12 the VA. We've heard about it. It's in the news every
13 day. The American Legion is the largest watchdog of that
14 organization, the VA, of any other organization in the
15 world.

16 (Applause.)

17 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: We talked several years
18 ago about the status and the condition of the VA and we
19 made some recommendations to the Veterans Administration
20 in Washington. And then we stepped back and just waited
21 to see if any of those implementations came to fruition.
22 They didn't, and that's when the American Legion came to
23 the conclusion that we needed a change of leadership at
24 the VA. It broke our heart, but we recommended that
25 General Shinseki be removed. We were the first and I
26 believe still the only veterans organization to support
27 that. And then of course it came to fruition.

28 It needed to happen. The VA needed to shape up.
29 The VA needs to be looked at hard and we need to make sure
30 that they are providing the care that our veterans and
31 their families so greatly need. There is legislation back
32 in Washington. The senate committee on Veterans Affairs
33 under the leadership of John McCain has come up with
34 several ideas. One of the ideas is if you need to see a
35 doctor and you can't make an appointment within a certain
36 time frame, you can go to a private physician.

37 (Applause.)

38 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: If you need a procedure
39 done and you can't get it done within a time period, you
40 can go to a private physician.

41 (Applause.)

42 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: This new legislation
43 pending gives the ability to fire administrators that
44 don't do their job.

45 (Applause.)

46 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: It also allows for
47 private primary care for veterans that live outside of the
48 catchment area of a VA facility. So if you're out in
49 Nevada or if you're somewhere that is not near a VA
50 facility, it will allow you to go to a private facility to

1 get the care you need.

2 (Applause.)

3 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: Our generation, yours
4 and mine, we're making a difference. We're making a
5 difference. Believe it, we're making a difference. When
6 the American Legion walks in, they know we're here. They
7 know we're here and they know we mean business and they
8 know we care.

9 I guess the best way I could put it is the best
10 thing we can do for our generation is to leave the
11 organization and the country a better place than when we
12 started.

13 Ladies and gentlemen, it has been my honor to
14 serve as National Executive Committeeman for the American
15 Legion. It has been my honor to serve next to Nancy
16 Brown-Park. Or not next to her. Below her.

17 (Applause.)

18 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: Only -- I won't touch
19 it. I'll leave it alone. I'm sorry. I'm just a guy, you
20 know. Quick story about Nancy. Years ago, if I may, when
21 we used to walk the houses of Congress in Legislative Week
22 back in Washington, a small select group, and Nancy was
23 part of that group, we used to pick a house and we would
24 start at the top floor. And if you've ever been back to
25 Washington, you know that the state flag flies in front of
26 each office. Well, instead of just going to our own
27 representatives, we would start at the top floor and walk
28 down the halls. And every office that had a California
29 flag on it, we went in. We went in. And I'm timid. Some
30 of the other guys were timid. But not Nancy. If we
31 didn't see the chief of staff or the elected
32 representative, she was in their face. And she put her
33 foot in the door many times. They're scared to death of
34 that lady.

35 (Applause.)

36 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: Thank you again for
37 what you do. I truly mean from the bottom of my heart
38 that you are the salt of the earth and this right here is
39 the greatest organization in the world.

40 (Applause.)

41 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: I will leave -- I will
42 end with again thank you. It's been my honor, and if
43 there's anything that I could ever do or you could do for
44 me. Well, I understand we have a run, rock and roll. Or
45 Walk, Rock & Roll. Oh, oh, I forgot to date it. I'm
46 sorry. This is June. Hang on. Hang on. '14. What
47 year? I would like to donate to your Walk, Rock & Roll
48 \$1,000.

49 (Applause.)

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And you can talk as

1 long as you want to. Joan Cannon. Where you at? Come
2 get this.

3 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Madam President,
4 quickly I want to thank you, Al. It's been fun serving
5 you. I don't know how to put that, but I want to say
6 thank you for the absolutely wonderful donation. And I
7 don't know if you know, but that Walk, Run & Roll was my
8 very special project this year. It came to create
9 awareness so that this organization stays strong in local
10 communities. So your \$1,000 is going to help Anita reach
11 her goal. So thank you very much.

12 NEC COMMITTEEMAN LENNOX: You're welcome.
13 (Applause.)
14 (Processional.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Look at Al. That
16 just energized me. The Department Secretary/Treasurer
17 Ruby Kapsalis will call the role of department chairs,
18 district presidents at this time.

19
20 ROLL CALL

21

22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
23 morning, ladies and Madam President. Department President
24 Anita Biggs?

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Present.

26 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
27 Department -- boy. Very uncomfortable. It feels like
28 it's going to go right down my throat. Department Vice
29 President Harriet?

30 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good
31 morning, Ruby.

32 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
33 morning, Harriet. Secretary/Treasurer Ruby Kapsalis?
34 Half of me is here. Half of me is not. NEC Woman Terry
35 Mikesell?

36 NEC WOMAN MIKESELL: She is here.

37 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chaplain
38 Alice Christensen?

39 CHAPLAIN CHRISTENSEN: Present.

40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Historian
41 Linda Diebel?

42 HISTORIAN DIEBEL: She's taking pictures.

43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
44 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit?

45 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Here.

46 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Musician
47 Joyce Patton?

48 MUSICIAN PATTON: Good morning to you.

49 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I wish I
50 could sing back. Sergeant-at-Arms Cherie Galvan?

1 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS GALVAN: Present.
2 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Marshal
3 Taadhimeka Stovall?
4 MARSHAL STOVALL: Here.
5 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance
6 Committee Chairman Kathie Martinez?
7 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good morning.
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
9 morning, Kathie. Finance Committee Senior Member Geri
10 Fitzpatrick?
11 FINANCE SENIOR MEMBER FITZPATRICK: Good morning.
12 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance
13 Chairman Junior Member Kathryn Doran?
14 FINANCE JUNIOR MEMBER DORAN: All over those
15 numbers.
16 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory
17 Chairman Madeline Lee?
18 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN LEE: Give me an A.
19 ALL PRESENT: A.
20 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN LEE: Give me an L.
21 ALL PRESENT: L.
22 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN LEE: Give me an A.
23 ALL PRESENT: A.
24 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN LEE: ALA.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Now there is
26 a foul. She's committed a technical foul back here for
27 not having shorts underneath that little bitty skirt. And
28 may I say to the Ways & Means for \$5, I have \$5 to get
29 Madeline Lee some shorts.
30 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: So does
31 Madeline Lee who committed the technical foul. Not Odette
32 and Willie.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: No. They have on
34 shorts. They're good.
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
36 Madeline is here. Odette Cuccaro you know is here and so
37 is Willie. Americanism Diana Moreno?
38 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Proud to be an
39 American.
40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Auxiliary
41 Emergency Fund Dona Enright?
42 AEF CHAIRMAN ENRIGHT: I keep working.
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Children &
44 Youth, Sherry Schneider?
45 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: You've got
46 to pass to shoot, you've got to shoot to score, you've got
47 to pass, shoot, score.
48 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: There's a
49 basketball player. Community Service Joan Cannon?
50 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN CANNON: Still

1 walking, rolling, and running. Bring in the money.
2 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
3 Constitution & Bylaws Harriet Clendenin?
4 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Still
5 here.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Convention
7 Theresa Jacob?
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Excused.
9 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Convention
10 Commission Melanie Taylor?
11 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Good
12 morning, Ruby.
13 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
14 morning, Melanie. Convention Commission Liz Doidge? I
15 know she's here. Distinguished Guest Chairman Linda
16 Workman?
17 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: I'm still
18 running.
19 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Editor
20 Estella Avina?
21 EDITOR AVINA: Hear ye! Hear ye! Read all about
22 it.
23 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Education
24 Michelle Soares?
25 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN SOARES: Education is rocking.
26 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Elections
27 Carol Fuqua?
28 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN FUQUA: The results are in and
29 ALA is a winner.
30 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Girls State
31 Linda Hayes?
32 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: One less hoop to
33 shoot and then it's Girls State.
34 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Girls State
35 Director Valerie Hardy?
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's excused.
37 She's at Girls State.
38 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior
39 Activities Stacey Smith?
40 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Here.
41 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
42 She got here. She made it. Junior Conference Director
43 Jackie Cleveland?
44 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Here.
45 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Leadership
46 Wendy O'Brien?
47 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Good morning, Ruby.
48 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
49 morning, Wendy. Legislative Terry Mikesell?
50 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: (Blows whistle.)

1 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Membership
2 Gloria Williams?
3 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Here working
4 membership.
5 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: National
6 Security Loretta Marsh?
7 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN MARSH: All prepared.
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past
9 Presidents' Parlay -- you know, the mic doesn't like Ps.
10 Ever notice that?
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Ruby, pull it up a
12 little bit straight.
13 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I feel like
14 somebody is attacking me here. Past Presidents' -- oh,
15 see? Past Presidents' Parlay Pilar Reyes?
16 PAST PRESIDENTS' PARLEY CHAIRMAN REYES: Here.
17 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Poppy
18 Alzora Carter?
19 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Here.
20 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Public
21 Relations Tami Bell?
22 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BELL: Tweet, tweet.
23 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Tweet,
24 twit.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Did you call her a
26 tweeting twit?
27 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I don't
28 know how to do all that tweeting and twitting and --
29 Resolutions Margaret Quinones? She's working. She is
30 here. I know that. I'm rooming with her.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. I'll excuse
32 her.
33 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules Belen
34 Telford? Belen?
35 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: Here.
36 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. We
37 woke her up. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Susie
38 Tozier?
39 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I'm here.
40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ways &
41 Means Chris De La Rosa?
42 WAYS & MEAN CHAIRMAN DE LA ROSA: Present.
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
44 presidents. Marialice Clanclini sitting in for Pat
45 Lindley? Did she ever come?
46 ACTING DISTRICT 1 PRESIDENT LINDLEY: I'm here.
47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: So she made
48 it.
49 (Applause.)
50 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.

1 District 2 Barbara Dailey?
2 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT DAILEY: Here.
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thanks
4 Barbara. District 3 Lola Ramey? Did I hear --
5 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: I'm here.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 4
7 Laura Dowden?
8 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: Here.
9 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5
10 Wenonah Angier?
11 DISTRICT 5: Good morning everyone, from District
12 5.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is Wenonah here?
14 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Is Wenonah.
15 She went to the restaurant. She's got personal business.
16 District 6 Glenda Schultz?
17 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Here.
18 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: What
19 happened to District 6? You guys have a hard night or
20 something?
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Wake up, girls.
22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 7,
23 Janie Bandera?
24 DISTRICT 7: (Whistle blows.)
25 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: There we
26 go. District 8 Tammy Manini? I know Lori Sullivan is
27 here. Lori, aren't you an officer of District 8? So Lori
28 Sullivan sitting in for Tammy Manini. Is that correct?
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm sorry? What was
30 that? The Department Parliamentarian was --
31 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER: Lori Sullivan will
32 be sitting in then for Tammy Manini.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Lori, you did get
34 registered. No, Kathleen Sullivan is the first vice?
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Lori, you
36 are the first vice or is Kathleen?
37 MS. SULLIVAN: As far as I know I am.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: No, Theresa.
39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. I'm
40 sorry. That's okay.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: So she just votes
42 her unit.
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
44 So Tammy Manini is still absent.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Absent.
46 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
47 District 9, Dolly Rios?
48 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.
49 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm sorry.
50 District 10, Susan Peters?

1 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PETERS: Good morning.
2 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
3 11, Beverly Villines?
4 DISTRICT 11: The girls are here.
5 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 12
6 Lisa Stuart?
7 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT STUART: Here.
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 13
9 Mary Hidalgo?
10 DISTRICT 13: Good morning.
11 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
12 morning, hard working ladies. District 14, Sandra Urban?
13 DISTRICT 14: The dogs are in the house.
14 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: The dogs
15 are in the house. District 15 Karen Herrera?
16 DISTRICT 15: The friendly 15 roadrunners are
17 here.
18 (Applause.)
19 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
20 16, Connie Biggers?
21 DISTRICT 16: American eagles we're still here.
22 Eating pretzels and drinking beer.
23 (Applause.)
24 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Can I be
25 adopted? District 19 Laura Bradshaw sitting in for Judy
26 Forrest?
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Eighteen.
28 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: What did I
29 say, 19? I'm sorry I skipped you. District 18.
30 DISTRICT 18: We're shootin hoops for our troops.
31 We're the great Auxiliary. We'll never stop until we
32 drop. We're the great Auxiliary. We aim high up to the
33 sky. We're the great Auxiliary. We stand by their sides
34 and support them with pride for our troops.
35 (Applause.)
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is there more?
37 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Lori, you
38 might want to give our court reporter a copy of that so
39 she can get your song down correctly. That way you get
40 your song. It's a legacy.
41 Okay. District 19, Tammy Sollazzo?
42 DISTRICT 19: Good morning, Madam President.
43 Hoop, hoop.
44 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
45 20, Kathy Goslin?
46 DISTRICT 20: Good morning, Madam President.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
48 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
49 21, Jennifer Bieger?
50 DISTRICT 21: Good morning. We will, we will

1 rock you.
2 (Applause.)
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
4 22, Karen Bobren?
5 DISTRICT 22: Good morning, Anita. District 22
6 wishes you a slam dunk.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You should
9 have seen our slam dunk department president last night.
10 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Excuse me. What happens
11 in that room stays in that room.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You all told me
13 there was no pictures allowed and I was told there's
14 photos.
15 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I was just
16 telling that you were slam dunking.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, you were being
18 nice.
19 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I was being
20 nice. District 23, Sharon Moore?
21 DISTRICT 23: The 23rd District is on the court.
22 Good morning, Madam President.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
24 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
25 24, Beatrice Huppert?
26 DISTRICT 24: Pass it on. Pass it on. Find the
27 words in a speech or a song that Anita's daring for vets.
28 She's caring and helping homeless everywhere. Say a
29 prayer. Let's prepare helping vets get a start I declare.
30 We'll work harder than Bush or Carter and we won't give up
31 until our veterans gets their share.
32 (Applause.)
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you.
34 Beautiful. That was great.
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: They may be
36 small, but they're mighty. You might want to give a copy
37 of that song so that we can get -- District 25, Debbie
38 Fletcher?
39 DISTRICT 25: We dribbled, bounced and passed the
40 ball while working side by side; we shot hoops for our
41 veterans and played the game with pride.
42 (Applause.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Diane, did you miss
44 the last --
45 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yes.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
48 26, Louann Johnson?
49 DISTRICT 26: Home of the National President.
50 (Applause.)

1 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
2 27, Vella Myers?
3 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MYERS: Good morning, Madam
4 President.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
7 28, Robin Falkenberg?
8 DISTRICT 28: (Blows whistles.) Good morning,
9 Madam Commissioner. There's nothing hotter than an otter.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That's true.
11 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
12 29, Cheryl Neiffer?
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Like a knife. Like
14 stabbing.
15 DISTRICT 29: Swoosh.
16 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Would you
17 repeat that, please?
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It sounds like wish,
19 wish, wish.
20 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
21 30, Kim Vincent?
22 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: Shooting hoops
23 proudly.
24 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Hospital
25 reps. Fort Miley, Lorraine Sylvan? She's here.
26 Sacramento, Wendy O'Brien?
27 HOSPITAL REP O'BRIEN: Good morning, Madam
28 President.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
30 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno,
31 Toni Lopez?
32 HOSPITAL REP LOPEZ: Here.
33 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Palo Alto,
34 Pat Klang?
35 HOSPITAL REP KLANG: Present.
36 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Livermore,
37 Ruth Briggs?
38 HOSPITAL REP BRIGGS: Good morning.
39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
40 morning. WAVE clinic, San Diego, Lois Cornish?
41 HOSPITAL REP CORNISH: I'm here.
42 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Loma Linda,
43 Mavis Kanka?
44 HOSPITAL REP KANKA: Yes.
45 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Long Beach,
46 Pat Alvarez?
47 HOSPITAL REP ALVAREZ: Good morning.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning, Pat.
49 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
50 morning. Greater LA, Earlean Paige?

1 HOSPITAL REP PAIGE: Good morning, Ruby. Third
2 is on the bench.
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
4 morning. Nevada, Mary Lou Warner? Barstow, Evangeline
5 Acosta?
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's excused.
7 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Veteran
8 Homes. Chula Vista, Lois Cornish?
9 HOSPITAL REP CORNISH: Here again.
10 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno
11 Veterans Home, Rosalie Taylor?
12 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Loud and proud and going
13 strong.
14 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I need your
15 enthusiasm and vitality.
16 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Yes, ma'am.
17 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Lancaster,
18 Linda Hayes?
19 HOSPITAL REP HAYES: Present.
20 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's here.
21 Redding, Terry Mikesell?
22 HOSPITAL REP MIKESELL: Present and accounted
23 for.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Ventura, Madeline
25 Lee?
26 HOSPITAL REP LEE: Here.
27 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: West LA,
28 Ruth Hackney?
29 HOSPITAL REP HACKNEY: Here.
30 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And
31 Yountville, Peggy Grabski? Peggy Grabski?
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She was here.
33 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Is she
34 absent now? That concludes your roll call.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. We will
36 resume with our department chairmen reports. We're going
37 to begin with our Constitution & Bylaws, Harriet
38 Clendenin.
39 Before you begin, Harriet, after Harriet, will
40 the Girls State Chairman please come back to the stage to
41 complete your report. Children & Youth Sherry Schneider
42 after her.
43
44 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS REPORT
45
46 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
47 you. The convention committee on Constitution & Bylaws
48 met on June 19th, 2014 in Room 212 of the Santa Clara
49 Convention Center, Santa Clara, California.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Excuse me, Harriet.

1 I'm so sorry. Are you going to do the second reading
2 first? Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead. I didn't know.

3 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
4 you. Met on June 19th, 2014 in Room 212 of the Santa
5 Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, California. The
6 statistical report for this chairman appears on page 18 of
7 the Book of Reports.

8 Norma DuVall, District 18, was appointed
9 secretary, Pilar Reyes, District 10, offered prayer. And
10 Rosalie Taylor, District 14 was appointed
11 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 19 district delegates
12 answered roll call. There were seven visitors present.

13 The committee agreed upon the following report:
14 The code was read and the following code change. 6A now
15 reads: "When rewriting the unit bylaws, two complete sets
16 (including five original signature pages) are required for
17 submission to the Department Chairman. Three original
18 signature pages will be returned to the unit after the
19 Department President signs them. The original signature
20 pages are to be attached to three copies of the new
21 Constitution & Bylaws. One set is to be retained by the
22 Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. One set to the
23 District President. One set to the District Constitution
24 & Bylaws. It is recommended that the Unit Secretary also
25 maintain a set of these bylaws."

26 The new code will read: "When rewriting the unit
27 bylaws, two complete sets (including five signature pages)
28 are required for submission to the Department Chairman.
29 Three signature pages will be returned to the unit after
30 the Department President signs them. The signature pages
31 are to be attached to three copies of the new unit
32 Constitution & Bylaws. One set is to be retained by the
33 Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. One set to the
34 District President. One set to the District Constitution
35 & Bylaws Chairman. And it is recommended that the Unit
36 Secretary also maintain a set of these bylaws."

37 By direction of the preconvention Constitution &
38 Bylaws committee, I move for the acceptance of this code
39 change.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a motion to
41 change code number 6A by the Constitution & Bylaws
42 committee. The new code will read: "When rewriting the
43 unit bylaws, two complete sets (including five signature
44 pages) are required for submission to the Department
45 Chairman. Three signature pages will be returned to the
46 unit after the Department President signs them. The
47 signature pages are to be attached to three copies of the
48 new unit Constitution & Bylaws. One set is to be retained
49 by the Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. One set to
50 the District President. One set to the District

1 Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. And it is recommended
2 that the Unit Secretary also maintain a set of these
3 bylaws."
4 Is there any discussion?
5 (No response.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Hearing none, all
7 those in favor say aye.
8 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
10 no?
11 (No response.)
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
13 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
14 you. Second 6B now reads: "When district bylaws are
15 rewritten, two complete sets, including four original
16 signature pages are required for submission to the
17 Department Chairman."
18 The new code will read: "When district bylaws
19 are rewritten, two complete sets, including four signature
20 pages are required for submission to the Department
21 Chairman."
22 By direction of the preconvention Constitution &
23 Bylaws committee, I move for the acceptance of this code
24 change.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a motion by
26 the Constitution & Bylaws committee to change code 6B to:
27 "When district bylaws are rewritten, two complete sets,
28 including four signature pages are required for submission
29 to the Department Chairman."
30 Is there any discussion?
31 (No response.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
33 say aye.
34 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
36 no.
37 (No response.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carries.
39 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
40 you. The resolutions were read as following. Article V,
41 Section 13 now reads: "Endorsement for National Office.
42 All members seeking National Office shall be endorsed at a
43 Department Convention by a majority vote not more than two
44 years prior to the date they are to be a candidate for
45 office. Vote shall be by ballot."
46 If adopted it will read: "Endorsement for
47 National Office. All members seeking National Office
48 shall be endorsed at a Department Convention by a majority
49 vote not more than two years prior to the date they are to
50 be a candidate for office. Vote shall be by viva voce

1 unless there is more than one candidate, then election
2 shall be by ballot."

3 The rationale is there is no reason to have a
4 ballot vote when there is only one candidate.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: One second. Madam
6 Chairman, could you amend your motion to take out the word
7 "election" and change that word to "endorsement"? Since
8 it's not an election, we're just endorsing the National
9 candidate, we're not electing her. We will be voting to
10 endorse one over the other, so it's still a vote to
11 endorse. It's not a vote to electing anyone. We're just
12 endorsing them. I was asking her to amend, but if there's
13 any discussion, she didn't make a motion to do that. So
14 change it. There's a discussion on that, on my request?
15 Did you want to --

16 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: By the
17 direction of the pre-convention -- okay. Sorry. By the
18 direction of the pre-convention committee on Constitution &
19 Bylaws, I move for the acceptance of this emergency
20 resolution.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm sorry. Did you
22 change it to endorsement?

23 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: No, I
24 haven't. Okay. How about this: "If adopted:
25 Endorsement for National Office. All members seeking
26 National Office shall be" --

27 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: No. You would need
28 to go back to committee if you're going to change it. So
29 just move to accept what you read.

30 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: I move
31 to accept what I read. I move for the acceptance of the
32 resolution.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a motion
34 to -- a motion by the pre-convention committee meeting to
35 accept the change to Article V, Section 13 of the
36 constitution to read: "All members seeking National
37 Office shall be endorsed at a Department Convention by a
38 majority vote not more than two years prior to the date
39 they are to be candidate for office. Vote shall be by
40 viva voce unless there is more than one candidate then
41 election shall be by ballot."

42 Is there any discussion? The Chair recognizes
43 the National President Nancy Brown-Park.

44 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Nancy Brown-Park,
45 National President. My concern is as to two years prior.
46 As a national candidate for National President, once you
47 reach Children & Youth is when we start to campaign and we
48 truly needed those three years to raise the amount of
49 money we needed for the campaign. So my recommendation
50 would be that it is three years prior to the date.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you moving to
2 amend?
3 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: I move to amend
4 to three years instead of two. That was good, Terry.
5 Thanks.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Go ahead and get it
7 out, Madam President.
8 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So it would read:
9 "All members seeking National Office shall be endorsed at
10 a Department Convention by a majority vote not more than
11 three years prior to the date they are to be a candidate
12 for the office. Vote shall be by viva voce unless there
13 is more than one candidate, then election shall be by
14 ballot."
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a motion to
16 amend all members -- it's been moved and seconded. "All
17 members seeking National Office shall be endorsed at a
18 Department Convention by a majority vote not more than
19 three years prior to the date they are to be a candidate
20 for the office. Vote shall be by viva voce unless there
21 is more than one candidate, then election shall be by
22 ballot."
23 Is there any discussion on the amendment?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
26 say aye.
27 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, I'm sorry.
29 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: I was standing as tall as I
30 could.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The Chair recognizes
32 Rosalie Taylor.
33 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Rosalie Taylor, District
34 14. I think that this should read: "All members seeking
35 National Office shall be endorsed at a Department
36 Convention by a majority vote not more than three years
37 prior to the date they are to be a candidate for office.
38 Vote shall be viva voce unless there is more than one
39 candidate, then endorsement shall be by the ballots."
40 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Second.
41 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: No, you've got to
42 take care of the --
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm speaking on the
44 amendment to three years.
45 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Okay. I'll back off.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Then I'll entertain
47 another amendment. Is there any discussion on the
48 amendment for three years? You're a delegate and would
49 you like to speak on this amendment?
50 DELEGATE RISNER: On this resolution.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: On the -- just the
2 amendment?
3 DELEGATE RISNER: Yes. Good morning, Madam
4 President. My name is Heather Risner. I'm from 24, Unit
5 43. I just wanted to suggest the word "election" be
6 changed to "vote."
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We are going to
8 discuss that later. We're talking about the three years
9 only right now. We're talking about the three years
10 amendment. Okay? Any further discussion?
11 (No response.)
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Hearing none, all
13 those in favor, say aye.
14 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
16 no.
17 (No response.)
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You've amended the
19 motion. Now the Chair will recognize Rosalie Taylor.
20 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Okay. Madam President,
21 Rosalie Taylor, District 14. I propose that we amend the
22 endorsement for National Office to: "All members seeking
23 National Office shall be endorsed at a Department
24 Convention by a majority vote not more than three years
25 prior to the date they are to be a candidate for office.
26 Vote shall be by viva voce unless there is more than one
27 candidate, then endorsement shall be by ballot."
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Would you do that in
29 the form of a motion please?
30 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: I move --
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You just move that
32 change?
33 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Yes, I move that change.
34 Thank you.
35 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.
36 NEC WOMAN MIKESELL: Second.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. It has
38 been moved and seconded to amend this Article V, Section
39 13: "All members seeking National Office shall be
40 endorsed at a Department Convention by a majority vote not
41 more than three years prior to the date they are to be a
42 candidate for office. Vote shall be by viva voce unless
43 there is more than one candidate, then endorsement shall
44 be by ballot."
45 Is there any further discussion on this
46 amendment?
47 DELEGATE RISNER: Heather Risner, District 24. I
48 just believe the proper grammar of the bylaw or the
49 resolution that you are trying to change is "vote," and
50 not "endorsement."

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Would you like to
2 make that in the form of a motion, Heather?

3 DELEGATE RISNER: Yes, ma'am.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, I'm sorry. I
5 still have to take this vote, but you can come back later
6 and change it. You can stay there and they can either
7 vote yes or no to this amendment and then propose your --
8 or move for what you think would be the correct verbiage.
9 Okay?

