

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA  
96th ANNUAL CONVENTION  
SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2015  
ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

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

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1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

3 96th ANNUAL CONVENTION

4 SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2015; 8:36 A.M.

5 ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

6  
7 CALL TO ORDER

8  
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning,  
10 ladies. Can we take our seats? Good morning, ladies.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Sergeant-At-Arms  
13 and Marshal, can you please close the doors. Will the  
14 Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal, along with the Distinguished  
15 Guest Chairman, please escort the Honorary Junior  
16 President Maya Novicki to the podium.

17 (Processional.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Hello. This  
19 convention session is reconvened. Vella Myers, Master  
20 Comforter, Department Comforter, will offer the  
21 invocation.

22  
23 INVOCATION

24  
25 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MYERS: Good morning, ladies.

1 Let us pray. Father, as we continue this convention  
2 meeting, we are very grateful for your guidance. We ask  
3 that you continue to give us a measure of your wisdom and  
4 the ability to continue on with our deliberations as we  
5 seek to give service.

6 We also especially want you to keep in mind and  
7 your hand on her shoulder our sister Mary Adkins from  
8 District 19 who fell today and is hospitalized this  
9 morning. Thank you, Father. We appreciate your guidance.  
10 Amen.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Amen.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Americanism  
13 Chairman Donna Scott, can you please lead us in the Pledge  
14 of Allegiance?

15  
16 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

17  
18 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: If you were not here  
19 yesterday, I request that you keep your left hands free of  
20 any papers and if you can leave them on your chair. Place  
21 your right hand over your heart. Ready, begin.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: I pledge allegiance to the  
23 flag of the United States of America and to the republic  
24 for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible  
25 with liberty and justice for all.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Department  
2 Secretary Ruby Kapsalis will call the roll call of  
3 Officers, Chairmen, and District Presidents. District  
4 Presidents, as soon as your name is called, please meet  
5 outside and meet with Credentials Chairman Cheryl Neiffer.

6

7 ROLL CALL

8

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
10 morning, ladies. Have you ever awoken out of bed and just  
11 wished that you had stayed there?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well,  
14 that was yesterday. This is a new day. Department  
15 President Harriet Clendenin.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The Master  
17 Quilter's in the house.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
19 Department Vice President Susie Tozier.

20 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: I'm here.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
22 Secretary/Treasurer Ruby. Better day today.

23 NEC Woman Anita Biggs.

24 NEC WOMAN BIGGS: Good morning, Ruby.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

1 Chaplain Vella Myers.

2 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MYERS: Good morning.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
4 morning, Vella. Historian Tami Bell.

5 HISTORIAN BELL: Here. Barely.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
7 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit.

8 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Notions  
9 are still here.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's  
11 still notioning.

12 Musician Elizabeth Doidge and Baby Doidge.

13 MUSICIAN DOIDGE: I'm back here.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
15 Sergeant-At-Arms Sharon Moore.

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MOORE: Pass the guard in the  
17 house.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Marshal  
19 Debbie Fletcher.

20 MARSHAL FLETCHER: Here.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance  
22 Committee Chairman Geri Fitzpatrick.

23 FINANCE CHAIRMAN FITZPATRICK: Still asking for  
24 money.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's

1 broke; she needs money. Finance Committee Senior Member  
2 Kathryn Doran.

3 FINANCE COMMITTEE SENIOR MEMBER DORAN: Show us  
4 the money.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Show us  
6 the money. Finance Committee Junior Member Susan Peters.

7 FINANCE COMMITTEE JUNIOR MEMBER PETERS: Here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 Advisory Chairman Pilar Reyes.

10 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN REYES: Present.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
12 Advisory Terry Mikesell.

13 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL: Here.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And  
15 Margaret Quinones. Excused.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Excused.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past  
18 National President Nancy Brown-Park.

19 PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Still on.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
21 Americanism Donna Scott.

22 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: God bless America.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
24 Auxiliary Robin Falkenberg.

25 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: Still stringing those

1 beads.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
3 Children & Youth Loretta March. She's here. Community  
4 Service Tammy Sollazzo.

5 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Good  
6 morning, Ruby.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
8 morning. Constitution & Bylaws Michelle Soares.

9 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: I'm here.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
11 Convention Diane DeLashmit.

12 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DeLASHMIT: Yes.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Her  
14 feet are tired. Convention Commission Melanie Taylor.

15 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Still  
16 stitching my way to Fresno.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
18 Credentials Cheryl Neiffer.

19 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: She's counting  
20 them up and ready to roll.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
22 Distinguished Guest Linda Workman.

23 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Good  
24 morning.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good

1 morning. Editor Estella Avina.

2 EDITOR CHAIRMAN AVINA: Hear ye hear ye. Read  
3 all about it.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
5 Education Rosalie Taylor.

6 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Present. Good  
7 morning, Ruby.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 Elections Karen Bobren.

10 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN BOBREN: Good morning. I'm  
11 here.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
13 morning. Girls State Linda Hayes. She departed. Has she  
14 left the building? Oh, she's here. Okay. That's right.  
15 She's running for office.

16 Girls State Director Valerie Hardy.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Excused.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior  
19 Activities Kim Vincent.

20 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Present.  
21 Good morning.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
23 morning. Diana Livas.

24 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Good morning,  
25 besties.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
2 morning. Leadership Norma DuVall.

3 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Good morning, Ruby.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
5 morning. Legislative Anita Biggs.

6 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Being over here  
7 makes a difference.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 Leadership Susie Tozier.

10 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: I think I'm  
11 here.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
13 National Security Rebecca Stewart-Wilson.

14 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN STEWART-WILSON: Still  
15 illuminating for veterans.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past  
17 Presidents Parley Linda Fercho.

18 PPP CHAIRMAN FERCHO: We're still cooking.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Poppy  
20 Kathie Martinez.

21 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good morning, Ruby.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
23 morning. Public Relations Jennifer Bieger. She's  
24 excused, Madam President?

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I'm sorry? Yes.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

2 Resolutions LuAnn Capazzi.

3 RESOLUTION CHAIRMAN CAPAZZI: The Wordsmiths have  
4 to be done.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules  
6 Danielle White.

7 RULES CHAIRMAN WHITE: Here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules  
9 Danielle White.

10 RULES CHAIRMAN WHITE: I'm over here.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Bon  
12 jour. I don't know if I said that right.

13 Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation Wendy O'Brien.

14 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: I'm here.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ways &  
16 Means Karen Munch.

17 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN MUNCH: Good morning, Ruby.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
19 morning, Karen.

20 District Presidents. District 1, Pat Lindley.  
21 Excused, Madam President?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

24 District 2 is Nancy Johnson. District 2 Nancy Johnson.

25 DISTRICT 2 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 District 2 is here.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: There  
3 she is over here. Sorry, Nancy. Didn't see you.

4 District 3, Lola Ramey.

5 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: Good morning.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
7 morning. District 4, Lori Dowden.

8 DISTRICT 4: The Wood Crafters are here.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
10 District 5 Melanie Taylor.

11 NAT'L STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER TAYLOR:  
12 We are here. We're small, but mighty.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
14 District 6 Maria Lopez.

15 DISTRICT 6: Good morning, Madam President.  
16 We're so into you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
19 District 7 Janie Bandera.

20 DISTRICT 7: Good morning.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
22 morning. District 8 Tammy Manini. Absent. District 9  
23 Dolly Rios.

24 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

1 District 10 Liz Parshal.

2 DISTRICT 10: Good morning.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
4 morning. District 11 Maria Adame.

5 DISTRICT 11: Good job, Madam President.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
8 Excused, Madam President, Maria Adame? No, that's Mary  
9 Adame. That's not Maria Adame.

10 DISTRICT 11 MEMBER: I'm standing in here for  
11 her.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Excused.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
14 District 12 Kathy Smith. I understand Kathy is here.

15 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT SMITH: Good morning. The  
16 rodents are here.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

18 District 13 Donelda Denny.

19 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT DENNY: Present.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

21 District 14 Ellen McClurg.

22 District 14: Good morning, Madam President. The  
23 Sunny 14 is in the house.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

25 District 15, Dee Ann Graham.

1 DISTRICT 15: Fashion is checked, needles  
2 checked, scissors checked. Creating something special for  
3 our vets. Good morning, Madam President.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
6 District 16 Karen Munch.