10 DELEGATE RISNER: Okay.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
12 of changing this amendment or approving this amendment as
13 read, please say aye.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
16 no.

17 (No response.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Motion
19 carried.

20 Now, Heather, come back. Now move for your
21 change.

22 DELEGATE RISNER: I move that -- and the
23 reasoning behind this is that as it reads "vote" is what
24 we're doing. So my -- I'm making a motion to change the
25 word that has now been voted as "endorsement" to "vote"
26 because you're simply voting for the endorsement.

27 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Second.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is an
29 amendment to this Article V, Section 13, moved and
30 seconded that would read: "All members seeking National
31 Office shall be endorsed at a Department Convention by a
32 majority vote not more than three years prior to the date
33 they are to be a candidate for office. Vote shall be by
34 viva voce unless there is more than one candidate, then
35 vote shall be by ballot."

36 Is there any discussion on this motion amendment?
37 The Chair recognizes Rosalie.

38 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Yes, ma'am. Rosalie
39 Taylor, District 14. Do I have to read the whole thing?
40 No?

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Did you want to
42 change something, a word?

43 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: Yes. Just down there at
44 the bottom for the endorsement. "Then vote for
45 endorsement shall be by ballot." No?

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That's too
47 convoluted.

48 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: I just --

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I mean, if you
50 wanted my opinion. Oh, I don't have an opinion. If you

1 want to make that change though.
2 HOSPITAL REP TAYLOR: No, I got a lot of moans,
3 so no.
4 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Ruby?
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I think
7 we're beating a dead horse here.
8 (Applause.)
9 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And if you
10 really look at the way it originally read, "election" is
11 correct because if there is two candidates you are going
12 to vote. You are going to actually have an election to
13 make one of those the -- endorse one of those candidates.
14 So it is an election. You're going to -- if there's two,
15 you're going to have to have a ballot vote. So that word
16 "election" in the beginning was correct.
17 (Applause.)
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I mean, this isn't
19 an opinion, this is a fact that you've already voted to
20 change the word "election" from "election" to
21 "endorsement" to "vote." And so, you know, are we still
22 discussing it? I think we already have it as "vote." Is
23 there any further discussion on this amendment?
24 Okay. We voted on the amendment. The last word
25 is "vote." Now we will vote on the complete motion as
26 amended. Article V, Section 13: "All members seeking
27 National Office shall be endorsed at a Department
28 Convention by a majority vote not more than three years
29 prior to the date they are to be a candidate for office.
30 Vote shall be by viva voce unless there is more than one
31 candidate, then vote shall be by ballot."
32 Is there any discussion on the amended motion?
33 (No response.)
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you ready for
35 the question? All those in favor, say aye.
36 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.
38 (No response.)
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. Motion
40 carried.
41 (Applause.)
42 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Okay.
43 Another -- I'm sorry. On the -- on the Book of Reports
44 were copies of the Constitution & Bylaws proposed changes.
45 I hope you can see them. Constitution Article VII,
46 Section 1: Personnel and Powers of. As it now reads:
47 "Between Department Conventions, the administrative power
48 shall be vested in a Department Executive Committee, but
49 without power to modify any previous Department Convention
50 action. This committee shall be composed of Department

1 President, Department Vice President, Junior Past
2 Department President, Past National President of the
3 Department of California, District Presidents, Department
4 Chairmen of Standing Committees, Members of the Finance
5 Committee, Parliamentarian, Girls State Director and
6 Junior Conference Director. The Secretary/Treasurer and
7 Parliamentarian shall be a non-voting member of the
8 Executive Committee and a voting member of the Department
9 Convention."

10 The proposed change will read. "Between
11 Department Conventions, the administrative power shall be
12 vested in a Department Executive Committee, but without
13 power to modify any previous Department Convention action.
14 This committee shall be composed of Department President,
15 Department Vice President, Junior Past Department
16 President, Past National President of the Department of
17 California, District Presidents, Department Chairmen of
18 Standing Committees, Members of the Finance Committee,
19 Parliamentarian, Girls State Director and Junior
20 Conference Director. The Secretary/Treasurer, if a paid
21 employee, and Parliamentarian shall be a non-voting member
22 of the Executive Committee and a voting member of the
23 Department Convention."

24 The rationale is that at some point there may be
25 more than one Past National President and in the event we
26 have an office manager instead of a full-time paid
27 Secretary/Treasurer who is then not an employee, she will
28 have the right to vote.

29 By direction of the Constitution & Bylaws
30 pre-convention committee meeting, I move for the acceptance
31 of this bylaws change. Constitution change.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a motion by
33 the pre-convention committee of the Constitution & Bylaws
34 to change Constitution Article VII, Section 1, Personnel
35 and Powers Of. The proposed change shall read: "Between
36 Department Conventions, the administrative power shall be
37 vested in a Department Executive Committee, but without
38 power to modify any previous Department Convention action.
39 This committee shall be composed of Department President,
40 Department Vice President, Junior Past Department
41 President, Past National President of the Department of
42 California, District Presidents, Department Chairmen of
43 Standing Committees, Members of the Finance Committee,
44 Parliamentarian, Girls State Director and Junior
45 Conference Director. The Secretary/Treasurer, if a paid
46 employee, and Parliamentarian shall be a non-voting member
47 of the Executive Committee and a voting member of the
48 Department Convention."

49 Is there any discussion?

50 (No response.)

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

3 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
5 no.

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

8 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
9 you. Article VII, Section 5 as it now reads: "Section 5
10 Nomination of Department Secretary/Treasurer. The newly
11 elected/appointed Executive Committee shall meet
12 immediately following Department Convention. The
13 Department President shall nominate a Department
14 Secretary/Treasurer and the Department Executive Committee
15 shall elect by majority vote. She may be removed from
16 office by majority vote of the Department Executive
17 Committee. She shall be a non-voting member of the
18 Executive Committee and a voting member of the Department
19 Convention."

20 The proposed change is: "The newly
21 elected/appointed Executive Committee shall meet
22 immediately following Department Convention. There shall
23 be a Department Secretary/Treasurer to be nominated by the
24 Department President and confirmed by the Department
25 Executive Committee at the Post-Convention Department
26 Executive Committee Meeting. She may be removed from
27 office by majority vote of the Department Executive
28 Committee. She shall be a non-voting member, if a paid
29 employee, of the Executive Committee and a voting member
30 of the Department Convention."

31 Rationale is to be consistent with National and
32 add only if paid employee. By direction of the
33 Constitution & Bylaws pre-convention committee meeting, I
34 move for the acceptance of this proposed constitution
35 bylaws change.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a proposed
37 change to Article VII, Section 5 by the pre-convention
38 committee on Constitution & Bylaws to read: "The newly
39 elected/appointed Executive Committee shall meet
40 immediately following Department Convention. There shall
41 be a Department Secretary/Treasurer to be nominated by the
42 Department President and confirmed by the Department
43 Executive Committee at the Post-Convention Department
44 Executive Committee Meeting. She may be removed from
45 office by majority vote of the Department Executive
46 Committee. She shall be a non-voting member, if a paid
47 employee, of the Executive Committee and a voting member
48 of the Department Convention."

49 Is there any discussion on this change?

50 (No response.)

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

3 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.
5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

7 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
8 you. Under Bylaws Article I, Section 3 as it now reads:
9 "Section 3 Department Secretary/Treasurer. The Department
10 Secretary/Treasurer shall be a paid, full-time employee
11 responsible to the Department President and Department
12 Executive Committee. She shall be a member of the
13 American Legion Auxiliary and an officer of the Department
14 of California. As a Department officer, she shall serve
15 as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee and a
16 voting member of the Department Convention. The
17 Department Secretary/Treasurer may be removed from office
18 at any time by a majority vote of the Department
19 Committee. She shall ensure that all duties relative to
20 the necessary operation of the Department office be
21 performed on a timely basis. She shall monitor all
22 investments, record books, ledgers, and accounts and
23 assure they are current and accurate."

24 The proposed change is: "The Department
25 Secretary/Treasurer may be a paid, full-time employee
26 responsible to the Department President and Department
27 Executive Committee. She shall be a member of the
28 American Legion Auxiliary and an officer of the Department
29 of California. As a paid employee and Department officer,
30 she shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive
31 Committee and a voting member of the Department
32 Convention. The Department Secretary/Treasurer may be
33 removed from office at any time by a majority vote of the
34 Department Committee. She shall ensure that all duties
35 relative to the necessary operation of the Department
36 office be performed on a timely basis. She shall monitor
37 all investments, record books, ledgers, and accounts and
38 assure they are current and accurate. In the event the
39 Department Secretary/Treasurer is not a paid employee, she
40 shall have the privilege to vote."

41 The rationale is by changing the word "shall" to
42 "may" allows an option for an office manager to be hired
43 that is not necessarily a member of the American Legion
44 Auxiliary which gives more flexibility in the hiring
45 process. In the event an office manager conducts the
46 day-to-day -- oh, sorry. In the event an office manager
47 conducts the day-to-day operation of the Department Office
48 and the Secretary/Treasurer is not a paid employee, there
49 is no conflict of interest, therefore she should have the
50 right to vote.

1 By the direction of the Constitution & Bylaws
2 preconvention committee meeting, I move for the acceptance
3 of this Bylaws change.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a proposed
5 change to the Bylaws Article I, Section 3 by the
6 preconvention Constitution & Bylaws committee to read:
7 "The Department Secretary/Treasurer may be a paid,
8 full-time employee responsible to the Department President
9 and Department Executive Committee. She shall be a member
10 of the American Legion Auxiliary and an officer of the
11 Department of California. As a paid employee and
12 Department officer, she shall serve as a non-voting member
13 of the Executive Committee and a voting member of the
14 Department Convention. The Department Secretary/Treasurer
15 may be removed from office at any time by a majority vote
16 of the Department Committee. She shall ensure that all
17 duties relative to the necessary operation of the
18 Department office be performed on a timely basis. She
19 shall monitor all investments, record books, ledgers, and
20 accounts and assure they are current and accurate. In the
21 event the Department Secretary/Treasurer is not a paid
22 employee, she shall have the privilege to vote."

23 "Department" is not on this paper, but Harriet
24 read Department Secretary/Treasurer, so I figured she was
25 going to correct this. I was just reading what I --
26 repeating what -- you said "Department
27 Secretary/Treasurer" as the last sentence. Did you need
28 that in there or out because you did say "Department."

29 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Yes,
30 we do need it in. That was a typo.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It should be in.

32 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Yes.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is there any
34 discussion on the motion?

35 (No response.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
37 say aye.

38 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.

40 (No response.)

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carries.

42 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
43 you. Article II, Section B Referendum Vote: "When
44 referendum vote is used the Department Executive
45 Committee, consisting of the Department President,
46 Department Vice President, Department Secretary/Treasurer,
47 Junior Past Department President, Past National Presidents
48 of the Department of California, Members of the Finance
49 Committee, District Presidents, Department Chairman of
50 Standing Committees, Girls State Director, and Junior

1 Conference Director shall vote."

2 The proposed change: "When referendum vote is
3 used by the Department Executive Committee, consisting of
4 the Department President, Department Vice President,
5 Department Secretary/Treasurer (if not a paid employee),
6 Junior Past Department President, Past National Presidents
7 of the Department of California, Members of the Finance
8 Committee, District Presidents, Department Chairman of
9 Standing Committees, Girls State Director, and Junior
10 Conference Director shall vote."

11 Rationale: To be consistent throughout the
12 document that a paid employee does not vote as Department
13 Executive Committee member.

14 By the direction of the Constitution & Bylaws
15 pre-convention committee, I move for the acceptance of this
16 Bylaws change.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: One second, Harriet.
18 Okay. Thank you. You stated -- you used the word "by."
19 You said, "When referendum vote is used by," but you don't
20 have that typed and originally it does not have the word
21 "by." So if you just say you're going to strike that word
22 "by."

23 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I strike
24 the word "by."

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Right. What's
26 written is --

27 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN:
28 Correct. I threw a word in.

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. I'm sorry.
30 There is a proposed change to the Bylaws Article II,
31 Section B: "When referendum vote is used the Department
32 Executive Committee, consisting of the Department
33 President, Department Vice President, Department
34 Secretary/Treasurer, Junior Past Department President,
35 Past National Presidents of the Department of California,
36 Members of the Finance Committee, District Presidents,
37 Department Chairman of Standing Committees, Girls State
38 Director, and Junior Conference Director shall vote."

39 Is there any discussion on this change? I read
40 the wrong one. I'll read that -- "When referendum vote is
41 used the Department Executive Committee, consisting of the
42 Department President, Department Vice President,
43 Department Secretary/Treasurer (if not a paid employee),
44 Junior Past Department President, Past National Presidents
45 of the Department of California, Members of the Finance
46 Committee, District Presidents, Department Chairman of
47 Standing Committees, Girls State Director, and Junior
48 Conference Director shall vote."

49 Any discussion?

50 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
2 say aye.
3 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.
5 (No response.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carries.
7 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
8 you very much. May I take a point of privilege?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You may.
10 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: I
11 would really like to thank Diane, our Parliamentarian, and
12 Ruby for helping me get through that.
13 (Applause.)
14 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: 100
15 percent reporting certificates were in the district
16 packets. Second and third place certificates for unit and
17 district supplementals were given out. Having finished
18 the business, an ending prayer was read and a committee
19 meeting ended at 10:00.
20 May I now proceed with my supplemental and first
21 place awards?
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You may.
23 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
24 you. Good morning, Madam President.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.
26 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: When
27 reading the reports of the coaches of the rules, there
28 were many themes that didn't change at all. It is
29 comforting to know that all the units and districts study
30 their constitution and bylaws annually. All that reported
31 also used Robert's Rules of Order and the Unit Handbook to
32 guide them through their meetings. Several Units and
33 Districts used the analogy that like the basketball game,
34 the Constitution & Bylaws along with their standing rules
35 are the rules that if followed prevent chaos in their
36 meeting or in this case, the basketball court.
37 The coaches of the rules are diligent in making
38 sure units and districts bylaws are studied yearly. On
39 the district level they may not -- they make sure that not
40 only do they have the current copies of each units, but
41 the president and sometimes the parliamentarians have
42 copies. On the unit level it is reported they are with
43 the president, the Constitution & Bylaws chairman at every
44 meeting, and with their secretary. Most also report they
45 are given along with the standing rules in their new
46 member packet.
47 Everyone reported how helpful it is to have
48 standing rules. They are aware how each unit or district
49 has standing rules specific to their needs. Many report
50 they are updated and studied regularly, especially in the

1 beginning of the year. This seems to be a good time to
2 update them, being mindful to not be in conflict with the
3 bylaws, but only include items that are not covered.

4 Besides educating members, units and districts
5 report how the preamble is made a part of each meeting.
6 Unit 146, District 22 reported that their president's goal
7 was for every member to memorize the preamble. While they
8 didn't meet 100 percent, there is an increase over last
9 year of those who recite it by heart. Many reported that
10 while the organization is changing and modernizing, the
11 preamble is a comfort knowing our history and what we are
12 all about will never change.

13 Madam President, thank you for asking me to be
14 the Department's Constitution & Bylaws Chairman this year.
15 What a learning experience it has been. While I have made
16 many mistakes -- I'll admit it.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We won't talk about
18 those.

19 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN:
20 -- over time, I am comfortable enough to be able to answer
21 questions that come up and have a real working knowledge
22 of the rules which govern this organization on all levels.

23 Having rules helps us as members to honor our
24 opportunity to provide services to our veterans and at the
25 same time pass it on. This concludes the report of the
26 Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. May I go with my first
27 place supplementals?

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

29 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Okay.
30 My first place unit supplement goes to Unit 598, District
31 10, Pilar Reyes.

32 (Applause.)

33 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN:

34 Amazing work, ladies.

35 PAST PRESIDENTS' PARLEY CHAIRMAN REYES: Thank
36 you very much.

37 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: You're
38 welcome. My first place district goes to District 19, CJ
39 Reyes. Do you notice a little theme going on there with
40 the Reyeses?

41 (Applause.)

42 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: Thank
43 you. Thank you, everybody.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you so much,
46 Harriet. Great job. Absolutely.

47 Due to the essence of time we're going to need to
48 move into our election of our new officers and I will
49 defer the reports after the elections. I need Elizabeth
50 Doidge. There she is.

1 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: I've been waiting
2 over there.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And we also need the
4 Rules Chairman Belen Telford to come to the stage. We
5 need to change a rule. Or we need to look at a rule,
6 rather.

7 We are not in recess. If you can please remain
8 seated. Please remain seated. We are not in recess.
9 Thank you. At this time I would like to hear from our
10 Children & Youth Chairman, Sherry Schneider. Fortunately
11 she has to go to Girls State and to catch a flight. So we
12 need to listen to the Children & Youth report. Thank you.
13

14 CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT

15
16 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: The
17 convention committee on Children & Youth met on June 19,
18 2014 in Room 202 of the Santa Clara Convention Center.
19 Tami Bell from District 29 was appointed secretary,
20 Dolores Ryan from District 15 shared two beautiful prayers
21 with us as our Chaplain, Bonnie Christensen from District
22 20 served as our Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 23 district
23 delegates answered roll call and there are 11 visitors
24 including one junior member.

25 The committee agreed upon the following report:
26 The Children & Youth code was read and there were no
27 recommended changes. There were no resolutions presented
28 to this committee.

29 The following districts were awarded citations
30 for 100 percent unit reporting: 6, 10, 11, 22, 24, 25,
31 27, 28 and 30. Awards for best unit supplemental Children
32 and Youth were awarded as follows: Third place went to
33 Unit 118, District 27, Danielle White, chairman. Second
34 place was awarded to Unit 359, District 19, Rosie Kraft
35 and Sandra Sanchez, chairmen.

36 (Applause.)

37 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: Awards for
38 best district supplemental Children & Youth report were
39 awarded as follows: Third place went to District 21,
40 Sylvia Alcantar, chairman. Second place was awarded to
41 District 22, Ann Marie Brown, chairman.

42 (Applause.)

43 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: There were
44 no recommendations brought up during the meeting. The
45 committee was adjourned in prayer at 11:22.

46 Madam President, that concludes my committee
47 report. May I continue with the presentation of my first
48 place awards?

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

50 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: Best unit

1 Children and Youth supplemental first place citation goes
2 to Oceanside Unit 146, District 22, Mary Thorsten,
3 chairman.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: Best
6 district Children and Youth supplemental first place
7 citation goes to District 21, Alma Jarquin, chairman.

8 (Applause.)

9 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDER: This year
10 the Department of California had 153 units participate in
11 the Children & Youth program. These units stepped up big
12 this year serving over 26,745 children in their
13 communities. They gave over \$173,543 in direct aid to
14 help the children of California. Our members volunteered
15 over 43,758 hours for the Children & Youth program.

16 I wanted to extend my thanks to all those members
17 who stepped up for the children in our communities to make
18 sure they had a brighter and happier world than the one
19 they had before we offered our assistance.

20 Madam President, that concludes my report and I
21 move for its acceptance.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: By your applause
24 we've accepted the speedy report. Glad we had it in
25 writing. Thank you, Sherry, very much. I know you've got
26 to go hurry up and say good-bye to catch your plane.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. We're going
29 to need to have the Rules Chairman come up to the
30 microphone. And we will be voting. We need a two-thirds
31 vote to amend the rules as the Constitution & Bylaws have
32 been amended to match the election rules. And then the
33 Elections Chairman, Carol Fuqua, you will need to amend
34 your election rules if the amendment is passed. So heads
35 up.

36 Okay. In order to be prepared for our elections,
37 we will have 15 minutes' recess so the districts can take
38 roll call of their delegates and be ready to report their
39 voting strength when the secretary calls for roll of the
40 districts. Please remember that the doors will be closed
41 at 10- -- it is 10:05. At 10:20 we will start our
42 election and no one will be allowed to enter and leave
43 after the doors are closed.

44 And at this time all delegates should be with
45 their district elected during the election. We are taking
46 a 15-minute recess. Please be back promptly or the doors
47 will be locked. Thank you.

48 (Recess from 10:07 a.m. to 10:23 a.m.)

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Ladies, please.
50 This session is reconvened. I'm going to call on our

1 Rules Chairman -- excuse me -- Rules Chairman Belen
2 Telford for a proposed change to the rule.
3 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: Thank you, Madam
4 President. I move that we amend rule number 30 that
5 reads: "When there is a candidate or candidates for
6 amendment to the" --
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Excuse me, Belen.
8 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: Sorry.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Would you do as
10 instructed by the Parliamentarian with regards to --
11 she'll come talk to you.
12 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: I'm nervous. I'm sorry.
13 Oh, okay. I move that I am -- I amend --
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Slow down. Listen,
15 and then repeat.
16 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: I amend -- I move to
17 change the convention rule.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
19 and seconded to change the convention rules. Is there any
20 discussion?
21 (No response.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
23 say aye.
24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Opposed, say no.
26 (No response.)
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
28 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: Okay.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Due to the
30 Constitution & Bylaws change that we voted on this
31 morning, the rules must be changed as well. Did you all
32 want to change your vote?
33 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: I move to delete rule
34 number 30 that now reads: "When there is a candidate or
35 candidates for amendment -- endorsement, excuse me, to a
36 National Office, a majority vote shall be by ballot."
37 Constitution Article V, Section 13.
38 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Second.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
40 and seconded to delete rule number 30 which reads: "When
41 there is a candidate or a candidates for an endorsement to
42 a National Office, a majority vote shall be by ballot."
43 Constitution Article V, Section 13.
44 Is there any discussion?
45 (No response.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
47 say aye.
48 (No response.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
50 no.

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The motion carried.
3 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: I move to -- I move to
4 change rule number 7 -- excuse me. 27 that now reads:
5 "When there is but one nominee for all Department Officers
6 and but one nominee for Junior Member of Finance, a
7 nominee shall be elected vice-a-versa [sic] (Article V,
8 Section 3 Department Constitution.) Upon roll call, but
9 the district presidents shall report the number of units
10 partly or wholly represented by duly elected delegates or
11 alternate presented delegation at the time of roll call.
12 This is to determine that there is a quorum of units
13 present at the time of election."
14 And I'm going to insert, when there is but one
15 nominee for Department Officer, but one nominee for Junior
16 Member of Finance this one insert -- one candidate for
17 National Office for endorsement and the rest will remain
18 the same.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
20 and seconded to change rule number 27 to read: "When
21 there is but one nominee for all Department Officers and
22 but one nominee for Junior Member of Finance, and but one
23 nominee" -- I'm sorry -- "one candidate for National
24 Office for endorsement, the nominee shall be elected viva
25 voce. (Article V, Section 3 Department Constitution.)
26 Upon roll call the district presidents shall report the
27 number of units partially and wholly represented by duly
28 elected delegates or alternates present in the delegation
29 at the time of roll call. This is to determine that there
30 is a quorum of units present at the time of election."
31 Is there any discussion?
32 (No response.)
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
34 say aye.
35 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
37 no.
38 (No response.)
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
40 Thank you, Belen.
41 RULES CHAIRMAN TELFORD: Thank you.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Will everyone please
43 be seated with their respective districts? Please
44 remember that only delegates and alternates taking the
45 place of delegates will be allowed to be in this room
46 during election. If you are not a delegate or an
47 alternate, you must leave this room. Well, I don't mean
48 to leave. You can sit with the delegation. She's right.
49 Go back there. Hang around.
50 Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please see

1 that everyone that's in the lobby knows that the doors are
2 closed and are closed for this election process. And if
3 they want to come in, to do so immediately. Can you
4 please check outside the room and see if there's anyone
5 hanging around? Check their badges and then close those
6 doors. No one will be permitted to enter or leave except
7 in an emergency until the Chair states that the elections
8 are concluded.

9 At this time the Chair recognizes District 13
10 President Mary Hidalgo.

11 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Madam President,
12 we voted yesterday and we would like for our National
13 alternate name be changed to Patricia McLeod.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. You first
15 need to entertain a motion to reopen the nominations for
16 -- is it delegate or alternate?

17 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Alternate.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I need a motion from
19 someone --

20 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: So moved.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: --to reopen the
22 nominations.

23 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Yeah, to remove
24 Patricia --

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I need a motion to
26 reopen the nominations for alternate.

27 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: I move that we
28 reopen the nominations for alternate for National
29 Convention.

30 (Applause.)

31 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Second.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. It has
33 been moved and seconded to reopen the nominations for the
34 alternate for National Convention. Is there any
35 discussion?

36 (No response.)

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
38 say aye.

39 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
41 no.

42 (No response.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

44 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: I would like to
45 change the name for the alternate to Patricia McLeod.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: District 13, your
47 changing who? You're removing Cherie Whitaker and
48 replacing her with?

49 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Patricia McLeod.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Mc?

1 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: M-C-L-E-O-D.
2 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam
3 Department President, I also can't count. And the last --
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I can count.
5 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: The last
6 alternate that was elected as an alternate was Vicki Crow,
7 which we need to remove because we have 22 instead of 21.
8 Sorry, Vicky.
9 DELEGATE CROW: It's all right with me.
10 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, Mary.
12 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Thank you.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, we really
14 can't just remove her. She would have to -- we would
15 either have to take a vote, a ballot vote, or Vicky would
16 have to or someone would have to decline.
17 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Madam President,
18 National President Nancy Brown-Park.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The Chair recognizes
20 National President Nancy.
21 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: I just have a
22 comment to make. Is everybody who is an alternate
23 planning to attend National Convention?
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That's a very good
25 question.
26 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: If you're not,
27 please withdraw your name now so that we do not have to
28 have a ballot vote. Thank you.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's correct. If
30 there's any alternate that is not planning on attending
31 the National Convention, please consider withdrawing your
32 name because you are taking the space of someone who will
33 incur the burden or the expense to go to National and be
34 representing California. And as well, they need to attend
35 a preconvention committee meeting that you will be
36 assigned. We need your body there to take votes to be an
37 active delegate.
38 The Chair recognizes Wendy O'Brien. I'm sorry.
39 Not Wendy. Jennifer Bieger.
40 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BIEGER: Jennifer Bieger,
41 District 21. We would remove the name of Joanne Evans
42 because she'll be attending on the Legion side and that
43 will leave space for Vicky.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you.
45 (Applause.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You're back in,
47 Vicky. Thank you, Madam National President, for bringing
48 that up.
49 We will now have the report of the Elections
50 Chairman Carol Fuqua followed by the reading of the

1 election rules.

2 I'm sorry. I didn't see you.

3 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT URBAN: Sandy Urban, 14th
4 District. I would -- as alternate I would like to remove
5 Ellen McClurg.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Ellen McClurg.