7 DISTRICT 16: Good morning, Madam President.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
9 morning. District 17, Yoko Parsons-Crooks.

10 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT PARSONS-CROOKS: We're  
11 here.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
13 morning, Yoko. District 18 Laura Bradshaw.

14 DISTRICT 18: The 18 (inaudible) and are in the  
15 building. Good morning, Madam President.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
18 District 19, Becky Bullard.

19 DISTRICT 19: Good morning, Madam President. The  
20 noisy 19 District Dragons will continue to prepare for our  
21 veterans (inaudible). Hooray.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
23 District 20, Carol McChesney.

24 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT McCHESNEY: Good morning,  
25 Madam President.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

3 District 21, Brenda Wardrip.

4 DISTRICT 21: Good morning, Madam President.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

6 District 22, June Coatney?

7 DISTRICT 22: Good morning, Madam President. The  
8 crafty 22 is here.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

10 District 23 Helen Barber.

11 DISTRICT 23: Good morning, Madam President. The  
12 23rd District wishes you a very successful convention.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
14 much.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

16 District 24 Ruth Hackney.

17 DISTRICT 24: Good morning, Harriet. (Singing.)  
18 Good morning, Harriet. You lead us along. We'll follow  
19 you as we sing our early morning wake up song. Yeah.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That  
22 proves it only takes one to light a fire. District 25  
23 Gabby Rowland.

24 DISTRICT 25: We had so much fun the whole year  
25 through and had the greatest year. Your theme of

1 C.R.A.F.T.S. was awesome and our memories we hold dear.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

3 District 26, Linda Workman.

4 DISTRICT 26 MEMBER: Home of the Western Division  
5 National Vice President.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

7 District 27 Vella Myers.

8 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MYERS: Good morning, Madam  
9 President.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

12 District 28, Susan Baker.

13 DISTRICT 28: Good morning Madam President.

14 District 28 is A-okay.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

17 District 29 Elizabeth Tomlin.

18 DISTRICT 29: Let the good times roll.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

20 District 30 Kim Vincent.

21 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: I'm alone. Good  
22 morning to you. Good morning to you. We're all in our  
23 places with smiles on our faces. Good morning to you.  
24 Good morning to you. Good morning to you.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All she  
2 needs is some followers. Hospital reps. Fort Miley  
3 Laurie Sullivan. Absent?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
6 Northern California Sacramento Wendy O'Brien.

7 HOSPITAL REP O'BRIEN: The Classy Cookies are in  
8 the house.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Central  
10 California Toni Lopez. Absent?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Palo  
13 Alto Pat Klang. Livermore Ruth Briggs. Excused?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: WAVE  
16 Clinic San Diego Lois Cornish.

17 HOSPITAL REP CORNISH: I'm here.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Loma  
19 Linda Mavis Kanka.

20 HOSPITAL REP KANKA: Here.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes,  
22 she answered. Long Beach Pat Alvarez.

23 HOSPITAL REP ALVAREZ: Good morning.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Welcome  
25 back.

1 HOSPITAL REP ALVAREZ: Thank you.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Greater  
3 LA Earlean Paige.

4 HOSPITAL REP PAIGE: Good morning.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Veteran  
6 Homes. Barstow Evangeline Acosta.

7 VETERANS HOME REP ACOSTA: Good morning, Ruby.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
9 morning. Chula Vista Lois Cornish.

10 VETERANS HOME REP CORNISH: I'm still here.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno  
12 Veterans Home Rosalie Taylor.

13 VETERANS HOME REP TAYLOR: Good morning.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
15 Lancaster Linda Hayes.

16 VETERANS HOME REP HAYES: Good morning.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
18 morning. Redding Terry Mikesell.

19 VETERANS HOME REP MIKESELL: Good morning, Ruby.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good  
21 morning, Terry. Ventura Madeline Lee.

22 VETERANS HOME REP LEE: Here.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: West LA  
24 Ruth Hackney.

25 VETERANS HOME REP HACKNEY: Good morning.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
2 Yountville Peggy Grabski. Absent?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That  
5 concludes your roll call, Madam President.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you. Are  
7 there any District Presidents in the house? District  
8 Presidents? Could you please go outside now and talk to  
9 the Credentials Chairman. Thank you.