7 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT URBAN: Ellen McClurg.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We'll leave her in
9 for now. We'll talk to you later. Thank you.

10 Go ahead, Carol.

11
12 ELECTIONS REPORT

13
14 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN FUQUA: The Elections
15 committee met in the Santa Clara Convention Center in Room
16 206 on June 19th, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

17 Jennifer Bieger from District 21 was appointed
18 secretary -- just a moment. I slipped up. Roseann Bean
19 from District 9 was appointed Chaplain, and Gabriele
20 Rowland from District 25 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.
21 Nineteen delegates answered roll call. Five guests were
22 present.

23 The Election and Appointment of Officers from the
24 Department Constitution Article V, Sections 1 through 13,
25 pages C-4 through C-7 was reviewed with the committee.
26 Each delegate received a copy of the 2014 Convention
27 Rules. The Election rules were read and discussed. Rule
28 number 33 was furthered clarified and -- clarified on the
29 delegate voting.

30 The emergency resolution from the Department
31 Constitution Article V, Section 13 was reviewed and
32 discussed. There were no recommendations or suggestions.
33 The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

34 Madam President Anita, thank you for this
35 appointment. It has been my honor serving as your
36 Elections Chairman. This concludes my Election committee
37 report. Madam President, may I proceed to the reading of
38 the election rules?

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may. Thank
40 you.

41 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN FUQUA: These will be found on
42 the Book of Reports on page 12 and 13. The convention
43 rule numbers are 25 through 33. Number 25 reads:

44 "Election of Department Officers, Junior Member of
45 Finance, National Candidate, Department Delegates and
46 Alternates to the National Convention shall be held on
47 Saturday morning June 21st, 2014.

48 "Number 26: The doors of the convention hall
49 shall be closed during the entire election procedure and
50 no one shall leave or enter the hall until chairman

1 states -- until Chair states that the election is
2 concluded. The exception to this shall be that in an
3 emergency, a member can be leave and if her absence
4 affects the voting strength, the district president shall
5 immediately notify the presiding officer.

6 "Number 27: When there is but one nominee for
7 Department Officers and but one nominee for Junior Member
8 of Finance or one candidate for endorsement for National
9 Office, the nominees shall be elected viva voce, per
10 Article V, Section 3 Department Constitution. Upon roll
11 call, the district presidents shall report the number of
12 units partially or wholly represented by duly elected
13 delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the
14 time of roll call. This is is to determine that there is
15 a quorum of units present at the time of the election.

16 "Number 28: When there is more than one nominee
17 for Department Officers, Junior Member of Finance, or
18 endorsement for National Office, the election shall be by
19 written ballot. The district president shall, when
20 instructed by Chair, take a roll call of the respective
21 delegation to ascertain the total voting strength of their
22 district for the election reporting the same to Chair.

23 "Number 29: When there are three or more
24 nominees for office, Junior Member of Finance, or
25 endorsement of National Office, unless one nominee
26 receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the nominee
27 receiving the lowest number of votes shall be
28 automatically dropped before proceeding with the next
29 ballot."

30 Number 30, which used to be number 31 as we just
31 deleted that other number: "Each District President and
32 District Member of Elections Committee shall distribute
33 and collect the votes cast by the District delegation and
34 deliver them to the Department Chairman of the Elections."

35 Number 31, which was formerly 32: "Department
36 Officers, Chairmen, Committee Member, and Past Department
37 Presidents shall vote with their respective district."

38 Number 32, formally 33: "Each delegate shall be
39 entitled to one vote. The vote of an absent unit delegate
40 not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the
41 majority of the unit. When two delegates represent three
42 votes, the chairman of the unit delegation shall cast the
43 third vote."

44 Number 33, formerly 34: "A majority of all votes
45 cast shall elect, except that in the election of National
46 delegates and alternates a plurality shall elect."

47 Number 34, formerly 35: "These convention rules
48 may be amended during the convention by a two-thirds
49 vote."

50 Number 35, formerly 36: "Robert's Rules of

1 Order, Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority
2 on all points not covered by these rules, the Department
3 Constitution & Bylaws, and Convention mandates."

4 That concludes the reading of the Election rules.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you very much,
6 Carol. We will now hear from the Credentials Chairman
7 Elizabeth Doidge to give the final Credential Report.

8
9 FINAL CREDENTIALS REPORT

10
11 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: Madam President
12 Anita Biggs, thank you for asking me to serve as your
13 Credentials Chairman this year. It was a valuable
14 learning experience. I'm glad it's almost over.

15 This morning we met with the District Presidents;
16 we went over the procedures on how to poll the district
17 and what was expected. My thanks to Ruby, Carol Fuqua,
18 Suzie Q, Cassie Mikesell, Carol and Lois Cornish for their
19 help. I couldn't have done it without them. Also thank
20 you for the Auxiliary registration secretaries and the
21 members who worked the registration tables. You did an
22 outstanding job.

23 The total voting strength for this convention is
24 552. Divided by half is 276 to elect.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We need plus one.
26 Okay. Thank you, Elizabeth.

27 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: You're welcome.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Will the district
29 presidents please proceed to the microphone numerically to
30 give your report of your district voting strength. Just
31 figure it out among yourselves. One is going to be the
32 first one over there. Does this microphone work? You can
33 line up at this mic.

34 HISTORIAN DIEBEL: They all work.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm sorry.
36 Secretary Ruby will call the role of districts.

37 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
38 Let's go, District Presidents. I know you can do this.
39 Nobody's coming to the stage, I know that. Let's see.
40 I'm going to -- this is a test on how good you are now.
41 And I know you can do it. District 1.

42 DISTRICT 1 PRESIDENT LINDLEY: Three.

43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
44 Thank you. District 2.

45 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT DAILEY: Ten.

46 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
47 Thank you. District 3.

48 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: Four.

49 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
50 Thank you. District 4.

1 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: Seven. I can't
2 reach the mic.
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You have to
4 come to the stage.
5 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: It was five. Unit
6 17 could not come, so now it's five.
7 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
8 Wait. Are you reducing somebody?
9 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: Unit 17 was unable
10 to come, and that was two votes.
11 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Unit 17
12 is --
13 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: Nobody -- yeah,
14 just come back.
15 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That's just
16 a minor setback. Come up. District 5.
17 DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT ANGIER: 13.
18 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
19 stage, please. District 6.
20 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have 16.
21 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
22 District 7.
23 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: 13.
24 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
25 District 8.
26 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT MANINI: Just 1 in their own
27 right.
28 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you
29 District 9?
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: District 8 has 1.
31 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She did say
32 1. You might not have heard her. She has a light voice.
33 Not like me. District 9.
34 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Seven.
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
36 District 10.
37 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PETERS: 16.
38 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
39 District 11.
40 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: 18.
41 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
42 stage, please. District 12.
43 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT STUART: 14.
44 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
45 stage, please. District 13.
46 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: 12.
47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
48 stage, please. District 14.
49 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT URBAN: 13.
50 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.

1 District 15.
2 DISTRICT 15 PRESIDENT HERRERA: 11.
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
4 stage, please. District 16.
5 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT BIGGERS: 34.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
7 District 18.
8 ACTING DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT FORREST: I hope you
9 got the right number. 33.
10 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
11 District 19.
12 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT SOLLAZZO: 31.
13 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
14 District 20.
15 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT GOSLIN: 15.
16 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
17 District 21.
18 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BIEGER: 25.
19 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
20 stage, please. District 22.
21 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT BOBREN: 43.
22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
23 stage, please. District 23.
24 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT MOORE: Grin and groan.
25 26.
26 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
27 stage, please. District 24.
28 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT HACKNEY: Eight.
29 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Did you say
30 eight?
31 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT HACKNEY: Eight.
32 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
33 District 25.
34 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT FLETCHER: 54.
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
36 District 26.
37 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: We lost Sherry
38 Schneider, so we're down to 16.
39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sherry
40 Schneider is gone and we're down to 16.
41 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: That was which
42 district?
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
44 26.
45 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: Okay.
46 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: So she's
47 16. Thank you. District 27.
48 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MYERS: 13. Here I am.
49 13.
50 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the

1 stage, please. District 28.
2 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT FALKENBERG: 28.
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
4 District 29.
5 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT NEIFFER: 53.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Come to the
7 stage, please. District 30.
8 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: Eight.
9 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
10 District 4.
11 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: It is seven.
12 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 4?
13 Just a moment.
14 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: It is seven. We
15 had one person that didn't sign in this morning, but then
16 she did sign in. That was where the two votes were lost.
17 But she did sign in. It is seven.
18 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 4
19 was changed to seven?
20 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: District 4 is now
21 seven, correct.
22 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: Thank you.
23 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
24 District 5.
25 DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT ANGIER: 13. We have one
26 person that is not here.
27 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN DOIDGE: 13 is correct.
28 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: What -- was seven
30 correct for 4?
31 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes, it was
32 correct. Liz told me that it changed.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It is seven.
34 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5
35 has 13.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: What about 4.
37 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 4 has
38 seven.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you.
40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Now we get
41 to have fun and do something.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you ready?
43 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT STUART: Yes. District 12.
44 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
45 12.
46 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT STUART: Has 14.
47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Just a
48 moment. They're pretty busy back here. They're crunching
49 some hard numbers back there. Thank you, Lisa. 14 is
50 correct. District 15.

1 DISTRICT 15 PRESIDENT HERRERA: District 15 has
2 11.
3 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
4 That is correct. District 15 has 11. District 21, are
5 you at the mic?
6 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BIEGER: Yes, ma'am.
7 Jennifer Bieger, District 21. We do have 25.
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
9 25 is correct. District 13.
10 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: We have 13 votes.
11 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well, we
12 were correct to begin with.
13 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Yeah. Well,
14 someone said go to the mic. You have to go back.
15 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You only
16 have 13 here?
17 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Right.
18 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Who left?
19 You have to come to the stage.
20 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: We already have
21 it. Mildred left and -- 318.
22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 13 for 13
23 is correct.
24 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT HIDALGO: Thank you.
25 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
26 22.
27 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT BOBREN: 22 is at 43
28 delegates.
29 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 43 is
30 correct. Thank you.
31 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: District 11 has
32 17.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Ruby, who
34 reported -- Ruby, who reported right before 11?
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Who
36 reported. District 22 has 43 votes, and now we're on 11.
37 We're at -- 11 is 17 and is correct.
38 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: 17, right.
39 Thank you.
40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 23.
41 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT MOORE: 27.
42 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 27. Thank
43 you. District 28.
44 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT FALKENBERG: 25, Ruby.
45 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 25 is a
46 change and correct.
47 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT FALKENBERG: Thank you.
48 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
49 27.
50 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MYERS: 13.

1 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 13. Thank
2 you, Vella. That's correct. One more. Only one more.
3 District 29.
4 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT NEIFFER: District 29 has
5 51.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 51 is
7 correct. Okay. We need to get a recount here.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: While they're
9 counting, we just had a visitor with our Pages, who are
10 doing a really good job and will not allow them in the
11 room. Senator Ellen M. Corbett, the senate majority
12 leader, came to address the Auxiliary and we missed her.
13 So we will send her a thank you note for coming by to say
14 hello to us. Fortunately our girls are doing their job.
15 Give them a hand.
16 (Applause.)
17 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And, Madam
18 Department President, we have the correct numbers. Do you
19 want me to repeat them?
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm sorry, Ruby.
21 What did you say?
22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We have the
23 correct numbers.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, please give us
25 the correct number.
26 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1,
27 three. District 2, ten. District 3, four. District 4,
28 seven. District 5, 13. District 6, 16. District 7, 13.
29 District 8, 1. District 9, seven. District 10, 16.
30 District 11, 17. District 12, 14. District 13, 13.
31 District 14 -- District 14, 13. District 15, 11.
32 District 16, 34. District 17, 33. District 19, 31.
33 District 20, 15. District 21, 25. District 22, 43.
34 District 23, 27. District 24, eight. District 25, 54.
35 District 26, 17.
36 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. It's 16.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Sherry Schneider
38 left.
39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 16
40 is -- no. 26. Okay. So 16. District 26, 16. Thank
41 you. District 27, 13. District 28, 25. District 29, 51.
42 District 30, eight, for a total of 551 -- 550. I'm sorry.
43 550. So 275 to elect.
44 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: 276. If you count
45 550, it's half plus one. It will have to be 276.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You were right the
47 first time Ruby, 276. Thank you, Ruby.
48 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You're
49 welcome.
50

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2014-2015

1
2
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We will now have the
4 elections. There is but one nominee for the office of
5 Department President, Harriet Clendenin. All those in
6 favor of electing Harriet Clendenin, please say aye.

7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
9 no.

10 (No response.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The ayes have it.
12 You have elected Harriet Clendenin as California
13 Department President for the year 2014-2015.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Congratulations,
16 Harriet.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We're not done yet,
19 Harriet. There is but one nominee for the office of
20 Department Vice President, Suzanne Tozier. All those in
21 favor of electing Suzanne Tozier Department Vice
22 President, please say aye.

23 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
25 no.

26 (No response.)

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The ayes have it.
28 You have elected Suzanne Tozier Vice President for the
29 year 2014-2015. Congratulations, Susie.

30 (Applause.)

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The election of
32 Junior Member of Finance, there is but one nominee for the
33 office of Junior Member, Susan Peters. All those in favor
34 of electing Susan Peters for Junior Member of Finance,
35 please say aye.

36 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.

38 (No response.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The ayes have it and
40 you have elected Susan Peters as Junior Member of Finance
41 for the year 2014-2015. Congratulations, Susan.

42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is but one
44 nominee for endorsement for the Office of Western Division
45 National Vice President, Linda Workman. All those in
46 favor of endorsing Linda Workman for the Office of Western
47 Division National Vice President, please say aye.

48 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
50 no.

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You have endorsed
3 Western Division National Vice President Linda Workman.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: 2015-2016.
6 Congratulations, Linda.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We shall now proceed
9 to the election of the delegates and alternates to the
10 National Convention. The secretary will now read
11 nominations to National Convention.
12 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Did you
13 want these read just by name and district?
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes.
15 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Did you
16 want them separated, delegates separated from the
17 alternates?
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, we're going to
19 elect the delegates first.
20 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Do
21 you want the passes too?
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: No passes. Just the
23 ones that are nominated.
24 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5,
25 Melanie Taylor. District 6, Wendy O'Brien. District 7,
26 Bonnie Bradbury. District 13, Sandy Jacob. District 14,
27 Gloria Sinopoli. District 15, Harriet Clendenin.
28 District 16, Linda Fercho. District 19, Tammy Sollazzo.
29 District 21, Marge Rye. District 22, Susie Tozier.
30 District 22, Virgie Goffney. District 23, Gloria
31 Williams. District 23, Anita Biggs. District 24, Deloris
32 Artis. District 25, Donna Scott. District 26, Linda
33 Workman. I should go back to, Madam President, to
34 District 25. District 25, Diane DeLashmit. District 27,
35 LuAnn Capazzi. District 29, Kendall Madsen. District 29,
36 Monica Toman, and District 29, Tami Bell.
37 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: You didn't say Gloria
38 Sinopoli.
39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yeah, I
40 did. District 14 I did say Gloria Sinopoli.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. There's a
42 question regarding Monica Toman.
43 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's in 21.
44 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm sorry.
45 Which one?
46 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Monica Toman.
47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
48 I move the ratification of the election of the delegates
49 to National Convention, Madam President.
50 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Second.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
2 and seconded to the delegates as read. All those in
3 favor.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
6 no.
7 (No response.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You have elected the
9 delegates for the National Convention.
10 (Applause.)
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The secretary will
12 now read the list of nominees for alternates to the
13 National Convention.
14 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 7,
15 Linda Harmon. District 7, Nancy Niles. District --
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's District 24,
17 Nancy Niles.
18 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm just
19 putting these people all over the place. Okay. My
20 apologies. District 13, Patricia McLeod. District 14,
21 Ellen McClurg. District 14, Melvita Mason. You know,
22 sorry. I was doing this at midnight.
23 District 14, Mary Leyser. District 15, Zana
24 Chaney. District 16, Madeline Lee. District 16, Vicki
25 Crow. District 16, Darlene Duncan. District 20, Gayle
26 Steward. No, no, 19. Sorry. Wrong line. And Jean
27 Cooley-Desmeules, District 19. District 22, June Coatney.
28 District 22, Lois Cornish. District 23, Jackie Cleveland.
29 District 23, Alzora Carter. District 24, Ruth Hackney.
30 District 26, Sherry Schneider. District 29, Jan Spriggs.
31 District 29, Shirley Greene.
32 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. 19.
33 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 19.
34 AUDIENCE MEMBER: 19. Sheridan Greene is in 19.
35 Sheridan.
36 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sherry. No
37 wonder I couldn't find her.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Sherry and then
39 Greene; right?
40 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Sheridan.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: S-H-E-R-I-D-A-N.
42 Thank you; I love her.
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Last but
44 not least, District 29, Cynthia Mayfield. I move the
45 ratification of the election of the alternates to National
46 Convention.
47 NEC WOMAN MIKESELL: Second.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
49 and seconded to elect our alternates as read. Is there
50 any discussion?

1 DELEGATE ARTIS: Madam President, Deloris Artis,
2 District 24. Did we put Nancy Niles back as an alternate
3 in District 24?
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes. She read her
5 name earlier. We corrected it.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I just read
7 it with District 7.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is there any further
9 discussion? All those in favor say aye.
10 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Opposed say no.
12 (No response.)
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You have elected the
14 alternates to the National Convention. As stated earlier
15 all alternates and delegates are expected to attend the
16 National Convention in Charlotte. Please pick up your
17 packets in the department headquarters and sign for them.
18 You will be assigned a preconvention meeting.
19 We will now proceed to ratify the election of the
20 District and Vice Presidents. Madam secretary, would you
21 please, district presidents?
22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1,
23 Pat Lindley. District 2, Barbara Dailey. District 3,
24 Lola Ramey. District 4, Lorinda Downen. District 5, Nancy
25 Evers. District 6, Maria Lopez. District 7, Janie
26 Bandera. District 8, Tammy Manini. District 9, Wendelin
27 Geltz. District 10, Gwenivere Woody. District 11, Mary
28 Adame. District 12, Kathy Smith. District 13, Donelda
29 Denny. District 14, Ellen McClurg. District 15, Dee Ann
30 Graham. District 16, Karen Munch. District 18, Laura
31 Bradshaw.
32 (Applause.)
33 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
34 19, Becky Bullard.
35 (Applause.)
36 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
37 20, Carol McChesney. District 21, Brenda Wardrip.
38 (Applause.)
39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
40 22, June Coatney.
41 (Applause.)
42 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
43 23, Helen Barber.
44 (Applause.)
45 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
46 24, Ruth Hackney.
47 (Applause.)
48 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
49 25, Gabrielle Rowland.
50 (Applause.)

1 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
2 26, Dolly Vitangeles.
3 (Appause.)
4 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
5 27, Vella Myers.
6 (Appause.)
7 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
8 28, Susan Baker.
9 (Appause.)
10 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 29
11 Elizabeth Tomlin.
12 (Appause.)
13 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
14 30, Kim Vincent. District 30, Kim Vincent?
15 (Appause.)
16 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I move the
17 ratification of the election of these District Presidents
18 for 2014-'15.
19 NEC WOMAN MIKESELL: Second.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
21 and seconded that we ratify the election of the District
22 -- oh, we have a correction. I'm sorry.
23 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: District 11 is
24 not Mary Adame. It's Maria Adame.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, that's two
26 different people.
27 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: On District 11.
28 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Maria.
29 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: Maria Adame, not
30 Mary Adame.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, so those are
32 two different women. Not Mary. She would be very mad.
33 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: Thank you.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I know Mary.
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you,
36 Beverly. District 11 is Maria Adame, A-D-A-M-E; right?
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah.
38 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I apologize
39 for that.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. It has been
41 moved and seconded that we ratify the election of the
42 district presidents. Is there any discussion?
43 (No response.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
45 say aye.
46 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
48 no.
49 (No response.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You have ratified

1 the election of the district presidents.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madam Secretary,
4 please read the names of the District First Vice
5 Presidents Elect.
6 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1,
7 Carol Brown. District 2, Nancy Johnson. District 3,
8 Rosemarie Bejeck. District 4, Elsa Johnson. District 5,
9 Norma Harrison. District 6, Romona Tafoya.
10 (Applause.)
11 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 7,
12 Bonnie Chavoya. District 8, Kathleen Sullivan. District
13 9, Helaine Dolly Rios. District 10, Maria Cruz.
14 (Applause.)
15 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
16 11, Toni Domondon. District 12, Ann Kelley. District 13,
17 Patricia McLeod. District 14, Rosalie Taylor. District
18 15, Rebecca Hester. District 16, Tracy Varnell.
19 (Applause.)
20 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
21 18, Melinda Mindy Sinclair.
22 (Applause.)
23 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
24 19, Diana Livas.
25 (Applause.)
26 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
27 20, Hila Estrada. District 21, Judy Bendzala.
28 (Applause.)
29 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
30 22, April Kochur.
31 (Applause.)
32 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 23
33 Phyllis Ma --
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Mahey.
35 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Mahey.
36 (Applause.)
37 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
38 District 24, Deloris Artis.
39 (Applause.)
40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
41 25, Tamra Duron.
42 (Applause.)
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26
44 does not have a first vice at this time.
45 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: We have
46 unofficially officially. We unofficially have one.
47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
48 Unofficially do you want to put a name here?
49 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Sure.
50 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I don't

1 know -- how can you have it unofficially?
2 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: We just talked
3 her into it.
4 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh. Are
5 you going to caucus? Do you want to put a name down here?
6 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Sure. Arlene
7 Mueller, M-U-E-L-L-E-R.
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Run that by
9 me, Louann, again.
10 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Arlene Mueller,
11 M-U-E-L-L-E-R.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Was this young lady
13 elected?
14 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Yes.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You just need that
16 she officially was elected.
17 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Now if you
18 believe that, I'll sell you the Brooklyn Bridge.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We have a National
20 President sitting over there. I'm not going to say
21 anything.
22 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Hey, we got
23 to obey what the National President says; right? She made
24 us do it. District 27, Danielle White. District 28,
25 Janet Love.
26 (Applause.)
27 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
28 29, Cynthia Mayfield.
29 (Applause.)
30 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
31 30, Belen Telford. I don't know whether you're running
32 out of energy or you just don't have the timing down.
33 Madam President, I move to ratify the election of the
34 First Vice Presidents.
35 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Second.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
37 and seconded that we ratify the election of the District
38 First Vice Presidents. Is there any discussion?
39 (No response.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
41 say aye.
42 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
44 no.
45 (No response.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You have ratified
47 the election of the First Vice Presidents.
48 (Applause.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madam Secretary,
50 please read the list of the Districts' Second Vice

1 Presidents Elect.
2 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1,
3 Doris Pickney. Those Ps and me don't get along. District
4 2, Sharon Tucker. District 3, Wendy Jacobs. District 4,
5 Jean Edson. District 5, Sandy Paxton. District 6, Glenda
6 Schultz.
7 (Applause.)
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 7,
9 Linda Heron; is that correct? Heron? District 8, Theresa
10 Canonizado. I'm sorry. C-A-N-O-N-I-Z-A-D-O. You guys
11 are really challenging me. Well, you know what it is.
12 District 9, Rosemarie Moreno. District 10,
13 Leonarda Estigoy. District 11, Kirsten Kiss Anderson.
14 (Applause.)
15 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
16 12, Donna Hedstrom. District 13, CeeCee Harvey.
17 District -- District 14, Karen Varner. District 15, Zana
18 Chaney. District 16, Terry Oclara.
19 (Applause.)
20 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
21 18, Gayle Poleah.
22 (Applause.)
23 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
24 19, Nancy Rainer.
25 (Applause.)
26 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 20
27 has no name entered for second vice.
28 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE: We're working on it.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. It's not
30 going to be Bonnie Christner.
31 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
32 21, Susan Romero.
33 (Applause.)
34 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
35 22, Donna Smith.
36 (Applause.)
37 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
38 23, Patricia Patrick.
39 (Applause.)
40 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
41 24, Beatriz Huppert.
42 (Applause.)
43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
44 25, Maria Grenado.
45 (Applause.)
46 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
47 26, Leslie Tazeni.
48 (Applause.)
49 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
50 27, Joyce Kerwick. District 28, Hazel Rodriguez.

1 (Applause.)
2 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
3 29, Jean Sudbeck.
4 (Applause.)
5 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District
6 30, Loretta Wine.
7 (Applause.)
8 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam
9 President, I move to ratify the election of the Second
10 Vice Presidents.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
12 and seconded that we ratify the election of the District
13 Second Vice Presidents. Is there any discussion?
14 (No response.)
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
16 say aye.
17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those opposed
19 say no.
20 (No response.)
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You have ratified
22 the election of the District Second Vice Presidents.
23 (Applause.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This concludes --
25 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam
26 Department Vice President, may I have the point of
27 privilege thanking the Election Committee, Liz Doidge and
28 Carol Fuqua and her helpers Odette Cuccaro and Lois
29 Cornish for doing an outstanding job.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This concludes the
33 elections and the Pages may open the doors now.
34 Before I present the elected officials, I would
35 like to acknowledge one of our National Representatives
36 who made their way here. Our National Vice Chairman for
37 Cavalcade of Memories, Ms. Lou Thompson, our Past
38 Department President as well.
39 (Applause.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Secretary. Slip of
41 the tongue. They didn't hear that. Will all the newly
42 elected department officers come to the stage to be
43 presented. It gives me great pleasure to present to you
44 our newly elected department officers for 2014-2015.
45 Department President Harriet Clendenin.
46 (Applause.)
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Department Vice
48 President Suzanne "Susie" Tozier.
49 (Applause.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Junior Member of

1 Finance, Susan Peters.
2 (Applause.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Endorsed candidate
4 Western Division National Vice President Linda Workman.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We appreciate you.
7 We are congratulating you, ladies. You can take a few
8 photos here, but please move back to the flag for a
9 beautiful background photo. Congratulations to you all.
10 (Applause.)
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Officers, could you
12 come here. Come here before you come back. Come here.
13 Group hug. I can't leave the podium. Congratulations
14 again.
15 (Applause.)
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We're going to
17 continue with some of our committee reports. Our
18 Convention Chairman Theresa Jacob, and then we can put --
19 I think we can squeeze in Leadership and Public Relations.
20 After the Convention -- after the Convention Report we
21 need -- we really need to finish Girls State. So after
22 Convention Report it will be Girls State, and then if we
23 can squeeze in Leadership and the Juniors, we'll do that.
24 We're ready for you Theresa.
25 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: Ready?
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We're ready. Please
27 calm down, ladies. The Convention Chairman is reporting
28 we need you to be seated. Thank you.
29
30 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN REPORT
31
32 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: Madam President
33 Anita, like all the Convention Chairmen before me --
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Excuse me. I can
35 still hear chatter. Thank you.
36 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: All right. I'll
37 start again. Madam President Anita, like all the
38 Convention Chairmen that have come before me, I have to
39 say that it has been an honor and privilege, but I am so,
40 so very glad that we're bouncing right along and are
41 almost at the final buzzer.
42 We are so happy to have everyone here in Santa
43 Clara for the 2013-'14 Department Convention. The past
44 four years of planning and a year of actually working on
45 President Anita's theme for the luncheon and the banquet
46 have been a great amount of fun.
47 As the Legion Convention Chairman stated
48 yesterday at opening, we hope you enjoy the weather and
49 the good times. I hope that you make new friends, renew
50 friendships, and learn something new to take home to your

1 units.