10 While they're quietly leaving, there's someone  
11 very, very special in the house that I'd like us to all  
12 give a warm Auxiliary welcome to. And that's Bob Melgard.  
13 Could you please stand up?

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.  
16 Okay. Education, then community service. Tammy, did you  
17 hear?

18

19 EDUCATION CONVENTION REPORT

20

21 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Good morning, ladies.  
22 Madam President, Distinguished Chairmen of this  
23 outstanding organization, the Convention Committee on  
24 Education met on June 25th, 2015 in the Sage Room at 11:00  
25 a.m. of the Ontario Airport Hotel, Ontario, California.

1 The statistical report of this chairman appears on page 28  
2 of the Book of Reports.

3 Vicki Crow was appointed secretary, Gigi Manno  
4 offered prayer, Carolyn Lilles was appointed  
5 Sergeant-At-Arms. A total of 19 district delegates  
6 answered roll call. There were nine visitors present.  
7 Certificates were given in committee for 100 percent  
8 reporting and for Give 10 to Education. Second and third  
9 place awards will be mailed out. A list of all award  
10 winners are in the office.

11 The committee agreed on the following code  
12 change. It now reads as: "The Connie Settles Memorial  
13 Trust Scholarship shall be awarded annually to Senior  
14 Auxiliary members attending college whose membership dues  
15 are paid member for the current and past three consecutive  
16 years. One scholarship up to \$5,000 shall be awarded  
17 annually and may include book stipends. The application  
18 (E21S) and rules for the scholarship will be mailed to all  
19 units and posted on the department website." Adopted  
20 2014.

21 The change will read as: "The Connie Settles  
22 Memorial Trust Scholarship shall be awarded annually to  
23 Senior Auxiliary members attending college whose  
24 membership dues are paid -- are paid member the current  
25 and past three consecutive years. One scholarship up to

1 \$5,000 shall be awarded annually and may include book  
2 stipends. The application (E21S) and rules for the  
3 scholarship will be posted on the Department website."

4 By the direction of the preconvention committee,  
5 I move to accept this code change.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The code change  
7 will read as: "The Connie Settles Memorial Trust  
8 Scholarship shall be awarded annually to Senior Auxiliary  
9 members attending college whose membership dues are paid  
10 member the current and past three consecutive years. One  
11 scholarship up to \$5,000 shall be awarded annually and may  
12 include book stipends. The application (E21S) and rules  
13 for the scholarship will be posted on the Department  
14 website."

15 Is there any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

18 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carries.

22 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Thank you, ladies.

23 Madam President, may I continue with my supplemental  
24 report?

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

1                   EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:   Madam President  
2   Harriet, what an amazing Auxiliary we have here in  
3   California.  It is evident in the reports that the Units  
4   and Districts have sent to this chairman.  They've gone to  
5   schools and educated them on the education programs  
6   available through the American Legion Auxiliary.  They  
7   worked with the school administrators and the community on  
8   the challenges that the children of veterans face, on how  
9   important our veterans are, and what they do for us.

10                   The work that our units do for the Give 10 to  
11   Education is shown in this program by donating 20,346  
12   items totaling \$24,000.  There were pencils galore, paper,  
13   glue sticks, binders, backpacks and everything else a  
14   student would need to start the year off with.  They also  
15   gave out funds for shoes, socks, and underwear as needed.  
16   We also had a unit help with English lessons.

17                   There were units that held yard sales, bingo  
18   parties, bake sales, and other events to raise money for  
19   this program.  One unit adopted a teacher and donated \$100  
20   and a gift certificate to use for his students.  The units  
21   collected Box Tops and Pop Tops of cans, Labels For  
22   Education, and other items for monies.  Seventeen units  
23   gave monetary donations totaling \$5,550.  There were 83  
24   units that reported on this program.  Great job, ladies.

25                   The educating continues with our veterans in the

1 classrooms. There were 41 units that were involved with  
2 this program. Ninety-six veterans visited 35 classrooms,  
3 grades from preschool, kindergarten through the 12th  
4 grade.

5 A female veteran, which is also an Auxiliary  
6 member, visited a middle school and talked about her  
7 military service and what it was like to be the first  
8 female to serve aboard a Navy ship. She also brought her  
9 memory books from her cruises for the students to look at.  
10 What a great job.