2 President Anita, you're going to be receiving a
3 package in the mail from this Convention Committee in the
4 next week with your gifts, as of now it's sitting on
5 Sandy's table at home because I didn't want to mess up the
6 wrapping and the bow.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay.

8 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: With your permission,
9 I would like to thank the ladies of the 2nd area again for
10 all their hard work. And I would really like to be able
11 to point out just a few of the ladies that I could not
12 have done this without. Sandy Jacob, my co-chairman and
13 obviously the person who listened to my crazy ideas and
14 did not say no right away. She says no a lot, but --
15 Cindy Newman who did the signs, the flag stands, and the
16 district poles for me. Sandy and Maryann from District
17 28, for everything that you ladies did, for keeping the
18 district in the loop. You guys rock.

19 Dorothy Castillo, from District 10, you're
20 amazing. The woman can get donations. If you all need
21 help, go to her. Nadine Grundstrum, thank you for working
22 the raffle table. Cherie Galvan, Cherie Whitaker, thank
23 you for everything. Susan Peters for arranging the
24 juniors. And of course all these wonderful junior pages
25 running around here.

26 (Applause.)

27 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: And the last person I
28 would like to thank is my second mother, Linda Workman,
29 for telling me that there is no way I was going home to
30 try and bake for all of you ladies. We hope that you
31 enjoy yourselves here in Santa Clara. Please do not
32 hesitate to let us know if you need anything. We are here
33 for you and we want you to have a great convention.

34 Madam President, I do have one special
35 presentation for you. And the ladies that have their
36 flags, those of you who have been at convention for years
37 and years might remember these. These are the bands that
38 go on the flags that say that you brought your flags to
39 our Legion convention. Our Legion Convention Committee
40 made these for us and donated them to us.

41 (Applause.)

42 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: And so I have the
43 ones for your district and your unit flags.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Fabulous.

45 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN JACOB: And so, ladies, those
46 will be delivered to you by the pages.

47 (Applause.)

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you so much,
49 Theresa. Give her a great big round of applause. Great
50 work.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Girls State. Linda
3 Hayes, will you please come forward to complete your
4 report. After that we'll have -- I'm going to do the
5 Juniors first, Wendy, and then Leadership. You've been
6 bumped down a little so Junior Activities, please prepare
7 to come to the stage to do your report.
8 Which code change are we on?
9 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: 20E.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: A or E?
11 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: E as in Edward.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You're correct, 20E.
13 Please talk in the mic, Linda.
14

15 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN REPORT (Resumed)

16
17 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Madam President
18 Anita, with your permission and for the sake of time, all
19 housekeeping changes were approved in committee and will
20 be turned in and we will just go forward with the
21 remaining changes.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you have my
23 permission.
24 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Okay. And, Madam
25 President, by direction of the Girls State committee, I
26 move to rescind the code change on 20E which was approved
27 yesterday. It's the third page.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You consulted
29 committee prior to approving Code 20E. Can you give me
30 the direction of the committee with regard to that code?
31 Is that -- do you mean that there will be no change? If
32 there's no change to the code, you don't need to present
33 it.
34 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: It was changed again
35 in the committee after we were called in the back. We did
36 some more work on the changes.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. So you want
38 to rescind your motion?
39 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Yes.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay.
41 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: The proposed change
42 will read: No. I'm sorry. Underneath. Code 20E
43 currently reads: "Has the responsibility of carefully
44 checking parent's release, application form, and ensure
45 that all questions are completely answered and the
46 required signatures have been obtained before forwarding
47 papers to Department Chairman and fee to Department
48 Office."
49 The proposed change will read: "Has the
50 responsibility of carefully checking the signature page to

1 ensure that all the required signatures have been obtained
2 by receiving the signature page from the candidate before
3 forwarding the signature page to the Department Chairman
4 and the fee to department office."

5 We changed the "parent's release." The
6 rationale, we changed the wording "parent's release"
7 application form to "signature page." We changed "and" to
8 "to." Removed the phrase "are completely answered and the
9 required signatures" and in their place added "by
10 receiving the signature page from the candidate," replaced
11 the words "papers to Department" to read "signature page,"
12 and remove the "S" from "fees."

13 Madam Department President, by direction of the
14 committee I move for acceptance of this code change.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There is a proposed
16 code change 20E as directed by the Girls State committee:
17 "Has the responsibility of carefully checking the
18 signature page to ensure that all the required signatures
19 have been obtained by receiving the signature page from
20 the candidate before forwarding the signature page to the
21 Department Chairman and the fee to Department Office."

22 Is there any discussion?

23 (No response.)

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

26 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
28 no.

29 (No response.)

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

31 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Code 27 currently
32 reads --

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: What about 21?

34 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Pardon?

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you changing 21?

36 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: No, 27.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Does that mean that
38 they're deleted and they're not going to change?

39 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: No.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. We did not
41 vote to change them? I'm asking did the committee vote to
42 not change them? Did the committee vote not to change
43 these now?

44 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Not from what the
45 proposed change will be. I was under the impression that
46 they were all voted on yesterday.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. These are the
48 housekeeping ones?

49 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Oh, yes.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Thank you.

1 Okay. Thank you.

2 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: 27: "A \$50
3 registration fee shall be required from each candidate
4 attending Girls State. This fee to be paid by the
5 delegate, her parents, or guardian. In case of hardship,
6 the fee can be paid by the unit, district, school, and/or
7 outside source, but must be paid no later than the
8 deadline date when the fees are due from the unit to the
9 department."

10 The proposed change will read: "A \$50
11 registration fee shall be required from each candidate
12 attending Girls State. This fee to be paid by the
13 delegate, her parents, or guardian. In case of hardship,
14 the fee can be paid by the unit, district, school, and/or
15 outside source, but must be paid no later than March 31st
16 when the fees are due from the unit to the department."

17 And the rationale is we're replacing the deadline
18 date with March 31st. Madam Department President, by
19 direction of the committee I move for acceptance of this
20 code change.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Before I can proceed
22 with your motion, you stated the word "candidate" instead
23 of as it is written "delegate" twice. You said that
24 twice, but however the code indicates delegate. Is that
25 what you meant to say?

26 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Yes, ma'am.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. By the
28 direction of the Girls State Committee, change the code to
29 27, the proposed change will read: "A \$50 registration
30 fee shall be required from each delegate attending Girls
31 State. This fee is to be paid by the delegate, her
32 parents, or guardian. In case of hardship, the fee can be
33 paid by the unit, district, school, and/or outside source,
34 but must be paid no later than March 31 when the fees are
35 due from the unit to the department."

36 Is there any discussion?

37 (No response.)

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
39 say aye.

40 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.
42 (No response.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The motion carried.

44 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Madam President, in
45 conclusion of the report of the Girls State committee
46 meeting, I'll move for its acceptance. And, Madam
47 President, may I continue with the supplemental the
48 report?

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.
50 (Applause.)

1 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: That's the hoop.
2 Good morning, Madam Department President.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Good morning.

4 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Again. The year
5 began with the Girls State Committee meeting in September
6 which was held in Laguna Beach overlooking the Pacific
7 Ocean. In an effort to keep the cost of Girls State down,
8 Nurse Elizabeth and her mother offered the use of their
9 beautiful home. The best part of this location was eating
10 lunch on the patio with a magnificent view. It was great.

11 Soon reservation forms began to arrive, well past
12 the deadline date of October 1st. In fact, the last
13 registration received came right along with the Girls
14 State application in April. Before I knew it it was time
15 to begin receiving applications. This chairman was
16 inundated and overrun with tons of paperwork. My computer
17 took a look at all the work ahead of us and ended up with
18 the Geek Squad, not once, not twice, but three times.

19 Upon return after spending enough money to buy
20 two or three more computers and inviting Dr. Microsoft in
21 to observe her, she finally took a turn for the better and
22 came back to life after 11 hours of intensive surgery
23 through a remote overhaul.

24 Many, many thanks going out to fellow committee
25 member Elissa Kirkland. She took time out of her day to
26 travel to Palmdale meet me at Post 348 where we
27 immediately took over the pool table, covering it in six
28 heavy tubs, boxes of file folders, and set up camp for the
29 remainder of the day and on into the evening, finally
30 deciding to call it a night around 9:00 p.m. Two unit
31 members also pitched in, Rosie Parra and Carol McChesney.
32 I can't begin to tell you how much I appreciated their
33 help. Elissa was kind enough to come a second time.

34 This time my husband, Richard, helped us out. We
35 worked another solid day right into the evening. And I
36 really am not sure if it was his beautiful bride or an
37 overwhelming desire to get those tubs of paper out of his
38 living room.

39 Elissa took all the applications home with her
40 and has worked many more hours on them. She's not with us
41 this week, but I know she deserves more than a thank you
42 from me.

43 (Applause.)

44 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: This is a job that
45 requires many, many hours of intensive work. When you
46 think about it, we have 520 girls who will be attending
47 Girls State in less than two days. 520 applications times
48 an eight-page application, throw in copies of physicals,
49 one to five more pieces of paper, copies of insurance
50 cards, another 800 more applications from the first and

1 second alternates, times a minimum of ten pages for most.
2 If you take time to figure it out, we are talking about 30
3 reams of paper. Add to that are all the phone calls, the
4 emails, and additional missing paperwork that's being
5 mailed.

6 Now we are drawing close to the first day of
7 Girls State. The committee members are arriving tomorrow,
8 for some, one more day, and we will realize what all this
9 hard work has accomplished. I am so looking forward to
10 the week ahead of us, the 71st Girls State Session. I am
11 truly excited to meet and spend a week with California's
12 top-notch young women.

13 I was honored by being invited to five of the --
14 two Girls State teas where I met a few of them in advance.
15 Unfortunately I was unable to attend -- excuse me.
16 Unfortunately I was able to attend only two because some
17 dates conflicted.

18 Wow, the young women I met were so impressive.
19 It is impossible not to admire them, their goals, and who
20 they will become in the near future. On my way to
21 convention on Wednesday afternoon, I received a phone call
22 from California Assemblyman Alvarez 's representative. He
23 said that the assemblyman was interested in knowing more
24 about the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program.
25 He asked a lot of questions, asked about the girls'
26 desires in the future and what they were looking forward
27 to getting from their week of participation in the Girls
28 State program.

29 I left him with a sense of how important this
30 program is and what it does for these girls and what it
31 means to the American Legion Auxiliary to be able to
32 provide this experience to some of California's top-notch
33 girls.

34 It has been a great year with many surprises. It
35 has been an interesting learning experience for this Girls
36 State Chairman. Through the many months of preparation,
37 trials, and tribulations, I thank you, Madam President,
38 for all of your support and encouragement. I also thank
39 co-committee members, Val Hardy and Elissa Kirkland and
40 Elizabeth. I was trying to say her name, but I couldn't.
41 I'm sorry.

42 Thank you, Madam President, for giving me this
43 opportunity. There are no words to express my sincere
44 appreciation for the honor you have given me. Linda
45 Hayes.

46 (Applause.)

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. Did you
48 want to acknowledge the rest of the committee that are
49 here?

50 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: Pardon?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Did you want to
2 acknowledge the rest of the committee that are here?

3 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN HAYES: To introduce them?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah. Do you want
5 to have them stand? Would the committees who are here
6 please stand up. And our Assistant Girls State Director
7 Linda Fercho right here in front.

8 (Applause.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you very much.
10 Elizabeth Tomlin is our nurse. Thank you, Liz. Diane is
11 an assistant nurse. She's like an assistant nurse. You
12 are an assistant nurse. I know you're not, but you're an
13 assistant nurse. We just want to say your name. We like
14 your name. She said her job consists as the assistant
15 nurse to hand out Band-Aids and tampons. And many, many
16 trips to the emergency room.

17 Who did I say were going to be next? Juniors.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Stacey Smith.

20
21 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES REPORT

22
23 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Man, I feel
24 like I don't know what I should do here.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Put that closer to
26 you.

27 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Good? Okay.
28 Madam President, unfortunately I was not able to attend
29 the Junior Activities/Junior Conference Committee meeting
30 on Thursday June 19th held in Room 202 of the Hyatt in
31 Santa Clara. However, Jackie is so awesome she's already
32 met with me and given me the information of what occurred
33 during the meeting.

34 Ashley Bolingshead was appointed the secretary
35 and Julie Miller offered prayer. [Inaudible] was
36 appointed Sergeant-At-Arms. Sorry. A total of 22
37 districts answered roll calls and there were four visitors
38 present. No code changes and no resolutions. And
39 recommendations were to encourage units and districts to
40 have junior activity members. The meeting ended at 9:55
41 a.m. Second and third place awards were given in
42 committee meeting.

43 We did have one recommendation from a district
44 chairman, and that was to distinguish the line on the unit
45 report form as to whether or not they bought junior
46 conference tickets and a separate line for any donations
47 to junior activities or junior conference and a dollar
48 amount. We will put that in the procedure book or on the
49 flash drive for the next chairman.

50 The statistical report for junior activities can

1 be found on page 20 of the Book of Reports. Yet, after
2 reporting the numbers to the department, several more
3 district reporters were received so the numbers are not
4 quite the same as what was sent to the National Chairman.

5 May I give my supplement report and first place
6 awards?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

8 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you. In
9 keeping with Madam President's them, Honoring Our
10 Opportunity to Provide Services, we started the year by
11 asking the Dribblers to focus on the patch program and as
12 well as to take the Mean Stinks "Gang Up For Good" pinkie
13 swear.

14 Unfortunately, not many of the Unit for District
15 chairmen paid attention to the instructions for the patch
16 program to send their patch program completed sheets to
17 me. Every district received a packet at midyear with
18 these sheets as well as an explanation about how to handle
19 the patch program. Although with all but nine districts
20 reporting, there were 29 red level patches earned, 57 gold
21 level patches earned, and 16 blue level patches earned, we
22 cannot present those patches today as they could not be
23 ordered in time from National without the completed
24 sheets. So in order to receive the patches from National
25 in time for convention and not to disappoint those
26 Dribblers who did send their patch sheets, we will hand
27 those out today.

28 Also disappointing to this chairman was that not
29 one unit supplemental or district supplemental reported
30 anything about the pinkie swear even after handing out
31 blue nail polish at midyear meeting and small "Gang Up for
32 Good" slips to remind everybody about the program. That
33 was one of the focuses of National.

34 Since bullying is an aggressive behavior that
35 involves negative actions and an imbalance of power, we
36 may even be able to use some of their tips, tools and
37 resources within our own units and districts and not just
38 for the juniors since we all need to change our thoughts
39 and behavior at some time or another.

40 To take the pinkie swear, just paint your pinkie
41 nail blue in a show of peace and solidarity to keep mean
42 out of your group. Let everyone who asks about your blue
43 pinkie know what it's all about and just think how we can
44 make a change in the world. We can all join in the
45 movement to stop bullying.

46 On a more positive note, California Dribblers
47 have been encouraged by many of the senior members.
48 You've shown them how to make a poppy. You've encouraged
49 them to tutor in a subject they did well with. You've
50 taught them flag etiquette. You've taught them about the

1 American Legion Auxiliary and you've asked them or helped
2 them write thank you cards and letters to our active duty
3 military. You were able to keep your Dribblers busy all
4 year with the participation in parades, bake sales, stand
5 downs, collecting canned goods, car washes, pocket flag
6 project, packing boxes to go overseas, and collecting
7 school supplies.

8 The California Junior Dribblers went straight to
9 work at the beginning of the Auxiliary year by Giving 10
10 to Education, participating in craft fairs, selling baked
11 goods and plants as fundraisers, and making no-sew
12 blankets for veterans at a veterans medical center. They
13 continued to work in local food banks, collecting clothes
14 for homeless shelters and volunteering at the SPCA Humane
15 Society.

16 On Memorial Day 2013, juniors could be found
17 assisting their units and districts honoring our deceased
18 veterans with placing over 1800 flags on veterans' grave
19 sites after securing poppies to the top of each flag,
20 leading the Pledge of Allegiance for the program, and
21 distributing poppies to attendees.

22 Junior Dribblers have volunteered at 9/11
23 ceremonies by leading patriotic sing-alongs, leading the
24 pledge, reciting the In Flanders Field poem, and even
25 helping a lost child find his parents when they became
26 lost during the candle lighting ceremony.

27 For Halloween, juniors organized and attended a
28 reverse trick or treat at the local veterans hospital.
29 The pirates, princesses, cowgirls and doctors paraded the
30 halls of the blind center and the nursing home handing out
31 handmade thank you cards, pens, ChapStick, sugar-free
32 candies, lotions and diabetic socks.

33 Christmas found juniors adopting families with
34 their units, posts, and Sons Squadrons to supply toys and
35 food for families along with decorated Christmas trees and
36 grocery gift cards. Juniors of several units have started
37 their own Facebook page coordinated by senior members.
38 They've made decorated flower pots and planted them with
39 small plants for Earth Day, then delivered to the local
40 veterans home.

41 Showing sportsmanship, sharing and teamwork, our
42 California Dribblers have been able to help senior members
43 with electronic social networking. Amen. To hear the
44 juniors tell the stories, many seniors needed more help
45 than originally thought and some of the juniors even
46 thought it quite silly that grownups didn't understand
47 texting, e-mailing, and how to put a picture on an email
48 or to even download the picture. There should be at least
49 75 California senior members who are now more
50 knowledgeable with the internet, Facebook texting, Twitter

1 and Adobe Photoshop. One Junior even taught members of
2 her unit how to use the iPhone and iPad, and she is only
3 five years old.

4 (Applause.)

5 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Unfortunately
6 the names of the junior were not provided and no pictures
7 were submitted.

8 California can boast of junior members in Oregon,
9 Alaska, Africa and Australia who celebrated the 4th of
10 July with traditional American food, sparklers and
11 American patriotic music. They collected Toys for Tots
12 and were happy when the Marines received and thanked them
13 for the toys. One out-of-state junior helped shovel snow
14 for a neighbor so they could use their front door walkway.
15 Thank God for California weather.

16 Another junior asked her grandmother to speak to
17 her eighth grade class about what she experienced as a
18 World War II prisoner of war in the Philippines. The
19 presentation lasted an hour and a half including student
20 questions.

21 Special accolades were given to one unit's
22 members who has 11 senior members who are former juniors
23 and four of those have served as district presidents, two
24 have been department presidents, and one is in line to be
25 department president. One is a candidate for Western
26 Division National Vice President. Two served as honorary
27 department presidents and the one who served as the first
28 Department of California Honorary Junior President
29 currently serves as our National President.

30 (Applause.)

31 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Isn't that a
32 testament to the junior program? Another junior traveled
33 with her family from Africa to visit the Christmas
34 holidays and they led everyone in traditional African
35 songs in Swahili.

36 Many units reported that their juniors
37 participated in the pocket flag project and the veterans
38 history project. Some will also be volunteering at local
39 veterans medical centers and California veterans homes.

40 The Department of California juniors are ready to
41 play harder than they ever played when they attend our
42 annual junior conference in April and they are committed
43 to giving 110 percent themselves in the final half of the
44 game. Truly your California Dribblers have worked hard at
45 Honoring Our Opportunity to Provide Services to our
46 veterans communities and children.

47 Madam President, may I present the first place
48 awards?

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

50 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Best district

1 supplemental, District 22 Annette Grimsley and Virgie
2 Goffney, co-chairmen.
3 (Applause.)
4 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Are they not
5 here? Man, and I told them they had to be here. Okay.
6 Well, we'll get them there. We wrapped the certificates
7 in jerseys. Here comes Susie.
8 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I've got to lose all that
9 candy weight.
10 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you.
11 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay; I can breathe.
12 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Best unit
13 supplement, Unit 742, District 21, Susan Romero, chairman.
14 (Applause.)
15 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Are we good?
16 Best junior community service program, District 22,
17 Annette Grimsley and Virgie Goffney, co-chairmen.
18 (Applause.)
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Unit selling the
20 most junior conference tickets, Unit 359, District 19.
21 (Applause.)
22 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: This is my
23 momma dragon lady. I love her. Here you go. Oh, my
24 goodness. District junior selling the most junior
25 conference tickets, Unit 277, my godfather, Jordyn Piane.
26 (Applause.)
27 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you all
28 who purchased junior conference tickets and supported the
29 junior conference with your donations. Patches for the
30 program successfully completed for all areas, Unit 277,
31 District 29, Viviana Sanford, Jordyn Piane and Valentine
32 Sanford. A list of their awards will be at the department
33 office. Is DejaNae right there?
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Little DejaNae or
35 DejaNae the president?
36 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. Mom,
37 can you get the -- sorry. At this time I'd like to make a
38 really short presentation to our really tall president.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Let me put my really
40 tall shoes on. Thank you.
41 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you so
42 much and --
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you so much.
45 You are a doll, one of our juniors who's grown into a
46 beautiful woman. I really appreciate you Stacey and all
47 of your hard work. That was a great junior conference for
48 Jackie as well. It was actually fantastic.
49 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you done with

1 your report? Excuse me. Are you done with your report?

2 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SMITH: I'm done with
3 my report. I don't know about Jackie.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Jackie Cleveland,
5 junior conference director.

6
7 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR REPORT

8
9 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Good
10 morning. What an awesome junior conference. So many
11 exciting things happened. Our Honorary Junior President
12 wanted to go out with a bang. She spent many long hours
13 working and helping to plan the conference. One special
14 project was a design of the junior conference T-shirt.

15 She had a challenge, every junior to bring a
16 junior will receive a prize. And it worked. We had 14
17 new juniors and they truly enjoyed it. Also three new
18 counselors. And we had so many juniors that we did not
19 have transportation for all of them.

20 One parent, Mr. Solomon, had a 15-passenger van.
21 His statement to me was he supports the juniors every
22 year, so you take the van and go. What a blessing. No
23 junior was left behind. Thank Madam President Anita for
24 being a chauffeur.

25 (Applause.)

26 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Our
27 juniors learned about major programs and how to make
28 poppies. What a wonderful story. Diana Livas worked
29 magic. We had over \$2,000 in merchandise thanks to the
30 pig and all the units, districts, and all other donations
31 that we received.

32 Now it's election time for the officers
33 2014-2015. Congratulations to Maya Novicki, Honorary
34 Junior President from District 24 and Paige Solomon,
35 Honorary Junior Vice President from District 23. Best
36 wishes to DejaNae Trimble, our outgoing honorary
37 president. We have four juniors going to National, two as
38 National Officers, and two that represented the Department
39 of California.

40 (Applause.)

41 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: I think
42 that's an honor. The graduation made me shed tears. Six
43 juniors were leaving. Most of them have been with me
44 since the age of ten and now they're 18. I encouraged
45 them to be devoted senior members as they were as junior
46 members.

47 Thank you, Madam President, for the appointment.
48 It was a great experience and a joy to work with you. I'd
49 like to deviate a little bit. First of all, I would like
50 to ask Diane Livas to come up. I have a special

1 presentation.

2 DELEGATE LIVAS: Go juniors. You all were
3 wondering about this. Do I have my pigs out there on the
4 floor, ladies? Juniors, get it going, girls. Here you
5 go. Hold on.

6 Madam President, I would like to say thank you
7 for believing in the future of our juniors. It has been
8 and continues to be a passion of mine not only of love for
9 the program, but passion and hope that one day we, the
10 unit, the district, and department leaders build our
11 junior program. Our organization's future depends upon
12 this growth.

13 This year with the help of our members we were
14 able to buy the needed supplies for our junior store. The
15 juniors enjoyed earning points for participating in
16 conference and at the junior store. Junior conference is
17 a part of educating and molding our future Auxiliary
18 leaders. The points earned help us to encourage our
19 juniors to learn about the American Legion Auxiliary, the
20 past, the present, and to develop our future programs. We
21 stand before this body in hopes of gaining your support on
22 behalf of junior conference.

23 The juniors here at convention are passing the
24 pigs asking for a donation to help purchase the flights
25 for junior conference. Please, ladies, please, reach deep
26 into your pockets, pull out your change and feed the pigs.
27 The pigs need to be fed to grow big and strong just as our
28 juniors.

29 And since our current women are such wise people.
30 Excuse me. A wise owl will be passed to them for feeding.
31 Please, leaders. Please show our members how big our
32 junior owls can get, maybe even bigger than the pigs.
33 Thank you.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, Diana.

35 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: The
36 committee members consisted of Molly Smith and Diane. Of
37 course I couldn't have done a lot of things without
38 Estella Avina. Madam President Anita, with your
39 permission, I would like to ask our National President to
40 come down front with our juniors. Also you, Madam
41 President, I'd like to come -- I'd like for you to come
42 down front.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madam Vice
44 President, can you please assume my chair?

45 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Are you
46 ready, juniors? Let's hit it.

47 (Music playing.)

48 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Madam
49 Department President, you're supposed to dance. Okay.
50 Juniors, get out there and show her.

1 (Applause.)
2 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Okay.
3 Thank you, juniors. Okay. I did want to say one thing to
4 show our juniors what can be done if you continue to be an
5 American Legion Auxiliary member. Nancy was our very
6 first Honorary Junior Past President in 1964. So see what
7 you can do.
8 (Applause.)
9 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: I thank
10 you again. I thank you again for everyone who has
11 supported our program, but don't forget to feed the pig
12 for next year. Next year we'll need \$3,000 because we're
13 going to have more kids going into junior conference next
14 year. I don't know where our new president is. Maya is
15 here someplace. She's here.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, ladies.
17 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Oh,
18 there's Maya Novicki.
19 (Processional.)
20 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Madam
21 President, may I present something to ---- Madam
22 President, I'd like to thank you again for this
23 appointment even though you worked me to death. But it's
24 over now and I thank God for you. Thank you.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You did a great job.
26 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: May we
27 present something to you? And you can push down this
28 envelope and not open it. Madam President, on behalf of
29 the juniors, all of the juniors, we'd like for you to open
30 that and show you what we have. Now you must turn the
31 back of it.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's got my name
33 here in the corner.
34 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: DejaNae
35 begged her aunt to make that last Friday night.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, love.
37 Thank you.
38 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Jolina has
39 something for her.
40 JUNIOR MEMBER JOLINA: Madam Department of
41 California President, thank you for everything and for
42 supporting me.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You're so welcome.
44 I love you, Jolina. Oh, you're going to cry. Don't cry.
45 (Applause.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There's no crying.
47 JUNIOR MEMBER JOLINA: And my Department of
48 California Junior President, we had a great year and --
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, my goodness,
50 they're crying. Girls, turn those tears into joy. Thank

1 you so much. Thank you so much, Jackie.

2 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Madam
3 President, that concludes my report.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. Great
5 report. However, at this time we would like to have our
6 newly elected Honorary Department of California Junior
7 President Maya Novicki District 24, Unit 43 in Hollywood.
8 (Processional.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm so proud of you.
10 I remember our very first junior conference with very
11 short hair and very shy. And she goes, "I don't even know
12 what I was thinking with that short hair." You look
13 fantastic. Would you like to say -- aren't you going to
14 Girls State? And she's going to Girls State this week.

15 HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT NOVICKI: Hi
16 everyone. I'm glad to be here. Thank you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's very shy. And
18 her mom is here, Heather. Heather, wave. District 24.
19 Thank you so much, love. We got your back. Very proud of
20 you. We'll see you soon in convention. Or actually at
21 Girls State. We'll see you at Girls State. Thank you.
22 Give her a big round of applause.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We're going to get
25 rid of that shyness. Okay. We're going to have to break
26 for lunch. We've done quite well. We're trying to catch
27 up. We'll try to get some more catching up done this
28 afternoon. Leadership, poppy, VA&R. We won't go any
29 further.

30 I want you to know that after we return from
31 lunch, we will have our Dream Team Shooting H.O.O.P.S. on
32 Parade around the inside of this room with costumes or
33 your outfits. Please be prepared to join us. And I told
34 you who would be coming immediately following the Dream
35 Team parade. We are in recess until 1:30.

36 Oh, I'm sorry. We're not in recess because we
37 must hear from our Acting Secretary because there may be
38 some dribbles that you need to hear.

39 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam
40 Department President, I want to --

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Please. We're not
42 at recess yet. I'm sorry.

43 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Barbara
44 LaDoucer has donated three pictures of the American Legion
45 Auxiliary Convention in 1947.

46 (Applause.)

47 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: For our
48 historical archives in the department office. And I'd
49 like to encourage the department presidents to consider
50 framing, the cost of framing. Because, I mean, it would

1 be a shame. They're just -- look at the amount of people
2 and they're up here to display. They're in an
3 amphitheater and there's thousands of people. And so
4 anyway, if you would consider that. And I thank Barbara
5 LaDoucer for the donation.

6 Also Lou Thompson has come into the assembly and
7 Lou --

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Speak in the
9 microphone, Ruby. We can't hear you.

10 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I owe Lou
11 -- the Department of California, not me, owes Lou deep
12 gratitude for her assistance in the transition in
13 September. She was instrumental in transmitting members
14 to National and also training our new membership clerk
15 Janeen Thomas who I think is in the room over here in
16 District 3. That is Janeen Thomas.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm going to bring
18 her up later.

19 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
20 Because there was such an overwhelming desire for the
21 Josie Melgard memorial plates, we have plates to be
22 raffled. Tickets may be purchased in the back of the
23 room, a dollar each, six for \$5. See Linda Workman.

24 Madeline Lee's Princesses, Bev's Stars, Linda
25 Fercho's Rodeo Queens, and Norma DuVall's will meet for
26 ten minutes at the flag stand at close of session.
27 They're no longer meeting in the social quarters.

28 Sue's Lighthouses, Willie's Band Leaders,
29 Ronnie's Roses, Margie's Chefs, and Melanie's Balloon
30 Pilots meet in the bar area after convention this
31 afternoon. They're taking Madeline's place.

32 Okay. Is there a Tracy Powell in the room, a
33 member? Any of the units have a Tracy Powell? I have a
34 banquet ticket, District 29. Okay. Will you see me? I
35 have your banquet ticket.

36 District 16 has one banquet ticket. Special
37 deal, only \$40. Donna Scott, District 25, I have two
38 banquet tickets for sale. One chicken, one beef. You
39 have to see Donna Scott in District 5. 25. I'm sorry.
40 25.

41 Announcement. The last of our water bottles on
42 units tables, please take one. Cindy, Unit 419, District
43 13, they may all be gone by now because this has been up
44 there for a while. That concludes the dribbles.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. I wanted to
46 have our membership clerk Janeen escorted, but in the
47 essence of time, I had the department page go fetch her.

48 I would like to introduce you all and present to
49 you Janeen Thomas, our membership clerk.

50 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's doing a
2 fantastic job. She's out of District 5, Unit 101. I have
3 a gift for you Janeen because I want to thank you so much.
4 We have officers from 101. Nice to see you, gentlemen.
5 Thank you.

6 I have a gift for you, Janeen. I have another
7 gift for Imelda if you can delivery it for me. So thank
8 you both for all the service.

9 Is that your granddaughter? And her daughter in
10 the Air Force.

11 I just want to thank you all, Janeen and Imelda,
12 so much for all that they're doing to help the department
13 office stabilize. And under the direction of Ruby, we
14 will do it. Great thanks. Janeen is a joy and a treasure
15 for us and she deserves a huge round of applause. Thank
16 you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. THOMAS: I have something for you too, Anita.
19 You have the keys for my heart. It's hope, faith, and
20 love and one for success because you've got it.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. Okay.

22 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Madam president, I
23 need to see my committee at the back of the room before
24 the report.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. The
26 preconvention committee members for Leadership need to
27 meet with chairman Wendy O'Brien at the back of the room
28 at the end of this meeting. I'm now going to recess until
29 1:45 for lunch. Thank you.

30 (Lunch recess taken: 12:22 p.m.)

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

1 AFTERNOON SESSION - 1:52 P.M.
2

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This convention
4 session is reconvened. Would the Sergeant-at-Arms and
5 Marshal please get everyone to participate in the team
6 parade for our exercise today? Madam Musician, would you
7 please play some basketball music as our teams make their
8 ways around the room. This is our Dream of a Team
9 Shooting H.O.O.P.S. on Parade.

10
11 SHOOTING H.O.O.P.S. ON PARADE
12

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is that basketball
14 music? Because I can't understand it. Let's get some
15 basketball music going. Don't leave out that side of the
16 room. Yay, the Noisy 19. District 10 and the juniors.
17 Go District 10. Hotter than the otters, 28. The 23rd
18 District's hot.

19 Here we go. We've got the Advisory Committee
20 Cheerleaders. District 22 in the house. District 29.
21 Whoa-who. District 16. District 25 going by. I see the
22 referee. She's going to call a foul. District 7.
23 District 6. Way to go, girls. Here come the hot otters.
24 They're coming through again. District 2. District 21.
25 Those are my girls. You're all playing basketball.
26 District 22. District 12 in the house. And right behind
27 them, District 11. We've got our cheerleaders on the
28 stage. 23 District Sparks in the house. Patricia. All
29 right. You all are so beautiful. Give yourself a big
30 round of applause, the Dream Team. The Dream Team in the
31 house. We love that basketball. That was a great parade.
32 Give yourself a great round of applause.

33 (Applause.)

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You look fantastic.
35 You are shooting H.O.O.P.S. for veterans. Okay. I'm out
36 of breath. I had to get down low and take a picture. Is
37 Sandy Jacob in the room?

38 Okay. At this time we're going to resume with
39 our -- ladies, thank you so much for participating in the
40 parade. You look fantastic. Now calm down so we can
41 continue with our convention reports.

42 Okay. There is a dribble. Please listen. If
43 anyone needs a ride to the airport, you need to let
44 information know as soon as possible. They are arranging
45 shuttle service. The information room is next door to the
46 department office, so if you need a ride you need to let
47 them know right away. To the airport.

48 We will begin with our Leadership Chairman, Wendy
49 O'Brien, and then our Poppy Chairman Alzora Carter, and
50 then our VA&R Chairman Susie Tozier in that order.

1 Wendy, before we do that, we have a very special
2 guest. Would the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal -- did she
3 go change? Would the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please
4 escort our Department Adjunct Bill Siler III.

5 (Processional.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Who knew you could
7 dance like that.

8 DEPARTMENT ADJUNCT SILER: Good afternoon, ladies
9 of the Auxiliary.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT ADJUNCT SILER: I finally made it. I
12 just came to wish you what's left of your convention a
13 good one and welcome you to the convention. And if you
14 have any questions or anything about anything, don't call
15 me, call Ruby. So that's all. I just wanted to say hi
16 and everything. And I imagine I'll see a lot of you
17 tonight at the banquet. Okay. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam
20 Department President, while Bill is here, I would just
21 like to reiterate to him, he didn't hear, I did put in my
22 in-box thanking the American Legion for all the help that
23 you and your staff have given to the American Legion
24 Auxiliary especially Sarah Etzel who as you know got us
25 through your computer problems. And Bill, Bill calls
26 himself -- I didn't know this until I got there in
27 September, he calls himself the Agitator. He's not the
28 Adjunct, he's the Agitator. But also for the raffle that
29 the American Legion allows the Auxiliary to participate in
30 too, we truly appreciate the Legion for allowing us to be
31 a part of that and earning so much help for our general
32 fund. And I want to personally thank you.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And I have something
34 for you later, but in the meantime you can take this. You
35 might enjoyed that bling, bling right there.

36 DEPARTMENT ADJUNCT SILER: And I would say that
37 it's always an honor and a pleasure to be able to help the
38 American Legion Auxiliary.

39 (Applause.)

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Sergeant-at-Arms and
41 Marshal, with the Distinguished Guest Chairman, please
42 retire Mr. Bill Siler III. Don't retire him. I mean take
43 him back. He's already retired.

44 (Processional.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Go Bill, go Bill, go
46 Bill. Ruby is going to remember that move tonight.
47 You've got to get the lint out.

48 Also we need to bring up Americanism Chairman
49 Diana Moreno. We'll get going with leadership.

50

LEADERSHIP REPORT

LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you, Madam President. First off, I apologize -- hello? Okay. First off, I'd like to apologize for the handwritten committee report. I had a little malfunction with the printer, so --

Okay. The convention committee on leadership met June 19th, 2014 in Room 208 of the Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, California. The statistical report for this chairman appears on page 21 of the Book of Reports.

Linda Fercho, District 16, was appointed secretary. Mary Cogburn, District 6, offered prayer, and Bonnie Christner, District 20, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 21 district delegates answered roll call. There were four visitors present.

The committee agreed upon the following report: The code was read and the committee voted on the following changes to code number 4. The code currently reads: "Newly appointed Department Chairman will count the number of white cards remaining from previous years. She will request additional cards to equal 50. She will request cards when her supply are low. When lists are received, she will complete the cards and forward to the Department President for signature."

Code number 4 proposed change: "Department Chairman will complete the attendance cards upon receipt from certified instructors and forward to Department President for signature."

At the direction of the committee, I move to accept this code change.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: By the direction of the leadership committee, there is a proposed code change number 4 that will read, "Department Chairman will complete the attendance cards upon receipt from certified instructors and forward to Department President for signature."

Is there any discussion?
(No response.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor say aye.

ALL PRESENT: Aye.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Any opposed say no.
(No response.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you. Certificates for 100 percent reporting, second and third place, and participation awards were given out in committee. I will post the awards in the office. A list

1 of current certified instructors were handed out to
2 districts and updated on the department website. With no
3 further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30.

4 Madam President, this concludes my committee
5 report. May I continue with my supplemental report and
6 first place awards?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

8 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you. Our
9 year started out with the Department President holding
10 three exciting workshops, sharing information on the
11 Auxiliary programs, National Plan of Action, and what her
12 plans were for the upcoming year. Her theme was Shooting
13 H.O.O.P.S., Honoring Our Opportunity to Provide Service
14 For Veterans.

15 She and her chairmen answered questions about
16 different ways that can be done with all the programs.
17 This was a great start to the year. We also had three
18 six-hour department leadership workshops throughout the
19 state with help of certified leaders. I would like to
20 thank the District Presidents Barbara Daily, District 2,
21 Glenda Schultz, District 6, and Vella Myers, District 27
22 as well as anyone that helped put on these successful
23 trainings.

24 Information was presented about the ALA policies,
25 meeting procedures, basic protocols, and parliamentary
26 rules. Members learned about flag etiquette,
27 responsibility of officers and chairmen, as well as the
28 importance of procedure books and end of year reporting.
29 Challenging games about the ALA were played and enjoyed by
30 all. The classes were well received.

31 It was wonderful seeing how eager the ladies were
32 to share what they knew and how units used different ways
33 to accomplish the same goals. The workshops were very
34 productive, fun and existing. Our purpose is to prepare
35 knowledgeable and capable leaders to carry on the growth
36 and success of the American Legion Auxiliary.

37 We were also fortunate to have many leaders
38 throughout the state that helped units and districts
39 conduct over 50 mini workshops and trainings this year.
40 Information was presented on a variety of different
41 topics. Training was done using the ALA handbook,
42 Constitution & Bylaws, Standing Rules, Robert's Rules,
43 National Plan of Action, as well as the National and
44 department bulletins. Instructors spoke about ALA
45 policies, responsibilities of officers and chairmen, as
46 well as traditions of the Auxiliary, what the acronyms
47 such as AEF, VA&R and TFA were, just to name a few, and
48 also tax information. Past Department Presidents shared
49 their responsibilities, held Q and A sessions, sharing
50 ideas, and encouraging each other. These classes were

1 found to be a great way to build enthusiasm.

2 Units have set up mentoring programs such as
3 Buddy Partners and Big Sister/Little Sister. This is
4 where seasoned members take under their wing a new
5 Auxiliary member answering any questions that they may
6 have about the Auxiliary, things like our acronyms, how
7 meetings are conducted, proper protocol and the programs.
8 Some units have senior members that have committed to
9 working with a new member for two years. Some have found
10 that asking the new member to be a co-chairman of a
11 program has helped to make them grow in knowledge and
12 excitement for the ALA. They are more willing to come to
13 meetings and participate. Some have found people more
14 open to learning and sharing if they are not held back by
15 the old attitude of, well, we've always done it that way.
16 This leaves room to learn new and modern ways to implement
17 our programs. Having an open line of communication,
18 listening to suggestions and keeping a positive attitude
19 are other ways that have been useful.

20 Good leaders will be observant of how the newer
21 members and sometimes older members understand what
22 information they are trying to convey. Does she look like
23 she understands or does she stare like a deer in the
24 headlights? Some newer members have not asked questions
25 because they feel it makes them look ignorant for not
26 knowing. These are things a good instructor will look
27 for.

28 This year we are privileged to have from
29 California the highest leader in our organization, our
30 National President Nancy Brown-Park. Her theme this year
31 is "Pass It On" and that is just what our unit and
32 district members have done, sharing what they have learned
33 at workshops and training classes, passing out department
34 and national bulletin and brochures about our programs.
35 Helping every member realize her leadership potential.
36 This is the goal of the leadership program. By
37 participating in meetings, sharing ideas, and encouraging
38 new members to do the same.

39 The national mission training was attended by 34
40 of our members including myself. This was a time for
41 ladies from all over the western division to get together
42 and learn from our National Officers and chairmen. We
43 learned from their vast knowledge and then returned home
44 rejuvenated and with a new zeal for the ALA. We passed on
45 to our unit and district members all the information that
46 was presented.

47 Everyone was encouraged to take the national
48 correspondence course this year. We had members from all
49 levels of the Auxiliary take the training, both juniors
50 and seniors. I'm happy to say that we had a total of 13

1 members take the course with two junior and five senior
2 members passing it. I'm also very excited to announce a
3 new certified instructor to our organization, Karen
4 Herrera, District 15, Unit 20. She will be added --

5 (Applause.)

6 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: She will be added
7 to the existing 202 certified leaders in California.

8 Leadership is a team effort and an important
9 program of the American Legion Auxiliary. Our members
10 have shared their skills, knowledge, and training. They
11 have found opportunities to excite, rejuvenate and
12 encourage other members so that we can continue to
13 complete our goal of serving veterans, active military,
14 and their children in the future. May I present my first
15 place awards?

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

17 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: First place for
18 best overall unit supplemental goes to Linda Fariss,
19 District 19, Unit 34.

20 (Applause.)

21 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: And first place for
22 best overall district supplemental goes to LuAnn Capazzi,
23 District 27.

24 (Applause.)

25 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you very
26 much.

27 MS. CAPAZZI: Thank you.

28 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you, Madam
29 President, for having faith in me for this position this
30 year. May I approach your station?

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

32 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: My husband and I
33 would like to contribute to your -- what do we all that?
34 \$200.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, wow. \$200 cash.
36 Thank you. Thank you so much, Wendy.

37 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Madam President,
38 this concludes my report.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. Great
40 job. We'll now hear from our Poppy Chairman Alzora
41 Carter.

42
43 POPPY REPORT

44
45 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Good afternoon, Madam
46 President. The convention committee on Poppy met on June
47 19th, 2014 in Room 211 of the Santa Clara Convention
48 Center, Santa Clara, California. The statistical report
49 of this chairman appears on page 23 of the Book of
50 Reports. Lois Cornish, District 22, was appointed

1 secretary. Dorothy Davis, District 16, was appointed
2 Sergeant-at-Arms and she also led the Pledge of
3 Allegiance. June Coatney was appointed chaplain. A total
4 of 23 delegates answered roll call. There were four
5 guests.

6 The chairman read the code and was assisted by
7 the secretary due to this chairman's voice was lost.
8 There were no recommendations. Awards for 100 percent
9 reporting and all second place awards were given. A copy
10 of those awards has been posted in the department office.
11 With no further business the meeting adjourned with prayer
12 at 10:05 a.m.

13 Madam President, this concludes the preconvention
14 meeting. May I continue with my supplement and first
15 place awards?

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

17 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: First of all, 100 percent
18 reporting was from District 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 -- I'm
19 sorry. Nine, 10, 13, 14, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and
20 30. Before I commence with my Poppy report, this coach
21 would like to dedicate this program in the memory of Trish
22 Ladre, Past Poppy Production Manager for Long Beach VAMC.
23 Trish passed away early this year and had a beautiful
24 celebration at the Hawthornes Post 314 which I attended.
25 Trish will always be remembered as a dedicate poppy
26 production manager and Auxiliary member. Thank you.

27 (Applause.)

28 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: There are so many words
29 this coach can use to describe this year's Poppy program.
30 Due to the economy, we were down approximately 10,000
31 poppies. Although our revenue is still being submitted to
32 our department office, we truly hope it will be a great
33 total. As you know, our Past Department President Ruby is
34 doing a fantastic job keeping up. It must be quite
35 difficult doing so many other tasks.

36 Past Department President Ruby, I admire you so
37 much for stepping in as others have done in helping our
38 department. If we all think about how this affects our
39 veterans who are the ones that definitely suffer from this
40 decrease, we can do just a little better for our veterans
41 as they have sacrificed so much for us.

42 Please increase your poppies next year. We have
43 so many unit members who continue to dedicate and are so
44 enthused about all of our programs. This coach was
45 pleased with the activities that each unit held to bring
46 in poppy proceeds. Poppy fish fry was a hit in so many
47 units. High fashion poppy shows at the unit level, DEC
48 and even junior conference was definitely a hit.

49 One particular unit chairman was very new, very
50 confused as to how to make money to pay for the poppies.

1 Well, the High Fashion Poppy Show was one for this unit.
2 She made over \$2,000 in one effort and used over 2300
3 poppies. Another unit stuffed 7,000 poppies with two
4 poppies each to their members and yet another unit member
5 who is 99 years young fluffed all of their poppies and
6 passed them out with a smile.

7 What about the unit who was able to get a local
8 bakery to sell their poppy cookies for revenue. I know
9 because I bought some. Thanks to American Legion Family
10 for working so well together for our veterans by
11 distributing and offering poppies. We all can see we just
12 did. Pass it on as many unit poppy chairmen worked hard
13 with their membership team to recruit, renew, and retain
14 members.

15 A very special thanks to poppy production
16 managers. As I call your name, please stand up. Pat
17 Alvarez, Long Beach VAMC.

18 (Applause.)

19 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Stay standing, please.
20 You know, that's okay, Pat. You can stand a little bit
21 longer. Lois Cornish, San Diego/Chula Vista VAMC and WAVE
22 clinic, Geri Fitzpatrick.

23 (Applause.)

24 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: It was a task to manage
25 these facilities, the veterans, making sure the poppy
26 orders are filled and delivered in a timely manner. They
27 deserve a big round of applause.

28 (Applause.)

29 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Complaints we will have,
30 but maybe you can volunteer to assist. Thank you again,
31 ladies, for your service to the Auxiliary and to our
32 veterans. Thank you to all the judges who have made the
33 decisions of all the beautiful displays. This year our
34 Department President's theme was on basketball and her
35 motto H.O.O.P.S., which is Honoring Our Opportunity to
36 Provide Services to Our Veterans. This coach held a poppy
37 light contest at our midyear meeting. All funds raised
38 were donated to our President's special project temporary
39 financial assistance. These funds are given to veterans
40 who are experiencing temporary financial assistance. We
41 know the challenge of ordering, offering, getting
42 donations, and reporting, but the ultimate reward is
43 apparent when we can look at the faces of our nation's
44 veterans and know that we are doing our best to help
45 support some of their needs through our amazing poppy
46 program.

47 I was thrilled and very excited if you all notice
48 this weekend to see hotel employees wearing poppies. When
49 you are at the bar you saw them, in the restaurant, and
50 even at our parlay luncheon. I was so thrilled and I

1 thank the Hyatt staff and management and, of course, Sandy
2 Jacob, our convention cochairman, for making the poppies
3 and distributing them to the staff.

4 (Applause.)

5 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President Anita,
6 this concludes my report. May I continue with my
7 introduction of Little Miss Poppy and the first place
8 awards?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

10 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Little Miss Poppy, if you
11 can escort her up.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Sergeant-at-Arms and
13 Marshal -- just the Sergeant-at-Arms, will you please
14 escort our Little Miss Poppy.

15 (Processional.)

16 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Little Miss Poppy is
17 Kolina Janji. She's from Unit 716, District 29. She is
18 the daughter of Stephanie Janji. Kolina has worked very
19 hard to become Little Miss Poppy by helping promote the
20 program at her school and her post. As a matter of fact,
21 all the poppy posters that you saw over there, they were
22 from her school and she wanted us to see them. They
23 weren't in the contest, but I said bring every one that
24 you have just to show that these children, juniors, are
25 out there offering and telling about the poppy story.

26 I will let Kolina, Little Miss Poppy, tell us
27 about herself and what she did with the poppy.

28 LITTLE MISS POPPY KOLINA: Well, what I did with
29 the poppy is I handed them out and they are from our
30 disabled veterans and they work very hard and I'm just
31 very pleased to be Little Miss Poppy.

32 (Applause.)

33 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President and our
34 National President, would you please come take a picture
35 with our Little Miss Junior Poppy as I present to you --
36 Madam President Anita and the National President, would
37 you please --

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The Vice President
39 is not here.

40 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: I know.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Ruby, would you
42 please assume the Chair while I go for a presentation?

43 Hi, Kolina. I know your sister Hannah and your
44 mommy. You want to stand on the little podium there, the
45 little step stool? There you go.

46 (Applause.)

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Kolina, on behalf of
48 the American Legion Auxiliary Department of California, we
49 want to present to you this citation of recognition as our
50 Little Miss Poppy for 2013-2014 from Los Alamitos Unit

1 716, District 29 for rendering to this organization your
2 invaluable help and cooperation by fulfilling your
3 commitment to the program of Poppy. We are honoring you
4 and we are so proud of you and continue the great work.
5 And I will sign this. I'll sign this right now before you
6 get it. Okay? And this is some money for you. Cash
7 money award of \$20. So don't spend that in one place. We
8 thank you. We think you're awesome and we're so proud for
9 you to represent us. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: And also you will get a
12 poppy cookie. A poppy cookie. That's for you.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You can eat that.

14 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: There are some other
15 goodies in there that I am quite sure you will love. You
16 love Hello Kitty? Okay. You have a bracelet and a
17 necklace from me. Okay.

18 LITTLE MISS POPPY KOLINA: Thank you.

19 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you so much for
20 being Ms. Poppy. Do you want to come down?

21 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: I just shared
22 that I am so proud of you -- she's so busy smiling. I'm
23 so proud of you in all that you did for our veterans. You
24 just keep up that good work and you are absolutely
25 beautiful. Thank you so, so much. Thank you.

26 (Applause.)

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Will the
28 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please escort Little Miss
29 Poppy. What is she going to do? She's a page. She's got
30 to get back to work.

31 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: May I now proceed?

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: They're taking
33 pictures. Okay. Go ahead, Madam Chairman.

34 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, there they go
36 now. They're going. There goes our Little Miss Poppy
37 2013-2014, Miss Kolina Janji. Hey, give it up.

38 (Processional.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Love that dress.
40 There you go.

41 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay. Madam President, I
42 will now proceed with my first place awards. Poppy poster
43 contest -- these poster -- poppy posters was sent to
44 national for competition. First place Class 1, grades 3
45 and 4: Marisela Morales, District 13, Unit 564.

46 (Applause.)