11 American Education Week had 20 units  
12 participating in this program with various events. One  
13 unit has a recycling program that takes money and uses it  
14 to purchase items that includes flags that are given out  
15 to students at assemblies, certificates of achievement,  
16 patriotic coloring books and rulers, as well as other  
17 necessities for students in need.

18 Another unit donated monies to two different  
19 schools each year and rotating them each year because of  
20 the many schools in their area. Others provided  
21 Spanish/English dictionaries and \$5 gift cards were given  
22 out to children who read 20 books.

23 Honoring the service of our military was done by  
24 in conjunction with post and City of Holtville,  
25 California. They held the Inaugural Imperial County

1 Veterans Day Parade. This gave them the opportunity to  
2 educate their community by honoring and thanking all  
3 military personnel who served the United States in all  
4 wars, past and present. What a great job. They had a  
5 participation that exceeded their expectations.

6 Some support the Stand Downs in their areas by  
7 providing games and activities to children of veterans.  
8 Some members spent the day preparing dinner and serving  
9 the veterans.

10 There were units -- there are units that work the  
11 literacy program by reading to children. One unit  
12 received a donation of Disney-themed books for children  
13 ages four through five and provided a Head Start program  
14 with 50 books. They helped with English as a second  
15 language and creative writing. They support classes with  
16 materials to promote Americanism to adults studying for  
17 citizenship.

18 Some that have a large military presence in their  
19 area help children and military personnel who need extra  
20 help with her lessons. One unit supported the literacy  
21 effort for children in an afterschool tutoring program at  
22 a local soup kitchen. How amazing is that?

23 There were 78 units that purchased poppy seals  
24 with a total of \$1,992 spent. Thank you so much to each  
25 and everyone that donated to this program. All proceeds

1 for the poppy seals sell that are purchased through the  
2 Department and not Emblem Sells goes directly to the  
3 Department of California Education Program.

4 Eighty-three units gave scholarships. 90  
5 scholarships were given and totaling in the amount of  
6 \$38,783. Wonderful. Units went out and talked about the  
7 Department and National scholarships. They gave out  
8 pamphlets and put articles in local newspapers. They went  
9 to local school administrators and gave them scholarship  
10 information to hand out. One unit gave out seven  
11 scholarships totaling \$3500 to children and family members  
12 of veterans.

13 The chairman for this program are to be commended  
14 for their ability in picking the best of the best and  
15 forwarding them onto this chairman.

16 A total of nine districts gave 15 scholarships  
17 totaling \$5,636. A total amount of \$5,767 was donated to  
18 the Department by 126 units. The Department was able to  
19 give \$6,000 in scholarships this year, two \$1,000  
20 scholarships for continuing and/or reentry student  
21 scholarships, one \$2,000 educational assistance, three  
22 \$1,000 educational assistance, and one \$5,000 scholarship  
23 for Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship.  
24 We had also two applicants for the new Connie Settles  
25 Scholarship.

1 National scholarships were received -- National  
2 scholarships were received. Eleven were received for the  
3 American Legion Auxiliary Children of Warriors National  
4 Presidents Scholarship and four for the National Spirit of  
5 Youth Scholarship For Juniors. It gives me great pleasure  
6 and honor to announce that an applicant for National  
7 Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Juniors was awarded a  
8 \$5,000 scholarship.

9 (Applause.)

10 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: What an honor and an  
11 educating experience it has been for me to work with the  
12 District and Unit Education Chairmen of the Department of  
13 California. I could go on and on with these praises of  
14 what each unit has done individually for the Education  
15 program for this state, but I won't.

16 Madam President, thank you for the honor of this  
17 appointment. This concludes my report. May I give out my  
18 awards?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

20 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: I sent out notes  
21 yesterday. I need Unit 27, 22 -- yeah. Districts.  
22 Excuse me. 30. With great honor I would like to present  
23 this certificate of appreciation. It's gratefully  
24 presented to Danielle White, Most Outstanding Education  
25 Award.

1 (Applause.)

2 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: A certificate of  
3 appreciation is gratefully presented to LuAnn Capazzi,  
4 Unit 684.