47 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: And it's a \$20 cash
48 prize. Thank you.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I will ask you all
50 to please take photos on the side when she finishes her

1 report. Thank you.
2 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: First place class 4,
3 grades 8 and 9: Jennifer Nguyen, Los Alamitos, District
4 29, Unit 716.
5 (Applause.)
6 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: And the last one was
7 Jenna Garden, District 28, Salinas Unit 589.
8 (Applause.)
9 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you. Okay. Our
10 first place display contest, which we had judges for all
11 of them, went to District 21. And I'm looking for the
12 certificates and I don't see them. They were there, but
13 anyway, I will call their name. Cheryl Fleming, District
14 21, Unit 328.
15 (Applause.)
16 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: The first place
17 President's choice went to Deborah Driscoll, Unit 716,
18 District 29.
19 (Applause.)
20 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: First place President's
21 theme: Karen Herrera, District 15, Unit 20.
22 (Applause.)
23 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: And thank you, Madam
24 President, for doing your judging and all the other
25 judges. First place supplemental report goes to District
26 22, Maureen Moe Giacalone.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Giacalone.
28 (Applause.)
29 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: First place overall unit
30 poppy program goes to Jackie Robinson Unit 252, Bertha
31 Edmondson, chairman.
32 (Applause.)
33 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President, one
34 special award is given to this individual who is really
35 hard to decide to get someone so close and you cannot
36 leave them out. It's given to an individual that is so
37 supported by her unit, all she loved to do is write
38 supplemental reports. This special award goes to George
39 Tadlock Unit 472, Beatrice Brunner.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is that you, Bea? I
42 didn't know.
43 DELEGATE BRUNNER: My name changed five years
44 ago.
45 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: There you go.
46 DELEGATE BRUNNER: Thank you.
47 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Thank you. Madam
48 President Anita, it has truly been a tremendous experience
49 serving as the Poppy Chairman this year. It has been fun,
50 stressful, and just plain old thankful for the many

1 travels with boxes of poppies in my trunk to give out in
2 honor of our veterans. I thank you so very much for this
3 assignment. I know you have truly enjoyed being our
4 Department President as well as we have enjoyed you. I
5 love you and continue to have a slam dunk of a convention.
6 May I approach your station?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Since she
8 wrote on here, "Say yes," yes.

9 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: And before I tell you
10 that, let me tell you about the cookie. Unit 11, District
11 5, the poppy cookie. This bakery sold 561 cookies. I
12 presented them with a check in the amount of \$1,122 which
13 goes to the Pathway Home. It's a PTS ward at Yountville
14 Veterans Home.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Wow, that's
17 fabulous.

18 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President, I don't
19 want to cry, but I love you so very much and I am so proud
20 of you. And I really would be glad for you to take a week
21 off and spend a little time with me.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We're going to
23 Vegas.

24 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay. First of all,
25 Madam President this is for you. So when you're finished,
26 you and your girlfriends can sit down, relax, have a good
27 bottle of wine.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And a poppy cookie.

29 POPPY CHAIRMAN CARTER: And a poppy cookie. And
30 to our Secretary/Treasurer, you know I always admire you
31 so much. This is for you. And you know I admire you so
32 much. Now that's the end of my report.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Give her a big round
34 of applause. Great job.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's right about
37 Ruby. I don't know how you -- that's how really
38 multitasking she is. It's a big job as any poppy chairman
39 knows. Thank you, Alzora. She stressed me out a bit too,
40 just so you know.

41 We have a special guest in the house. We have
42 Department Commander Al Jacob Area 2 and Past Department
43 Gopher Peter DuVall.

44 (Processional)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I apologize. This
46 is Ralph Jacob. He is the chairman of the Convention
47 Commission and he's a gopher. These are two past
48 department gophers.

49 PAST DEPARTMENT GOPHER JACOB: Ladies, how are
50 you today? Have you enjoyed your convention? Anita, have

1 you enjoyed your convention?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Absolutely.

3 CHAIRMAN JACOB: I know Lonnie enjoyed last
4 night. I don't know if at the convention. Before he went
5 home. But this young man here is a -- let me start over
6 again.

7 Many years ago a little organization was formed,
8 no tax deductible organization, but for those of you who
9 don't know, the husband of your president is called the
10 gopher. 1996. Okay. The gopher -- they're called the
11 gopher because when the Madam President says "I need," we
12 go for it. Lonnie couldn't be here today because he's on
13 probation at our meeting last night. And I'm sure you
14 missed it during the day. During this week he didn't
15 bring his gopher with him, the little dancing gopher that
16 we had a few years ago so --

17 MS. CAPAZZI: Is it still alive?

18 PAST DEPARTMENT GOPHER JACOB: We've been told
19 it's still alive, but he's not off probation until it's
20 proven. So I'll turn this over to Peter because we want
21 to make a presentation to the president's special project.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT GOPHER DUVALL: Good afternoon
23 ladies.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good afternoon.

25 PAST DEPARTMENT GOPHER DUVALL: Good news and bad
26 news. The good news is we do have a donation on behalf of
27 all the PDPG's. There were nine of us at dinners, two
28 could not make it. And of course we do have one that has
29 passed away, and this is pretty much donated in his name.
30 But the good news is being that your husband was put on
31 probation, he has six more months of OJT since we
32 understand that he shirked his duties.

33 So on your behalf, Madam President -- so we can
34 only apologize for his dereliction of duties since he's
35 not here. And also, is Norm Clendenin in the house?

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: He's here in the
37 building.

38 PAST DEPARTMENT GOPHER DUVALL: Yes. Okay.
39 We'll do that later. Well, Norm is going to be the
40 incoming gopher. Jim Park wrote up a job description,
41 duties, and responsibilities that are far too numerous for
42 me to remember. However, it's always answer short words
43 when the Madam President asks you a question. Jim did
44 really well. Jim is also a Past Department Gopher. Now
45 he's the Past National Gopher. He's still serving. Okay.
46 So he's pulling double duty as well.

47 So, Madam President, on behalf of the gophers and
48 those that couldn't be here, we'd just like to make a
49 donation to your special project. And we do have some
50 words for Norm as well about his duties and

1 responsibilities, but we'll handle that one later. Okay?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I know for a fact
3 that Mr. Biggs donated to the special project. He was
4 there, and I don't think you told him to be here today. I
5 have to stand up for him for just that because he would
6 have been here. He's with my mother at Walmart.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: She's back here, but
9 I know they went to Walmart I know. She's back.

10 Thank you Past Department Gophers for your --

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: How much?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm about to tell
13 you all. Thank you for your generosity of \$260 to our
14 special project.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Will the
17 Sergeant-at-Arms, along with the Distinguished Guest
18 Chairman please escort these Past Department Gophers from
19 the room. Don't just take them to the back. Take them
20 out of here.

21 (Processional.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Outside of
23 the room raffle tickets are being drawn. You may check
24 that later on this afternoon. They're drawing those
25 tickets, the ones in the hallway. The Ways & Means will
26 close sales this afternoon. So when we close this
27 session, they will close the sales and she will announce
28 winners. On the 50/50 she'll announce tomorrow, but they
29 will draw the baskets and have the numbers on the baskets,
30 the tickets of the baskets.

31 Okay. Let's keep it moving. And in the rear we
32 also have an opportunity drawing for Josie's plate so.
33 And how much are the tickets?

34 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: We have
35 seven plates.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: They have seven
37 plates to draw. The tickets are one apiece or six for
38 five. Please visit the table in the back.

39 We will now hear from our Veterans Affairs &
40 Rehabilitation Chairman who's at the podium, Susie Tozier.

41
42 VA&R REPORT

43
44 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: The convention committee
45 for Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation met on June 19th,
46 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 201 of the Santa Clara
47 Convention Center. The statistical report of this
48 chairman appears on pages 25 and 26 of the Book of
49 Reports.

50 Donna Smith, District 22 was appointed secretary.

1 Faye Sanchez, District 3 offered prayer. Jerry Darnielle,
2 District 4, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 21
3 delegates answered roll call and there were eight
4 visitors.

5 The code was read and the following code changes
6 were approved by the committee. Department code number 1:
7 "The Department Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman
8 oversees and is responsible for all aspects of the VA&R
9 program and serves as the hospital, field, and home
10 services directors as well as chairman." This was done in
11 2008.

12 They have deleted "home service" from National:
13 "The Department Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman
14 oversees and is responsible for all aspects of the VA&R
15 program and serves as the hospital" -- wait a minute. I
16 forgot to take out the word. Oh, never mind. My eyes are
17 -- "serves as the hospital and field service directors as
18 well as the chairman." We are deleting "and home
19 services."

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay.

21 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I move for -- I move for
22 the adoption.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: By direction of the
24 V -- did the committee make that a motion?

25 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yes.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Or you want to make
27 the motion?

28 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I'm making the motion.

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You second it;
30 right?

31 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yeah, I second it.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That the VA&R code
33 number 1 be changed to read: "The Department Veterans
34 Affairs & Rehabilitation chairman oversees and is
35 responsible for all aspects of the VA&R Program and serves
36 as the hospital and field service directors as well as
37 chairman."

38 Is there any discussion?

39 (No response.)

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
41 say aye.

42 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
44 no.

45 (No response.)

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

47 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Next code number 4. This
48 deals with the national assessment; we no longer get
49 assessed by National. The code right now reads: "The
50 budget shall include amounts to fulfill the obligations of

1 financial aid for rehabilitation cases, chairmen and
2 program allowances, Medical Center Representative
3 allowances, National Assessment, administrative expenses,
4 and such other conferences as may be authorized by the
5 Department President. Reimbursement for authorized travel
6 out of state shall be coach airfare and per diem as
7 allowed at the rate established by Department and approved
8 by the Finance Committee."

9 We are just going to delete "National
10 Assessment." It will read: "The budget shall include
11 amounts to fulfill the obligations of financial aid for
12 rehabilitation cases, chairmen and program allowances,
13 Medical Center Representative allowances, administrative
14 expenses, and such other conferences as may be authorized
15 by the Department President. Reimbursement for authorized
16 travel out of state shall be coach airfare and per diem as
17 allowed at the rate established by Department and approved
18 by the Finance Committee."

19 We're just deleting "National Assessment." I
20 move for the adoption.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
22 seconded to change the VA&R code number 4 to read: "The
23 budget shall include amounts to fulfill the obligations of
24 financial aid for rehabilitation cases, chairmen and
25 program allowances, Medical Center Representative
26 allowances, administrative expenses, and such other
27 conferences as may be authorized by the Department
28 President. Reimbursement for authorized travel out of
29 state shall be coach airfare and per diem as allowed at
30 the rate established by Department and approved by the
31 Finance Committee."

32 Is there any discussion?

33 (No response.)

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
35 say aye.

36 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
38 no.

39 (No response.)

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

41 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Number 8 reads: "The
42 National Assessment to support the National Rehabilitation
43 fund shall be paid from the Department Welfare Fund and
44 the check shall be sent to the National Treasurer upon
45 receipt." I move to delete this code and renumber 9, 10,
46 and 11 to 8, 9, 10 and 11.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved to
48 delete the code in its entirety, number 8: "The National
49 Assessment to support the National Rehabilitation fund
50 shall be paid from the Department Welfare Fund and the

1 check shall be sent to the National Treasurer upon
2 receipt."
3 Is there any discussion?
4 (No response.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
6 say aye.
7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
9 no.
10 (No response.)
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
12 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: On the new code number 8:
13 "Applications for Rehabilitation aid (casework) shall be
14 completed and signed by the Unit Chairman and Unit
15 President. Checks shall be made payable to the Unit
16 Chairman. Additional checks shall not be issued until
17 receipts for previous expenditures, accompanied by form
18 number 2 have been received by the Department Chairman."
19 We want to change code number -- this code to
20 read -- we're just going to delete the word "chairman" at
21 the end of the third sentence. It will read:
22 "Applications for Rehabilitation aid (casework) shall be
23 completed and signed by the Unit Chairman and Unit
24 President. Checks shall be made payable to the Unit.
25 Additional checks shall not be issued until receipts for
26 previous expenditures, accompanied by form number 2 have
27 been received by the Department Chairman."
28 I move the adoption. Instead of going to the
29 Unit Chairman, it's just going to go to the unit.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
31 and seconded to change new code number 8, the new numbered
32 code number 8 to: "Applications for Rehabilitation aid
33 (casework) shall be completed and signed by the Unit
34 Chairman and Unit President. Checks shall be made payable
35 to the Unit. Additional checks shall not be issued until
36 receipts for previous expenditures, accompanied by form
37 number 2 have been received by the Department Chairman."
38 Is there any discussion?
39 (No response.)
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
41 say aye.
42 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
44 no.
45 (No response.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
47 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: New number 10 reads: "The
48 Department Secretary/Treasurer shall notify the Department
49 Chairman on an annual basis the current cost of all pins
50 available for the VA&R program. The cost shall include

1 tax and handling expenses. The Department Chairman shall
2 then mail the Hospital Certification Form to all Medical
3 Center Representatives and the Field and Home Service Pin
4 Certification Forms to all units. Only Hospital
5 Representatives are authorized to purchase Hospital pins.
6 New volunteers shall receive an identification patch with
7 her pin. Patches are supplied free of charge by the
8 Department."

9 We are going to -- we want to replace the word
10 "mail" with "website" and delete "Home Services" so it
11 will read. "The Department Secretary/Treasurer shall
12 notify the Department Chairman on an annual basis the
13 current cost of all pins available for the VA&R program.
14 The cost shall include tax and handling expenses. The
15 Department Chairman shall post on the Department website
16 the updated forms for Hospital Certification and Field
17 Service Pin Certification. Copies will be mailed to
18 Hospital Representatives who do not have access to the
19 website. Only Hospital Representatives are authorized to
20 purchase Hospital pins. New volunteers shall receive an
21 identification" -- I forgot something there. "Shall
22 receive an identification patch" -- can you drop the D off
23 of that so it reads "and." Thank you. "Receive an
24 identification patch with her pin. Patches are supplied
25 free of charge by Department." It was a typo error.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah. We have a
27 point of order here with regard to the new name for the
28 VA&R. It's not Field Service.

29 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Field service --
30 Madam President, Nancy Brown-Park, National President.
31 Field service, home service has been combined and there's
32 a new name for it. And Harriet and I are both pulling our
33 hair out trying to remember the new name which goes into
34 effect for the next administrative year.

35 I've just sent a text to my National Vice
36 President, so hopefully I will have it soon, but I'm not
37 sure.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, we may need to
39 amend the code once we get the right name. It's not
40 "field services." It's like a hospital or it's something.

41 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yeah, I didn't know about
42 that one. Okay.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Our minds are not as
44 good as they used to be. Did you already make a motion on
45 this --

46 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yes.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: -- code change? Any
48 second?

49 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I make a motion to accept
50 this code change as presented.

1 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I'll second it.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
3 seconded to change the new number 10 code to read: "The
4 Department Secretary/Treasurer shall notify the Department
5 Chairman on an annual basis the current cost of all pins
6 available for the VA&R program. The cost shall include
7 tax and handling expenses. The Department Chairman shall
8 post on the Department website the updated forms for
9 Hospital Certification and Field Service Pin
10 Certification. Copies will be mailed to Hospital
11 Representatives who do not have access to the website.
12 Only Hospital Representatives are authorized to purchase
13 Hospital pins. New volunteers shall receive an
14 identification patch with her pin. Patches are supplied
15 free of charge by Department."

16 Is there any discussion on this code change? One
17 second. I'm humming the Jeopardy theme in my head.

18 Okay. We have the new name.

19 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: All right. I amend number
20 10 -- we'll go back and do the other one. I amend the new
21 number 10 to replace the words "Field Service" with
22 "Service to the Veterans." So it will read: "The cost
23 shall include tax and handling expenses. The chairman
24 shall post on the Department website the updated forms for
25 Hospital Certification and Service to the Veterans
26 Certification" -- is it going to be certified too?

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: "Service to Veterans
28 Pin Certification."

29 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: "Pin Certification."

30 Okay. "Copies will be mailed to Hospital Representatives
31 who do not have access to the website. Only Hospital
32 Representatives are authorized to purchase hospital pins.
33 New volunteers shall receive an identification patch
34 with" -- on those patches are OBE because they say "field
35 service" on them. So we're --

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: They will have to
37 come up with a new patch, the National organization.
38 That's their change. The organization is going to come
39 with new patches.

40 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Are you going to have
41 patches too?

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, it will be
43 changed. Everything is going to be changed. A new pin.
44 Our National President is speaking to me as we speak.
45 We'll have redesigned Service to Veterans pins and
46 patches.

47 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: So I'll continue. We left
48 that in the annual report. "Patch with her pin. Patches
49 are supplied free of charge by the Department." I move
50 for the adoption.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
2 seconded to amend the new code 10 of the VA&R to read:
3 "The Department Secretary/Treasurer are shall notify the
4 Department Chairman on an annual basis the current cost of
5 all pins available for the VA&R program. The cost shall
6 include tax and handling expenses. The Department
7 Chairman shall post on the Department Website the updated
8 form for Hospital Certification and Service to Veterans
9 Pin Certification. Copies will be mailed to Hospital
10 Representatives who do not have access to the website.
11 Only Hospital Representatives are authorized to purchase
12 hospital pins. New volunteers shall receive an
13 identification patch with their pin. Patches are supplied
14 free of charge by the Department."

15 Is there any discussion on this change?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Hearing none, all
18 those in favor say aye.

19 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
21 no.

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That motion is
24 carried.

25 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Back to department code
26 number 1. I would like to change the words "Field
27 Service" to "Service to the Veterans." So it will read:
28 "The Department Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman
29 oversees and is responsible for all aspects of the VA&R
30 program and serves as the Hospital and Service to the
31 Veterans director as well as Chairman." I move for the
32 adoption.

33 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Second.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
35 seconded to amend code 1 to read: "The Department
36 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman oversees and is
37 responsible for all aspects of the VA&R program and serves
38 as the Hospital and Service to Veterans director as well
39 as Chairman."

40 Is there any discussion?

41 (No response.)

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
43 say aye.

44 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
46 no.

47 (No response.)

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

49 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Number 2 under Medical
50 Center Gift Shops/Patient Remembrance: "Only carefully

1 selected new gifts shall be sent to the Representatives by
2 November 1st. The Representatives may re-evaluate the
3 gifts, sending the corrected evaluation to the Units.
4 Representatives shall be permitted to purchase additional
5 gifts for the patients only when suitable gifts are not on
6 hand. Representatives shall provide instruction to the
7 unit members prior to their serving in the gift shop."

8 We want to add the following words to the
9 beginning of the sentence: "For those facilities that
10 have gift shops, only carefully selected new gifts shall
11 be sent to the Representatives by November 1st. The
12 Representatives may re-evaluate the gifts, sending the
13 corrected evaluation to the Units. Representatives shall
14 be permitted to purchase additional gifts for the patients
15 only when suitable gifts are not on hand. Representatives
16 shall provide instruction to the unit members prior to
17 their serving in the gift shop."

18 I move for the adoption.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
20 and seconded. Item 2 changed to read: "For those
21 facilities that have gift shops, only carefully selected
22 new gifts shall be sent to the Representatives by November
23 1st. The Representatives may re-evaluate the gifts,
24 sending the corrected evaluation to the Units.
25 Representatives shall be permitted to purchase additional
26 gifts for the patients only when suitable gifts are not
27 on hand. Representatives shall provide instruction to the
28 unit members prior to their serving in the gift shop."

29 Is there any discussion on this code change?

30 (No response.)

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
32 say aye.

33 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
35 no.

36 (No response.)

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

38 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Section 3.a(2). "The
39 decision regarding District assignments and where gifts
40 will be sent shall be made by the Department Chairman."

41 We want to change to read: "The decision
42 regarding District assignments and where donations will be
43 sent shall be made by the Department Chairman." We're
44 taking the word "gift" out because these are donations. I
45 move for the adoption.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
47 and seconded to change item 3.a(2) to: The decision
48 regarding District assignments and where donations will be
49 sent shall be made by the Department Chairman."

50 Is there any discussion on this code change?

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
3 say aye.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All opposed say no.
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
8 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Field service code. I
9 would like to change the title to Service to Veterans. I
10 move for the change of title.
11 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'll second
12 that.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
14 seconded to change the title from "Field Service Code" to
15 "Service to Veterans Code." Is there any discussion?
16 (No response.)
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
18 say aye.
19 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
21 no.
22 (No response.)
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carries.
24 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Number 1: "The Department
25 VA&R Chairman serves as the Field Services Director and
26 must complete the American Legion Auxiliary orientation
27 course to be certified."
28 The change to read: "The Department VA&R
29 Chairman serves as the Field Service to the Veterans
30 Director." Deleting the "and must complete the American
31 Legion Auxiliary orientation course to be certified." I
32 move for the adoption.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Well, this is a bit
34 redundant because we already have the code that she serves
35 as the Service to Veterans. She wants to just delete that
36 then.
37 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: They told me there's not
38 going to be any certification.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The National
40 President is stating that there will still be a course,
41 so --
42 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: So I'm going to amend and
43 just change the word "Field Service" to "Service to
44 Veterans."
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay.
46 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: And leave the remainder of
47 the sentence so it will now read: "The Department VA&R
48 Chairman serves as the Service to Veterans Director and
49 must complete the American Legion Auxiliary orientation
50 course to be certified."

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
2 and seconded to change under the code -- the Service to
3 Veterans code number 1 to: The Department VA&R Chairman
4 serves as the Service to Veterans Director and must
5 complete the American Legion Auxiliary orientation course
6 to be certified."
7 Is there any discussion?
8 (No response.)
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
10 say aye.
11 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
13 no.
14 (No response.)
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.
16 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: The next code is on the
17 information I just got. It currently reads: "The Field
18 Service Director shall make arrangements for at least one
19 Field Service orientation course during the year. She
20 should encourage certified members to offer the
21 orientation course within their own Districts. A
22 certified Field Service Director's permission. A list of
23 members attending the District orientation course shall be
24 sent to the Field Service Director for certification and
25 the issuance of cards."
26 I want to just change "Field Service" to "Service
27 to the Veterans" in the two places that's in that
28 sentence. "The Service to the Veterans Director shall
29 make arrangements for at least one Service to the
30 Veterans" -- I'm going to -- let me start again.
31 "The Service to the Veteran Director shall make
32 arrangements for at least one orientation course during
33 the year. She should encourage certified members to offer
34 the orientation course within their own district. A
35 certified Service to the Veterans" -- I think I forgot
36 something when I typed that.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The code as it's
38 worded now is read: "A certified Field Service volunteer
39 may give orientation course to the district with the field
40 service director's permission."
41 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: That's what --
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, that's not
43 what you read.
44 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I left off --
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah. That sentence
46 is incomplete.
47 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yeah. "The orientation
48 course within their own District with the certified
49 Service to the Veterans Director's permission." You're
50 going to delete the period after "districts" and put in

1 "with the certified."
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah, I understand
3 what you're saying. Comma. It should be a comma. Susie,
4 there should just be a comma after "districts" and it
5 should say, "with the certified Service to Veterans
6 Director's permission."
7 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Correct.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And then you need to
9 read the last sentence.
10 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay. "A list of members
11 attending the District orientation course shall be sent to
12 the Service to the Veterans director for certification and
13 issuance of cards."
14 I move for the adoption.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It has been moved
16 and seconded that the Service to Veterans Director shall
17 make arrangements for at least one Field Service -- never
18 mind. "Service to Veterans orientation course during the
19 year. She should encourage certified members to offer the
20 orientation within their own districts with the certified
21 Service to Veterans director's permission. A list of
22 members attending the District orientation course shall be
23 sent to the Service to Veteran Director for certification
24 and the issuance of cards."
25 Is there a discussion on this code change?
26 DELEGATE PHILCOX: Ann Philcox, District 20.
27 You're saying "Service to Our Veterans." Susie is saying
28 "Service to the Veterans." Is it to the veterans or to
29 our veterans?
30 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: To veterans.
31 DELEGATE PHILCOX: To veterans. So there's no
32 "our" or no "the."
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Hold on.
34 DELEGATE PHILCOX: Okay. So you're both wrong.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: So my little -- my
36 word will be changed "to the Veterans."
37 DELEGATE PHILCOX: It's "the Veterans."
38 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Is it "the Veterans"?
39 DELEGATE PHILCOX: "Service to the Veterans."
40 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: They don't belong
41 to us. Maybe some of them.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. "To the
43 Veterans."
44 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Thank you.
45 DELEGATE PHILCOX: Thank you.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We'll make sure the
47 word is -- court reporter, "Service to Veterans." I don't
48 even think there's a "the" or "our." Nancy, is it Service
49 to Veterans? Okay. Yes, Service to Veterans. Yeah,
50 Service to Veterans. So just when you heard me say "the"

1 and "our," it's just Service to Veterans.
2 Is there any further discussion on that code
3 change?
4 (No response.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All in favor say
6 aye.
7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
9 no.
10 (No response.)
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carries.
12 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Home Service Code. I move
13 deletion of this section. I did -- we changed what we
14 were going to do for that section because that was talking
15 about taking out the orientation course. So all we did
16 was just change the title.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you stating
18 that -- are you motioning to delete the entire Home
19 Service Code?
20 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yes.
21 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I'm talking about the
22 one above it.
23 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: The one above it is based
24 on the information we got. This was deleting the
25 certification.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, I understand
27 what she's saying. The one before the Home Service Code,
28 this new unit 2, you didn't read that.
29 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: No, we didn't read that
30 one.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Are you going to?
32 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: We just changed it,
33 changed the name of Field Service Director to Service to
34 Veterans, and that's all we did in that code. We didn't
35 go through the whole thing. We deleted the course and all
36 that so new 2 is no good. Oh, I'm sorry. I did miss a
37 section, Diane.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I knew you would
39 catch up with us. I was just standing there.
40 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay. I was going to
41 delete code number 2 in its entirety, but we changed the
42 numbers and so now the old -- the 3, under 3: "Unit VA&R
43 Chairman shall submit requests for certificates, pins and
44 hour bars on the proper forms to the Department Office.
45 The Department VA&R Chairman will mail those forms to all
46 units annually after she receives the pricing information
47 from the Department Office. A copy of each Unit's request
48 shall be mailed to the Department VA&R by the Department
49 Office."
50 Change the code to read: "Unit VA&R Chairman

1 shall submit requests for certificate, pins and hour bars
2 on the proper forms to the Department Office. The
3 Department VA&R Chairman will post these new forms to the
4 Department website and included in program bulletins
5 mailed to those who pay for the Department mailing."

6 I move for the adoption.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
8 seconded to change number 3 of the Service to Veterans
9 code to read: "Unit VA&R Chairman shall submit requests
10 for certificate, pins and hour logs on the proper forms to
11 the Department Office. The Department VA&R Chairman will
12 post these new forms to the Department website and
13 included in program bulletins mailed to those who pay for
14 the Department mailing."

15 All those in favor say aye.

16 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
18 no.

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

21 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I move for the deletion of
22 the Home Service Code.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You will need to
24 read the code as it is.

25 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay. "The Department
26 VA&R chairman serves as the Home Service Director. One,
27 Home Service Director shall have current patterns and the
28 list of needed items for the representatives. She shall
29 compile a mass list by facilities for distribution to the
30 units at department workshops. Unit VA&R Chairman shall
31 submit requests for certificates, pins and hours on the
32 proper forms to the department office. The Department
33 VA&R Chairman will mail these forms to all units annually
34 as she receives the pricing information from the
35 department office. A copy of each request shall be mailed
36 to the department office, the Department VA&R Chairman by
37 the department office."

38 I move to delete this section of the code.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's been moved and
40 seconded to delete the section of the code for Home
41 Service Code. Is there any discussion on this deletion?

42 (No response.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor
44 say aye.

45 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
47 no.

48 (No response.)

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

50 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: 100 percent reportings

1 were given to District 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23,
2 24, 25, 27, and 28. The following awards were given.
3 Second place best unit report: Unit 291, District 29.
4 Third place best unit report: Jackie Robinson Unit 252,
5 District 23. Second place best district report: District
6 25. Third place best district report: District 22.

7 Districts were beginning to talk about events
8 within the districts. Unfortunately this was cut short
9 due to time. It is recommended in the future that this
10 program be given an hour and a half for their meeting.
11 The meeting closed at 10:00 a.m.

12 May I give my supplemental?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes, you may.

14 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: The balls have sure been
15 flying into the H.O.O.P.S. 4 Veterans. The year started
16 with Auxiliary members alongside Legion Family in parades,
17 holidays, dinners, and helping the Veterans. The momentum
18 did not stop then. The Legion Family participated in
19 stand downs, food, clothing, showers, medical and dental,
20 haircuts are done. Long Beach held a stand down just for
21 women veterans. Blankets, pillows, towels, clothing,
22 money, and toiletries were collected for this event.
23 Hours of work are put into these events. Now it's time to
24 do this event again. No one complains. They just line up
25 to help.

26 I attended the opening of the ASPIRE center in
27 San Diego. This joint venture by the VA and the City of
28 San Diego worked together to make this facility available
29 for the PTSD veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. This
30 facility housed 40 women and men for up to three months.
31 During the veterans' time at the facility, they received
32 job training skills. This is a step to get them off the
33 street and back into being productive.

34 When President Anita came to San Diego I went
35 with her, Lois Cornish, Cindy Simons and toured the Chula
36 Vista Veterans home, the WAVE Clinic, the ASPIRE Center,
37 and the VAMC in La Jolla. What a busy day. At the WAVE
38 Clinic we met the poppy makers. They are so organized and
39 worked as a team. We walked the halls of the VA hospital
40 and ending with a tour of the spinal cord unit.

41 I also flew to Palo Alto for a tour with Anita.
42 It was so rewarding to see the wonderful things we do for
43 the veterans. The gardens are a peaceful atmosphere that
44 just helps them to gather their thoughts. We were very
45 lucky to have a tour of the Fisher House. This was the
46 first time I saw one. It was beautiful.

47 The representatives and deputies coordinated
48 events at the VA facilities with the units. Monthly bingo
49 parties, buddy baskets, gift remembrances, the gift at
50 Jerry L. Pettis, the only hospital that operates a gift

1 shop. A veteran was allowed to select a gift to give to
2 his granddaughter.

3 Units along with the Legion Family stuffed 450
4 backpacks for active military children, coordinated with
5 the Armed Forces YMCA, baby showers for pregnant military
6 wives, Wreaths Across America laid wreaths at Christmas
7 time on veterans' graves, holiday dinners, support Ride 2
8 Recovery by serving meals to the participants and lining
9 the streets cheering them to the finish, participated in
10 the Stop Soldier Suicide Awareness Run, raised funds to
11 send World War II Veterans to Washington D.C. This will
12 be the last time these veterans will be able to attend
13 because of their age.

14 One district hosted their annual ball for
15 military children. They coordinate this event with other
16 districts and community organizations. 300 participants
17 have a great time enjoying a wonderful evening of fun.

18 Home Service is very important. They knitted
19 afghans, made quilts for laps and beds, provided meals and
20 baked. One unit provided monthly meals for the Wounded
21 Warriors at Camp Pendleton. Welcoming home returning
22 military personnel is very important. One unit stands at
23 the airport welcoming troops. Another unit prepares the
24 barracks leaving notes and gifts on the bed. Department
25 juniors made cards thanking them for their service.

26 The Fisher House is located at various military
27 facilities and VA hospital grounds. One unit member who
28 is part of the Blue Star Mothers helped to raise \$21,000.
29 The Legion Family in Long Beach is raising money for a new
30 Fisher House. They are getting closer, but far to their
31 goal.

32 Another Legion Family had operation all the way
33 home. This was to bring a wounded veteran home to his
34 family and friends. This teamwork by the town and people
35 made a dream for the SPC Jerral Hancock come true.

36 In District 20, a grassroots program was started
37 by Ms. Jamie Goodreau's history class at Lancaster High
38 School. This class adopted a severe -- this is sad.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's okay. Breathe,
40 Susie.

41 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I'm trying.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I know. Slow down.
43 It's okay.

44 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: This class adopted a
45 severely injured veteran to raise \$500,000 for a house.
46 This veteran's wife left him with his two small children.
47 He was wounded with a severed spine and burns. He
48 requires 24-hour care. The Legion Family pitched in and
49 has raised over \$10,000. Actor Gary Sinise came and put
50 on a concert. The convert raised over \$150,000. Mr.

1 Sinise paid for his band expenses out of his pocket. He
2 performs for wounded warriors all over the United States.
3 It was great to hear that he did this event. The class is
4 getting very close to their \$500,000 goal.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: That was me.

6 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: All right. I'm better
7 now.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Was anybody asleep?
9 I'm sorry. I was so moved by your reading, I wanted to
10 clap and I hit the microphone.

11 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: With the permission of
12 Madam President, there will be a resolution thanking Mr.
13 Sinise for all the work he does for the wounded warriors.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I think District 20
15 deserves a big round of applause.

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Led by Ann Philcox.
18 Ann Philcox, this is her mission in life.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Please continue,
21 Susie.

22 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Hoops 4 Veterans special
23 projects was the Temporary Financial Aid. Cans were
24 filled and units stepped up again. At the time of my
25 report to National, we had raised \$16,000. Now to date we
26 are very close -- I think we're over \$25,000.

27 (Applause.)

28 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: This year I have approved
29 ten TFA cases and I am still being asked for help.
30 Unfortunately there is not enough funds left. I have
31 referred them to the National American Legion and the next
32 year's chairman. The economic times are hard for veterans
33 of all ages. It's not just the young ones anymore.

34 Lasted year National voted to merge Field Service
35 and Home Service together. There is not -- I'm not going
36 to read that because it's no longer true.

37 It is recommended that next year's chairman throw
38 away the current report and write one that is very short.
39 I like that one.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We agree.

41 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I now would like to give
42 out my awards. I just want -- units donated to the
43 department over \$30,000 in funds to the department VA&R
44 program.

45 (Applause.)

46 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: \$10,900 to gift
47 remembrance department, and then we have the other which
48 is probably within their districts is 4,725. They've
49 raised 13,925 for the Fisher House and a value of new or
50 used clothing is \$37,426.18. Job well done. This is a

1 very -- this program is so heartwarming and rewarding and
2 it's just -- it's just wonderful. Lots of work.
3 Okay. My awards. Okay. Best unit report first
4 place: Oceanside Unit 146.
5 (Applause.)
6 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Best district report,
7 first place: District 19.
8 (Applause.)
9 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay. Highest donation at
10 the time of my report to National for Hoops 4 TFA was
11 District 6 with \$749.
12 (Applause.)
13 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Okay. Now I would like to
14 introduce some very special people and they're going to
15 give you the performance they gave at midyear. Ladies,
16 are you ready?
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Sergeant-at-Arms and
18 Marshal and Distinguished Guest Chairman, please escort
19 our team therapists, our hospital representatives, and
20 departments deputies.
21 (Processional.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Excuse me. I know
23 you all can sing better than that.
24 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Are you ready?
25 SINGERS: Take me out to the ball game. Take me
26 out to the crowd. Buy me a peanuts and Cracker Jacks. I
27 don't care if I never get back. Well, it's root, root,
28 root for the home team. California will win. Hooray.
29 For it's 10, 20, 30 will win at the old ball game.
30 (Applause.)
31 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: At midyear we were lucky
32 to have accompaniment by a trumpet player, so it was
33 really wonderful. I would like to introduce -- I hope
34 they're there. San Francisco, Lorraine Sullivan,
35 representative. June Jackson, deputy. Tammy Manini.
36 She's not here. Kathleen Sullivan. Sierra Nevada
37 Healthcare is Mary Lou Warner, and I know she's not here.
38 Sierra Foothills is Bonnie Chavoya. Northern
39 California is Wendy O'Brien, representative. Glenda
40 Schultz, deputy. Redding is Barbara Dailey.
41 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: She's right there. Come
42 up here, Barbara.
43 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Field OPC is Kelli
44 Gemeraad, deputy. Central California Fresno is Toni
45 Lopez, representative. I don't think she's here. Gloria
46 Sinopoli, deputy. South Valley OPC Gloria -- Marjorie
47 Boyer. Palo Alto and Menlo Park, Pat Klang,
48 representative. Connie Raya, deputy. Agnes Lopes,
49 deputy. Sandy Jacob, deputy. Arlene Muller, deputy.
50 Lucille Dilling, deputy.

1 Livermore is Ruth Briggs, representative. June
2 Souza, deputy. Susan Peters, deputy. San Diego is
3 Cynthia Simons, representative. Irma Manthei, deputy.
4 Patricia Sanborn, deputy. She's not here. Barbara Love,
5 deputy. WAVE Clinic poppy production Chula Vista Veterans
6 Home is Lois Cornish. She's here.
7 Loma Linda, Mavis Kanka. Elaine Gallagher,
8 deputy. Shirley Brown, deputy. Long Beach, Pat Alvarez,
9 representative.
10 (Applause.)
11 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Tami Bell, deputy.
12 (Applause.)
13 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Becky Bullard, deputy.
14 West LA is Earlean Paige, representative.
15 (Applause.)
16 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Susie Johansen, deputy.
17 Vi Walquist, deputy. West LA, Diane Williams, deputy.
18 (Applause.) Kathy Harris-Richardson, deputy.
19 Downtown East LA, Patricia Jackson-Kelly, deputy.
20 (Applause.)
21 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Pamela Hicks, deputy.
22 (Applause.)
23 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Dorothy-Anne Chavez,
24 deputy. Sepulveda, Julie Stranges, deputy. Santa
25 Barbara, Hermaine Fosmark. She's an honorary.
26 Bakersfield is Dee Ann Graham, deputy. Santa Maria OPC is
27 Dorothy Davis.
28 (Applause.)
29 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Barstow Veterans Home is
30 Evangeline Acosta. Fresno is Rosalie Taylor.
31 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Going
32 strong.
33 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Lancaster is Linda Hayes.
34 Saticoy is Madeline Lee.
35 (Applause.)
36 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: West LA is Ruth Hackney.
37 (Applause.)
38 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Yountville, Melanie
39 Taylor, deputy.
40 (Applause.)
41 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Geri Fitzpatrick. And
42 last, but not least, our newest home is Redding, Terry
43 Mikesell.
44 (Applause.)
45 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: It is an honor. These
46 ladies do so much. They wear me out. Midyear they were
47 telling all their stories what they do and stuff like that
48 and, oh, it's just fantastic. At this time I would like
49 to award the Vista award. This woman is very, very
50 energetic and she's always dropping me notes and stuff.

1 I'd like to give this award to Ruth Briggs, hospital
2 representative.
3 (Applause.)
4 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Can you please escort Ruth
5 up.
6 (Applause.)
7 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: It was hard not to say
8 anything to her all weekend. You get to keep this award
9 for a year and you can return it back next year to the
10 chairman. Congratulations.
11 HOSPITAL REP BRIGGS: Thank you, Susie.
12 (Applause.)
13 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Madam President, I want to
14 thank -- oh, would the Sergeant -- we'll wait for her.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: What you need,
16 Susie?
17 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I was going to excuse
18 them, but --
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'll excuse them.
20 Thank you. Are you done with your report?
21 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I'm done.
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. Before you
23 go, there's a special presentation that will be made to
24 you by Deputy Becky Bullard.
25 HOSPITAL DEP BULLARD: From the reps and deps, we
26 present you with this. We hope you will enjoy it. And if
27 you notice somebody pointed this out to me very
28 poignantly. I put reps and deps and I put an extra zero
29 in the 2014. You will never get another one like this.
30 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: That's wonderful.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is that a blanket?
32 HOSPITAL DEP BULLARD: And these are canning
33 jars.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, wow. That's
35 beautiful. And you have something for your garden here.
36 VA&R CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Thank you, Becky. I make
37 quilts. I have a spaghetti squash from hell that's now
38 growing over the dog house in the backyard. Anyone want
39 any squash? I counted 15 when I left. And I'm sorry I
40 didn't make any jelly. My tree is down, I have to wait
41 until October to get the apples. Thank you very much.
42 This was a wonderful chairmanship. I loved it. A lot of
43 work, but I loved it. And I work with a bunch of nice
44 ladies.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, Susie.
46 Thank you so much for your hard work. Great job.
47 (Applause.)
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Would the
49 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal along with the Distinguished
50 Guest Chairman please escort our most important

1 volunteers, our team therapists, hospital representatives,
2 and deputies back to their stations.

3 (Processional.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Okay. I have a note
5 that there's a king-sized quilt that is -- I think that
6 one in the corner. The money is going to our special
7 project and they'll be giving that away on Saturday.
8 Maryann called; is that right? Hello? The tickets are
9 three for \$5. So please participate.

10 Joan Cannon, can you please come to the stage.
11 And we'll have our next report. Diana Moreno.

12
13 AMERICANISM REPORT

14
15 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: I brought my
16 friends with me, Betsy Ross and one soldier to represent
17 all our soldiers and veterans.

18 Madam President, good afternoon.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good afternoon.

20 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: The convention
21 committee on Americanism met on June 19th, 2014 in Room
22 202 of the Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara,
23 California. Chris Ann De La Rosa was appointed secretary,
24 Bonnie Christner offered prayer, and Wilma Miner was
25 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 24 district
26 delegates answered roll call. There were six visitors
27 present including one junior.

28 The committee agreed upon the following report:
29 One code change was recommended by the community regarding
30 Department Americanism essay contest. On page 10, Code 4,
31 Group V, children with exceptional needs below that of
32 average students.

33 Madam President, would you like me to read the
34 entire Code 4? I have one little change in it.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We have to read it
36 and --

37 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Okay. "The
38 Department shall" --

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is this a
40 housekeeping change?

41 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: No. Okay. "The
42 Department shall sponsor an Americanism Essay Contest.
43 Competition to be in the indicated box below with prizes
44 and citations for first and second place in Group I, II,
45 III, and V and first, second, and third place educational
46 grant winners in Group IV. The amount of prize money may
47 be adjusted if not available. Group I: 4th and 5th
48 grades. Prizes: First - \$100; second - \$50. 2007.
49 Group II: 6th and 7th grade. Prizes: First - \$100;
50 Second - \$50. 2007. Group III: 8th and 9th Grades.

1 Prizes: First - \$200; second \$100. 2007. Group IV:
2 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. Prizes: First - \$2500
3 Educational Grant; second - \$1,500 Educational Grant;
4 third - \$1,000 Educational Grant. 2007. Group V:
5 Children with exceptional learning needs below that of
6 average students. Prizes: Ages 11 to 14. First - \$200;
7 second - \$100; ages 14 years 9 months to 20 years: First
8 - \$200; second - \$100. 2007. The rules governing these
9 contests for each group shall be made available to the
10 units by September 1. The prize for Group IV shall be
11 financed by voluntary contributions from the units. 2007.
12 Group V are students classified as children with
13 exceptional learning needs below those of average
14 students. All students eligible for special classes, and
15 not admitted because of lack of facilities shall be
16 identified as such at the discretion of the school.
17 2007."

18 What we propose to change, and then I can reread
19 the whole thing again if you would like --

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: (Shakes head.)
21 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: -- is change the
22 children with exceptional learning needs below that of
23 average students, change the second group within that
24 group of ages 14 years 9 months to 20 years, to change it
25 to ages 15 to 20 years. I move on behalf of the
26 preconvention committee, I move we accept this change.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The preconvention
28 committee for Americanism proposed change code number 4 as
29 read. The change will be in the category V for ages from
30 14 years 9 months to 20 years first place \$200, second
31 place \$100, and change that age to 15 to 20 years, first
32 place \$200 and second place \$100. The only change would
33 be 15 years from 14 years 9 months. Do you understand the
34 code change?

35 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yes.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Is there any
37 discussion on this code change?

38 (No response.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All those in favor,
40 say aye.

41 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those opposed say
43 no.

44 (No response.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Motion carried.

46 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Thank you. There
47 was a housekeeping change and we don't need to go over
48 that. Citations were awarded to units and districts for
49 100 percent and various other awards. Americanism essay
50 certificates and monies were also awarded for second and

1 third place essays.

2 Madam President, this concludes my committee
3 report. May I continue with my narrative report?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We need to know what
5 your housekeeping change was. We just need to know where
6 it is. We need to know what are you changing.

7 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Well, we were
8 changing -- there isn't a code. It was just on the
9 American essay contest rules for schools -- do you want me
10 to read that?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: No, if it's not in
12 the code, you don't need to.

13 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: No, it's not a code
14 change. It's just adding the age to those kids.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you.

16 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: The Americanism
17 statistical report can you found on page 13 of the Book of
18 Reports. And there was some concern. There was an error
19 on that page, so I'd like to real quickly just to ease
20 everyone's mine. On page 13 it says: "Number of units
21 participating in the Department Americanism Essay
22 Contest," it says zero. Well, there were 30. Our
23 wonderful Ruby left off the 3.

24 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm not
25 perfect.

26 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: And the total
27 number of schools was 91 with 126 classrooms participating
28 and 4,296 essays were read and graded by our wonderful
29 unit members.

30 (Applause.)

31 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: The importance of
32 the Americanism program is reiterated each time we recite
33 the preamble of the American Legion Auxiliary in the
34 statement, "To foster and perpetuate a 100 percent
35 Americanism." This head coach is proud to report that the
36 Yankee Doodle Dandies -- all my Yankee Doodle Dandies
37 stand up. All my District Chairmen, Unit Chairmen. Thank
38 you.

39 (Applause.)

40 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: My Americanism team
41 not only included juniors, Legionnaires and Sons in their
42 project and events, they worked alongside organizations
43 including the Blue Star Mothers, Ride 2 Recovery, Boy
44 Scout and Girl Scout troops, the VA and the VFW.

45 Some exceptional team games included a District
46 18 unit donating three flags to the Field of Valor in
47 memory of those who have served, in memory of those
48 currently serving, and in memory of all women who have
49 served and are serving. A District 30 unit, along with
50 their post -- come on. You can clap.

1 (Applause.)

2 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Along with their
3 post holds a flag retirement ceremony at a different
4 school each year and it involves dozens of students and
5 teachers. A District 16 unit held a flag ceremony at a
6 local nursing home where they honored each veteran in the
7 home and gave flags to all in attendance. Unit members of
8 one District 29 unit -- and this really got to me. A
9 District 29 unit spends ten hours every week participating
10 in a downtown lowering of the flag ceremony.

11 (Applause.)

12 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Patriotic holidays
13 were a slam dunk by units attending or participating in
14 parades and events for 9/11, Veterans Day, Memorial Day,
15 Flag Day, and 4th of July distributing hundreds of flags,
16 patriotic bookmarks, stickers, and coloring books and
17 placing flags on thousands of veterans' graves. I think
18 it was actually tens of thousands.

19 Unit members kept the ball in motion at schools
20 all over California sponsoring the Americanism Essay
21 Contest, presenting programs and assemblies, giving out
22 student shoe and food vouchers, donating funds to schools
23 and their libraries, presenting flags, patriotic stickers,
24 worksheets, coloring books, pencils, singing songs and
25 cultivating patriotism by involving students in a variety
26 of ways including carrying flags and poem recitations.

27 A three pointer was scored by Unit 6, District 22
28 as they continued a tradition established in 1950 of
29 participating in a New Citizen program with one member
30 teaching potential new citizens the Pledge of Allegiance
31 in English and the unit providing --

32 (Applause.)

33 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: And the unit
34 providing each new citizen with a poppy corsage, patriotic
35 ribbon, flag, flag pin, our country's flag and light of
36 liberty.

37 Like players weaving their way across a crowded
38 basketball court, units presented full-size flags to
39 schools, city councils, fire departments, a WAVE Clinic
40 and poppy production center, veterans homes, a Girl Scout
41 troop, a senior center and one flag was presented to a
42 patriotic neighbor that could not afford to replace his
43 sad, tattered flag.

44 The military and their families were provided
45 with food, gift and phone cards, home-cooked meals and
46 free meals at post and unit functions. Blue Star Banners,
47 holiday parties and baby showers. Units sent pocket
48 flags, notes, cards, and care packages to troops overseas.
49 Unit 684, District 27 hosted an annual POW/MIA candlelight
50 ceremony with the VFW and the USO and was generously

1 supported with donations raised by District 18 members
2 delighting everyone with an old-fashioned USO show.

3 (Applause.)

4 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: The National Guard
5 and their families were supported by units sponsoring
6 farewell and welcome home ceremonies; inviting them to
7 post and unit events, hosting holiday parties and
8 presenting Blue Star Banners. One unit honored those with
9 25 plus years in the Guard and another donated 120 student
10 backpacks to the Armed Forces YMCA.

11 Members not only attended the American Legion
12 Oratorical Contest, or they provided assistance,
13 refreshments and judges. American Legion baseball
14 participation included fundraisers, attending games,
15 transportation and providing sports equipment.

16 Do you mind if I get personal for a moment?
17 National has asked us to show pride in our organization.
18 Are you team players proud to be a member of the American
19 Legion Auxiliary?

20 (Applause.)

21 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Then jump up and
22 say it. I am proud to be a member American Legion
23 Auxiliary.

24 (Applause.)

25 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Our team players
26 showed their membership pride by wearing poppies,
27 Auxiliary pins and clothing, saying it in emails, in
28 letters, on Facebook, and in line at the grocery store.
29 They Twittered, they Tweeted -- now do you remember all
30 remember Patriotic Patty? Well, she even twerked. I told
31 her that's not showing pride. And marched in parades on
32 the 4th of July, on Veterans Day and Memorial Day, at
33 stand downs. And one unit proudly displaced bouquets of
34 poppies at the base of flagpoles at five local cemeteries.

35 In conclusion, this Yankee Doodle Dandy head
36 coach would like to thank you, Commissioner Biggs, for the
37 opportunity to serve on your Dream Team and to wish you
38 well with the remainder of your season as Department of
39 California Commissioner.

40 Madam President, may I present the first place
41 Americanism and essay awards?

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Please do.

43 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Ladies, did you all
44 get your notes? Okay. Good. There they are. First let
45 me give the essay awards. And I can't tell you how proud
46 I was reading these. Some of these made me cry, they made
47 me laugh. And it was really a wonderful chairmanship,
48 Madam Commissioner. Thank you so much.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you so much.
50 Thank you.

1 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: First place goes to
2 Alexis Williams, Marina Vista Elementary. This is first
3 place group I, grades 4 and 5 essay title, "Why should I
4 show respect to the American flag?" That was sponsored by
5 Auxiliary Unit 694, District 28.

6 (Applause.)

7 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: And there's a check
8 for \$100 to the child.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Please take your
10 photos after your report.

11 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: I was going to say,
12 after, ladies. First place, group II, grade 6 and 7
13 awarded \$100 to Kennan Davis, McElroy School, Auxiliary
14 Unit 118, District 27.

15 (Applause.)

16 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: When I think about
17 those 4,296 essays that were read, I have to take my hat
18 off to all these ladies. Okay. First place group III,
19 grades 8 and 9, "What does the Pledge of Allegiance mean
20 to me?" Sponsored by Unit 694, District 28, America --
21 how could she not win? -- Osornio of L.A.M.S. And a check
22 for \$200.

23 (Applause.)

24 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: First place, group
25 IV, and this is a -- oh, and group IV is grades 10, 11,
26 and 12, for the \$2500 educational grant -- she'll be
27 receiving 500 and \$2,000 will be credited to her college
28 or university of her choice within two years of
29 graduation. That is Tatiana Youpa of Marina High School,
30 Auxiliary Unit 694, District 28.

31 (Applause.)

32 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: \$200 for first
33 place in group V, ages 11 to 14, children with special
34 needs essay titled, "What is a veteran?" Sponsored by
35 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 587, District 7, Jimmy
36 DaRe, Foresthill Divide School. And he even -- he wrote
37 his little essay telling what he felt a veteran was and he
38 included a handmade drawing of the American flag.

39 (Applause.)

40 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: And he received
41 \$200. I'm not sure if I said that. First place group
42 ages 15 -- I should have said 14 years 9 months. Ages 15
43 to 20, "What is a veteran?" David Gutierrez, Princeton
44 Junior/Senior High School, Auxiliary Unit 98, District 4.

45 (Applause.)

46 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: And a check for
47 \$200. Thank you. Thank you, ladies. And for my
48 supplementals I have -- let's see. Wait a sec. Wait a
49 sec. Three awards. One for first place best unit
50 Americanism project, and that goes to Kim Vincent, Unit

1 138, chairman District 30. And that's for their flag
2 retirement ceremony held on November 8th at Finnley
3 Elementary School.

4 (Applause.)

5 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Best unit -- where
6 are you? Here, sweetie pie. Best unit supplemental goes
7 to Stephanie Janji, Unit 76, District 29.

8 (Applause.)

9 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Now this will make
10 you cry. This goes to -- our little soldier goes for our
11 first place best overall district supplemental, Debbie
12 Fletcher, District 25.

13 (Applause.)

14 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Madam chairman,
15 that concludes my year as the Americanism Chairman. Thank
16 you all and God bless America. Oh, wait. I'm not done.
17 I forgot. I even talked to the National President about
18 this. Where are you? Where are you? To all the team
19 players here today, this chairman asked you to take with
20 you the knowledge you have gained and the experiences that
21 have inspired both smiles and tears. And in the words of
22 National President Nancy Brown-Park: Pass it on. Pass it
23 on. Pass it on.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Pass it on.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you so much,
26 Diana Moreno. That's a great report. Give her a big
27 round of applause.

28 (Applause.)

29 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Since I managed to
30 get through that okay. Thank you for your support this
31 year. I lost my husband a year ago. I got hundreds and
32 hundreds of cards from units and districts throughout
33 California and I can't tell you how much it meant. Thank
34 you.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We love you, Diana.
36 We have your back. We are there for you. He was a great
37 veteran and Legionnaire. Did you have any submissions,
38 Diana, for the Veronica Spence award?

39 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: Actually, there
40 were none.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We want to make sure
42 that our juniors are utilizing this potential earning.
43 You know, we have this money here and it's only for junior
44 members. And we need to support them and perhaps have an
45 essay to make sure we pass that on at our high schools and
46 whatever school they're in. It's not for grade school and
47 up.

48 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN MORENO: I'm going to post a
49 list. There were none.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And could you please

1 give a copy of your scholarship award winners to our court
2 reporter? Thank you.

3 Before we move on with our next to last, we're
4 going to have our Distinguished Guest Chairman speak and
5 then we're going to have an address by our National
6 President Nancy.

7 Someone from the 3rd district, there's no name on
8 here, but they lost \$60. It fell out of their purse this
9 afternoon and they really need that money. So if anyone
10 found the \$60, please return it to District 30. Someone
11 back -- just take it back there and I'm sure someone will
12 take the money.

13 Ladies, Cindy Newman is asking that you please
14 support the convention by purchasing this beautiful blue
15 polo shirt. It comes in ladies' sizes. The men's polos
16 with pockets are also available. The cost is only \$30 and
17 up for, I guess, bigger sizes. And proceeds pay the bills
18 for this convention. Today is the last day. The shirts
19 are in the back in the corner over there, so please see
20 Cindy before you leave if you'd like to have a shirt.
21 They're very beautiful.

22 We will now hear from our Distinguished Guest
23 Chairman Linda Workman.

24
25 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN REPORT

26
27 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam
28 Department Presidents and Delegates. Okay. So at midyear
29 meeting I stated that as general manager of our Dream Team
30 I would know the difference between a golf ball and an
31 exercise ball and a basketball by convention, but all I
32 can tell you is that one is white, one is orange, and one
33 is any color you want it to be. I'm still wiping up my
34 chin, so I got that dribble thing down, but not the kind
35 that you do with a ball.

36 Now I've heard about the Sweet 16. There's
37 something eight and a final four, but I still don't know
38 how you decide who wins the Superbowl of basketball. I
39 tried that running thing, but it didn't work out so well
40 for me so I gave up that part. The only running I do is
41 after my grandkids.

42 I do want to thank you all for sending me the
43 stiletto tennis shoe websites, but seeing how I couldn't
44 do any of the other basketball functions, I thought buying
45 those shoes was pretty useless. But thanks to Madam
46 President --

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And the 27th
48 District.

49 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: -- and the
50 27th District I was able to wear these today.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I passed it on.
2 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Pass it
3 on. Madam President, it has been a pleasure to serve you
4 this year as your Distinguished Guest Chairman. I was
5 able to meet with my long lost Ginger Cox, Western
6 Division National Vice President, as not only did we have
7 so many things in common, but she also shares the same
8 birthday as I. Some of you might know, I was a twin and
9 my sister died at birth. My mom would always say that she
10 wouldn't know what she would do with two like me, but I
11 think that I found my match in Ginger.

12 Here at convention it has been my honor to assist
13 with the official visit of our very distinguished guest,
14 National President Nancy Brown-Park. Don't get too used
15 to this, buddy, because in August we're back to sharing
16 rooms and other stuff.

17 Okay. Madam President, I would be remiss if I
18 did not thank you for allowing me to work with Cherie
19 Galvan and Taadhimeka Stovall, your department
20 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal. They have been the
21 greatest.

22 (Applause.)

23 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: For those
24 of you who will be attending the banquet, I know you'll
25 have a wonderful time and enjoy the entertainment tonight.

26 Now normally I leave you with a little bit of
27 wisdom, so here's just a little thought. A psychology
28 teacher had just finished a lecture on mental health and
29 had proceeded to give an oral quiz to the students.
30 Speaking specifically about manic depression, the teacher
31 asked how would you diagnose a patient who walks back and
32 forth screaming at the top of his lungs one minute and
33 then sits in a chair weeping uncontrollably the next. A
34 young man in the rear of the room raised his hand and
35 answered. A basketball coach.

36 Madam President, this concludes my platform
37 remarks.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, Linda,
39 for your wise words once again. We have our head coaches
40 out there. They know what we're talking about.

41 At this time I would like to bring up our most
42 distinguished guest; Nancy Brown-Park of Palm Desert,
43 California was elected National President of the American
44 Legion Auxiliary during the organization's 93rd National
45 Convention last year.

46 Our Nancy, a 66-year member, joined the ALA
47 through her father Richard E. Brown, a World War II Army
48 Air Force veteran. Nancy was the first honorary Junior
49 Department President. Nancy followed in the Past
50 Department President footsteps of her mother, Jean Brown,

1 making them the first mother/daughter to serve the state's
2 highest office.

3 She is also eligible through the service of her
4 husband, Jim Park, a Navy Vietnam veteran and officer, by
5 the way. She exemplifies the ALA's model of "Service, not
6 self" by actively volunteering in her community and other
7 organizations.

8 Please give a California welcome to our own Nancy
9 Brown-Park, the National President of the American Legion
10 Auxiliary.

11 (Applause.)

12
13 ADDRESS BY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

14
15 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: I'm practicing.
16 So I want you to know that Terry put her hands over her
17 head when she heard I was 66. You didn't know that?

18 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: No.

19 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: I am a 66-year
20 member. And it's funny how across the country people go,
21 "Really?" Well, I was four days old when my parents
22 signed me up, so now you know how old I really am.

23 So I'm excited to be here. It's been an
24 incredible few days to be back home again. I have really
25 missed California. And when you travel around the United
26 States, everybody does things differently, but nobody does
27 things like we do in California.

28 (Applause.)

29 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: And that's a good
30 thing. Ruby said, "Is that good or bad?" That's a really
31 good thing. So Diana, Diana, your report was awesome and
32 I understand you're moving and you're going to Nevada and
33 can I tell you, I said to Harriet, they really, really
34 need her in Nevada. Oh, yeah, and I said in the spirit of
35 goodwill California's willing to share because Nevada
36 really needs some help. So the very best of luck. Your
37 report was wonderful and thanks for all your spirit and
38 your pass it on spirit. Thank you, Diana.

39 (Applause.)

40 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: I want to
41 recognized some really important people. Everybody is
42 really important. I did that the other day with that poem
43 too, but some really important people to me, the Melgard
44 family were in the back. So you can stand, Melgard
45 family.

46 (Applause.)

47 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Thank you. And I
48 had some national representatives that are serving with me
49 this year. So if you'll stand, Melanie Taylor, who is the
50 National Legislative Chairman. LuAnn Capazzi -- and maybe

1 we'll get them all up so that we can clap at once for
2 them. LuAnn Capazzi who is Vice Chair of Americanism.
3 Pilar Reyes, who is a Western Division Community Service
4 Chairman. Lou Thompson -- is Lou still here? Lou
5 Thompson is the Vice Chair of the Cavalcade of Memories.
6 Linda Fercho who is the Vice Chair of Membership. Midge
7 Farrar, Western Division Americanism. Kendall Madsen, who
8 is my Scrapbook Chairman. Sandra Rice, who is not here
9 with me today, but she is serving as the Western Division
10 Girls State chairman. Diane DeLashmit is the National
11 Parliamentarian. And I have four personal pages: Linda
12 and Sherry, Linda Workman, Sherry Schneider, Val Hardy and
13 Tammy Sollazzo. And they're going to serve with me at
14 convention. So I'm really excited. And our very own NEC
15 Terry Mikesell. So thank you very much, everybody.

16 (Applause.)

17 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: You have all done
18 an amazing job and I really, really appreciate all your
19 service and all your help. Thank you.

20 My theme I think this year is "Pass It on." I
21 really truly believe that it is our turn to pass on the
22 legacy of this organization to the next generation. You
23 know we are at a crossroads in the organization. And that
24 crossroads is that most of us in this room aren't going to
25 be here in 40 years. And that's kind of a shame. I mean,
26 we would all like to do this forever, but we're not going
27 to be here in 40 years.

28 We all each I think love this organization and
29 can you imagine your life without the organization? Can
30 you imagine the friendships, the support, the love that we
31 give each other. I think Diana shared with you when she
32 lost her husband the support she got. I know I did when I
33 lost both my mother and father. And so can you imagine if
34 we didn't have the American Legion Auxiliary what our
35 lives would be like.

36 We serve veterans every single day. That's what
37 we do. Veterans, active duty military, and their
38 families. I think a lot of us honor their service by
39 that. So if you look around today, we primarily serve
40 Vietnam veterans or veterans hospitals or veterans homes.
41 That's primarily that we serve today. So if we don't pass
42 on this incredible legacy to the next generation to give
43 them the opportunities that we have to serve, who is going
44 to serve? Who's going to do it? So it is our
45 responsibility as good caretakers of the organization to
46 pass it on.

47 So do you think you can all do that? Do you
48 think it's time that we pass on this organization? Okay.
49 Don't everybody speak at once.

50 (Applause.)

1 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Oh, good. Oh, I
2 see him back there. I have to stop now. My husband is in
3 the room. Actually, both my husbands are in the room. My
4 husband, the first dude Jim Park is right in the back and
5 he's with Lyle Workman who is Linda's husband. And I
6 always called him -- you know, he was around before my
7 husband was, so -- so my husband has been absolutely
8 incredible. He's been with me every single step of the
9 way.

10 Honey, I love you dearly and I'm so glad you
11 could be here. You know, Mr. Gopher just went out there
12 for me.

13 (Applause.)

14 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So I'm going to
15 give you just a few numbers because I think it's important
16 that you know that our members volunteer over eight
17 million hours.

18 (Applause.)

19 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: That's amazing.
20 Our members raised or spent on veterans and military
21 families almost 36 million dollars.

22 (Applause.)

23 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So the total
24 value of Auxiliary members volunteers service is 1.85
25 billion dollars.

26 (Applause.)

27 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So now stop and
28 think about that. Think what happens if we don't pass on
29 that legacy. Who's going to help all those veterans,
30 active duty military and their families? So this is the
31 time when we dig down and say why do we belong? Why are
32 we here? We're here to serve. What we need now is to
33 pass that on.

34 Have you ever -- we -- so I had a goal when I
35 started this year and my goal was to secure the future of
36 the American Legion Auxiliary. And you think, wow, crazy.
37 That's a great big goal. But when I broke it down I said
38 how are we going to do that. So I knew it was important
39 that we had a plan in place before I left. I can't do it
40 by myself. We can all do it together. As a national
41 organization. We can do it together.

42 So we decided we would have a new strategic plan.
43 So our new plan is called the Centennial Strategic Plan.
44 And I think at the very beginning when Anita made her
45 report yesterday, she talked about the five goals. Those
46 five goals are brand identity, department and unit
47 development, leadership, goodwill, and to do all four of
48 those things, we can make that million member by our
49 centennial birthday. But we can't do that unless we all
50 do it together.

1 So we created the plan, your incoming -- no, your
2 newly elected department president, your acting secretary,
3 and your vice president, department membership chairman
4 were asked to create a plan to put a plan in place. And
5 they've done that. And I know that President Harriet is
6 going to share that with you so that we can begin to make
7 the changes that we need to make.

8 As I travel around the United States, I know, I
9 see it, and each of you do too. We're broken internally.
10 We're struggling as an organization. So now is the time
11 that we need to come together to change that and we can do
12 that with this new strategic plan. So when you get to
13 National Convention you're going to hear some great big
14 budget numbers because we're going to start to invest in
15 ourselves and that's what we have to do.

16 You know, I say we have 30 million dollars in the
17 bank, but we haven't invested in ourselves. And if we
18 don't, we lose 25,000 members a year. So how long do you
19 think it's going to take before we're sending in an
20 annuity check, each one of us because we won't be an
21 organization. So I think together we can make those
22 changes. So that's our plan.

23 I want to tell you a story and I'm going to tell
24 you a story of why I each and every day get up -- and some
25 days it's not easy -- and do what I do. You know, I wear
26 my button, Honor Their Service button with pride, and it's
27 got my father who's a World War II veteran and my husband
28 who was a Vietnam War veteran. I wear that every day, but
29 I met a veteran when I was in Oregon and he was at the
30 home, veterans home. And I was meeting everybody and
31 greeting, and that's one of my very favorite things to do
32 is either visit a VA hospital or a veterans home.

33 And while I was there, when I -- this man was
34 behind me and he wanted to meet me. So I met him. And I
35 said, "How are you?" And he said, "Great." And he looked
36 at me and he said, "There were too many dead bodies." And
37 I said, "Well, I'm sorry to hear that." And he said it
38 twice. So I said, "When did you serve?" He said
39 "Vietnam." And I said, "What did you do?" He said, "I
40 worked in the morgue." I said, you know, "When did you
41 join?" He said, "I was drafted right after high school."
42 I said, "When did you graduate from high school?" He
43 said, "1965."

44 I graduated from high school in 1965. Look at my
45 life and look at his life. He'll never leave that
46 veterans home. That's why we do what we do every single
47 day.

48 So I'm going to change the subject a little bit
49 and I'm going to tell you a little bit about some of our
50 foreign travel. Jim and I had the opportunity to travel

1 with the National Commander and the first lady and we went
2 to South Korea. South Korea is a pretty amazing place
3 because it really is -- it's still a war zone. So you
4 never know. They're not very far away from the North
5 Koreans.

6 But we got there and they said, "Oh, Peggy
7 Thomas." And I said, "Do I look like Peggy Thomas?" So
8 we kind of laughed and Peggy had raised last year, I think
9 a lot of people last year donated money for computers for
10 the DMZ. So we raised so much money that we still have
11 extra money, but they had Peggy's picture on the wall,
12 they had -- I said: Wait a minute. How do I get my
13 picture on the wall?

14 So they were great. But one of the things we
15 found is they really are, they're the forgotten area.
16 They haven't seen a care package since 1956. I don't know
17 what the date was, but it was a long, long time ago. So
18 when I got back, I had the opportunity to be on an email
19 trail with the National Security Team and I said, you
20 know, something you might consider is thinking about
21 sending boxes to the DMZ. And this was after
22 Thanksgiving. We were there for Thanksgiving.

23 And so, boy, they jumped on that. Do you have an
24 address? And before you knew it, there were over 200
25 packages at the DMZ. That is what the American Legion
26 Auxiliary is all about.

27 (Applause.)

28 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So we had an
29 incredible time in Korea. We went to Okinawa. We were in
30 Taiwan. And I loved all the food. Everybody was worried
31 about the food. I loved the food, except the soup that
32 had the chicken head floating in it. That was not very
33 good.

34 So then just recently we just got back a week ago
35 today from Europe. We had an incredible trip. We had --
36 it was the 70th anniversary for D-Day. And can I tell you
37 that the people on the Normandy coast 70 years later still
38 are thankful for what the Americans did when we landed on
39 that Normandy coast. They are still thankful. There are
40 signs that say, "Welcome Liberator." It's 70 years later.
41 It's pretty incredible.

42 So it was for us a pretty incredible thing. We
43 were able to see 600 plus paratroopers from the 82nd
44 airborne division that landed in the same place they
45 landed the day before D-Day. So that reminded us of all
46 those sacrifices that were made by so many and by so many
47 families.

48 And when you're there and you see those graves
49 and they're lined up perfectly, it makes us stop and
50 remember why we do what we do. Why we belong to this

1 organization.

2 So I have a special project this year and I want
3 to thank the Department of California for your really kind
4 donation. It was great. And you were all awesome. You
5 gave such a nice donation. \$3,300.

6 (Applause.)

7 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: And so the good
8 part of that is you also received a grant; you received a
9 grant from the Veterans Foundation Project and that grant
10 was to buy iTunes cards to take to the wounded warriors.
11 So we purchased the iTunes cards. We took them. We
12 didn't have enough Wounded Warriors for the number of
13 iTunes cards that we received, so the balance are going to
14 Walter Reed during Girls Nation during the picnic that we
15 have at Girls Nation.

16 (Applause.)

17 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: But I want to
18 thank you for the Walk, Run & Roll. That was my special
19 project. It's community service and it was meant for
20 every department to be able to create awareness and raise
21 funny -- not funny. Raise money that would stay in your
22 department for veterans active duty and military. And I
23 understand to date, and it's going to be higher tomorrow,
24 that you've raised over \$7,097.

25 (Applause.)

26 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: So Joan Cannon,
27 you did an awesome job. Thank you, Joan. It was awesome.
28 I want to thank some special people. Linda Workman, who's
29 been my campaign manager. Did she leave?

30 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: I'm here.

31 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Oh, good. She's
32 always got my back. Linda, who has been my campaign
33 manager, one of my closest friends, who's always been
34 there to support me, who's helped me along the way.
35 Linda, I cannot thank you enough. You and Lyle both you
36 both have been incredible friends to me.

37 (Applause.)

38 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: And Lou Thompson
39 has been the keeper of the funds for the campaign, and Lou
40 you've done an incredible job. You've kept us on track.
41 I really, really thank you for every bit of work that you
42 do for us. Thank you, Lou.

43 (Applause.)

44 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Linda Fercho and
45 Dennis and Terry who was my homecoming chairmen. Thank
46 you for everything. You were awesome. My homecoming was
47 terrific. I got to go to Disneyland. That was kind of
48 the highlight to me because I absolutely love Disneyland.
49 And thank you so much.

50 Lakewood unit and post, Tammy and Bill, you were

1 awesome. Thank you for allowing us to bring all these
2 people in. Thank you so much. It was awesome. We had a
3 great time. Thank you so much.

4 (Applause.)

5 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: And Newport
6 Beach. Wow, it was awesome. Thank you. Both the unit
7 and the post, we had an incredible time. Oh, my God, it
8 was just great. The water, the -- it was amazing. The
9 kids that entertained us. It was absolutely incredible,
10 so thank you so much.

11 My unit, Unit George Tadlock. Awesome. My
12 girls, we're all good friends, and we've all kind of came
13 together in this sort of motley crew of this unit. And so
14 it's been really fun so thanks to my unit. And to
15 District 26 where I've spent so many years, thank you
16 very, very much for all your help and all your support.

17 And to all the units, all the districts, all the
18 members, everybody that donated to my campaign. I can't
19 thank you enough for all that you've done for me. I can't
20 wait to see a sea of gold shirts on the way out the door
21 in Charlotte, North Carolina. I really thank each and
22 every one of them. And Charlotte is going to be a lot of
23 fun. We're going to do things a little bit differently
24 than usual. We did things differently in Washington D.C.
25 We had a flash mob which was really fun to create some
26 awareness. And so its going to be fun. The banquet will
27 be the Golden Age of Hollywood. So we're going to have
28 big band music because I'm from California. I'm a
29 California girl and it's my favorite, favorite time of the
30 year.

31 So I would encourage you each of you to think
32 about the organization, think about how you can change it.
33 What do we need to do. What do you need to do to build
34 your infrastructure again. What do we need to do. Do we
35 need to raise our dues. Do we need to raise money. Do we
36 need to be able to find a way to reinvest in ourselves to
37 be a very strong Department of California again.

38 And you notice I say "we." I would encourage us
39 to work closely with the Legion Family, that we work with
40 the American Legion and that we work with the Sons of the
41 American Legion and, of course, the Legion Riders.
42 Because we are one big family and that's how we're going
43 to be successful.

44 So thank you again. God bless each one of you,
45 God bless America, God bless our troops and their families
46 and our veterans. Thank you for the hospitality. Thank
47 you so much.

48 (Applause.)

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you, Nancy.
50 So much for -- I mean National President Nancy. Put my

1 friend hat on -- so much for your coming, you know,
2 approving this visit, your official visitation instead of
3 the north and south. Since you did the south homecoming,
4 we thought it would be best to have you at our convention.
5 And this is a good day.

6 If anyone has any presentations for Nancy, feel
7 free to come to the stage at this time. Or if you're
8 coming to the banquet tonight and you have a presentation,
9 you may bring your presentation at that time.

10 At this time I would like to present a gift to
11 you, Nancy. You don't have to open this whole thing, but
12 I just want you to look at one thing that I did only
13 because it took me time, which I have very limited amounts
14 of. And I sat and did this because I really love you.
15 And I memorialized our year because I thought our year was
16 spectacular. I told Kendall I was going to do a book, and
17 I'm just not good at this stuff.

18 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Wow.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There are pictures
20 that you don't even know about that I have of you and I
21 figured they're not bad. They're all good. And I put the
22 book together and it's my presentation to you because this
23 has been a spectacular year. I know. There's a picture
24 of her. She didn't know about that. There's a picture of
25 her next to Josie that she didn't know that I took a
26 couple years ago and Josie was still here.

27 And so it's just my -- it's from my heart.
28 There's a lot of me in here. Like my mom said, "It's all
29 about you, Anita."

30 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: You know, Anita,
31 you have -- it's been an incredible pleasure for me to
32 work with you this year as your National President, but
33 you have done an incredibly -- it's just an incredible
34 job. What you've come up against, what you've had to work
35 through, I think each and every one of us is so proud of
36 you and what you've accomplished that we need to applaud
37 you.

38 (Applause.)

39 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Anita's mother is
40 right, it is all about her. So thank you, everybody.
41 It's amazing. You're awesome and this is like
42 unbelievable. Oh, my God. Look at this. I will leave
43 this up here if anybody wants to peek at it.

44 AUDIENCE: Pass it on. Pass it on.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This has been a
46 fantastic convention, if I say so myself. I've enjoyed
47 myself and I'm so happy that National President Nancy can
48 be here at this time.

49 Would the district and unit color barriers please
50 get to the back of the room so that the Sergeant-at-Arms

1 and Marshal can prepare for the recessional of colors.
2 Before we do that, we will have a dribble by Linda
3 Workman.

4 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: For those
5 of you who received an official invitation for the
6 cocktail party this evening for President Anita, the room
7 has been changed to 1425.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: 1425 for the
9 cocktail party at 6:00 p.m. for anyone who received an
10 invitation. Please come to 1425. Thank you.

11 NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Just quickly, my
12 National President's pins will be at the back and the
13 pages will pass them out. The pages and Sergeant-at-Arms
14 and Marshal will pass them out. Please, you can only have
15 one. I want to make sure that everybody gets one, so I
16 can only give one to each person.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you. They're
18 passing them out now. That's fabulous. We have a final
19 total for the Walk, Run & Roll contest.

20 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN CANNON: Actually, the
21 final total will be tomorrow because very generous people
22 gave me some more money. But I was giving awards out to
23 the greatest amount donated by a district, unit, and an
24 individual. So for our district I would like to announce
25 it was District 28, \$350, Sue Baker, chairman.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: How much? They
27 donated \$350, Sue Baker, Chairman. So if you can come
28 pick up your \$50.

29 (Applause.)

30 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN CANNON: The unit was
31 Unit 741, District 16, \$400. Madeline Lee, the great
32 collector of money. So \$50 for her unit.

33 (Applause.)

34 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN CANNON: This one was
35 just awesome and I actually have an honorable mention
36 because we got so much from two people. But our highest
37 amount for an individual, Maryann Collum. And she didn't
38 put her district down or unit.

39 AUDIENCE MEMBER: 28.

40 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN CANNON: District 28.
41 \$1,846.

42 (Applause.)

43 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN CANNON: So Maryann,
44 if you're here or somebody from District 28 can come pick
45 it up for her. And thank everybody that donated and is
46 still donating. Thanks to Norma for lending me her Peter
47 to help at the Legion getting money for us. And for Wendy
48 O'Brien for continually buying more and more. And she did
49 a great thing. She's buying them and giving them to the
50 people who sponsored her as a thank you gift. So there's

1 still more. And there will be a final total tonight, but
2 right now like National President said we're at \$7,097
3 which I have a little bit more in the bucket. Thank you
4 all very much.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: As we are preparing
7 for the recessional, Madam Secretary, do you have any
8 dribbles?

9 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I want to
10 remind all the outgoing chairmen that they need to turn in
11 their procedure books to the department office with a
12 corrected copy of their convention report to be included.
13 All the incoming officers or chairmen, you need to pick
14 them up by noon tomorrow or you won't have one to work
15 with next year.

16 I want to remind these districts to please pick
17 up your membership cards: District 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14,
18 23, 24, and 29. They are in the department office. See
19 Cassie.

20 DEPARTMENT 14: 14 has already picked up theirs.

21 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 14 picked
22 up theirs.

23 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Some already picked
24 them up.

25 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
26 Well, if you've picked them up, don't worry about the
27 announcement. But those who have not, please pick up
28 those membership cards and get them to the units. They
29 need them to start their 2015 membership year.

30 Okay. I just want to let you know that there
31 were some missing cards from National, which I will be
32 sending an email to them and asking them to please send
33 them to me. It was District 15, Unit 711, which is new;
34 District 16, Unit 50 there were no cards for; District 16,
35 Unit 220; District 17, Unit 628, which is new.

36 And I have a note here. Amy --

37 NEC CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Don't read that.

38 ACTING SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm not
39 going to read that. I will meet Amy -- if Amy Hubbard is
40 in the room, I will meet with you after the close of the
41 session. That concludes the dribbles.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: If you have a poppy
43 display or anything else in the room, please take that
44 with you this afternoon. We would like to acknowledge
45 Janeen Heatherington who is here with us this afternoon.
46 She is the wife of our Past Department Commander Dan
47 Heatherington.

48 (Applause.)

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We're so happy to
50 see you and grateful that you could join us.

1 Okay. I was told that Harriet needed to explain
2 her giveaway. Some are wearing their flowers in their
3 hair or as necklaces, but I think they belong -- they have
4 something to do cooking or pots.

5 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.
6 You're right.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Oh, this is if
8 you're stacking your pots in the cupboard and you put them
9 in the pots and pans and stuff and -- you know, I don't do
10 any of that because I don't cook. I'm just kidding. But
11 this is good. This is a cute. So we need a bunch of
12 these, Harriet, not just one.

13 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, are you prepared?
14

15 RECESSIONAL OF DISTRICT AND UNIT COLORS
16

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: The Sergeant-at-Arms
18 and Marshal and the color bearers, please retire the unit
19 and district colors.

20 (Processional.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Banners halt.
22 Banners stopped. Thank you. American flag, please go
23 ahead.

24 (Processional.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Banners you may
26 proceed.

27 (Processional.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I'm color guard so
29 I'm always going to tell you the right thing. Thank you
30 very much. That was beautiful. Hopefully we're going to
31 see all of you tonight at the banquet. Where is it? It's
32 at 7:00. Do we know where it is? Here comes Linda.
33 Maybe she knows. Well, you know, they like you to get
34 there early so you get a seat. Hotel?

35 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Up the
36 escalator.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Second level.

38 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: It's Santa
39 something.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Where the Sons were
41 meeting if you happened to see that. So if you get there
42 at 6:30, just follow all the ladies that you see in pretty
43 dresses. If you have any presentations for the National
44 President, you may do so at the banquet.

45 ADJOURNMENT
46

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: This session is in
48 recess until 8:30 a.m. and I hope you have a wonderful
49 evening tonight.
50

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

(The American Legion Auxiliary Convention
was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.)