5 (Applause.)

6 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Certificate of  
7 appreciation is gratefully presented to Ann Marie Brown,  
8 Unit 6, Most Outstanding Scholarship Report.

9 (Applause.)

10 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: This certificate of  
11 appreciation is greatly presented to Theresa Brown, Unit  
12 434, Most Outstanding Veterans in the Classroom Report.

13 (Applause.)

14 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Anybody from 434  
15 unit? Certificate of appreciation is gratefully presented  
16 to Ann Marie Brown, Unit 6, Most Outstanding Literacy  
17 Report.

18 (Applause.)

19 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: This certificate is  
20 presented to Kim Vincent, Unit 138, Most Outstanding  
21 Report Honoring the Service of Our Military.

22 (Applause.)

23 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: This certificate of  
24 appreciation is gratefully presented to Jean Howard, Unit  
25 460, Most Outstanding Education Report.

1 (Applause.)

2 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: All these have been  
3 forwarded to National for judging. Like I said, we have  
4 one scholarship, National scholarship that was sent to  
5 National. It was Unit 92, District 2. The young lady's  
6 name was Kalin Sturtin.

7 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:  
8 Sturtin.

9 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: But this young lady  
10 was amazing. It was very -- it was really hard to decide  
11 which one of these ladies would receive this. And Katie  
12 Pallen was the recipient of \$500 for her report on  
13 Children of Warriors National President, Unit 6, District  
14 22. Thank you, ladies. You did an outstanding job this  
15 year.

16 (Applause.)

17 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Excuse me one second.

18 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Our Madam  
19 President was very anxious this morning and she really  
20 doesn't allow enough time for discussion. So we -- it's  
21 all her fault. So we need to go back to that code change  
22 because there -- I'm hoping it's a typo. If it's a typo,  
23 we can fix it now. If it's not a typo, it needs to go  
24 back to committee, but I'm pretty sure it's a typo.

25 So she doesn't know what it is yet, so let me --

1 let me just -- it was Code No. 14 and the code reads:  
2 "The Connie Settles Memorial Trust Scholarship shall be  
3 awarded annually to the Senior Auxiliary members attending  
4 college whose membership dues are paid for the current and  
5 past three consecutive years. One scholarship up to  
6 \$5,000 shall be awarded annually and may include book  
7 stipends. The application of rules for the scholarship  
8 will be mailed to all units and posted on the Department  
9 website."

10 But that is not what was read. And so that was  
11 supposed to be the way it is now, and then the way they  
12 want it to read. When they say this is the way it is now,  
13 it needs to be exactly like it is now and it wasn't.

14 So you know what it was? She had inserted "whose  
15 membership dues are paid member the current and past  
16 year." That is a correct -- incorrect word there. It  
17 should be: "Dues are paid for the current and past three  
18 consecutive years." So if this is just a typo --

19 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:  
20 It was a typo.

21 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: But we  
22 have a reporter who is taking all of this down so we need  
23 to fix it. Okay. So read it the way it should be. I  
24 just read it the way it is, so now just read the motion by  
25 direction of the committee as to the way it should read.

1 Do you know what it should be?

2 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: The change will be  
3 as: "The Connie Settles Memorial Trust Scholarship shall  
4 be awarded annually to Senior Auxiliary members attending  
5 college whose membership dues are paid for the current and  
6 past three consecutive years. One scholarship up to  
7 \$5,000 will be awarded annually and may include book  
8 stipends. The application and rules for the scholarship  
9 will be posted on the Department website."

10 By direction of the committee I move that we  
11 accept this change.

12 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Second it.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I need a copy of  
14 the paper. The change will read as: "The Connie Settles  
15 Memorial Trust Scholarship shall be awarded annually to  
16 Senior Auxiliary members attending college whose  
17 membership dues are paid for the current and past three  
18 consecutive years. One scholarship up to \$5,000 will be  
19 awarded annually and may include book stipends. The  
20 application (E21S) and rules for the scholarship will be  
21 posted on the Department website."

22 Any discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

25 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

4 Thank you.

5 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Thank you, ladies.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: My skirt did go  
8 down there. The Master Lawmaker.

9 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Good  
10 morning, Madam President.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

12

13 COMMUNITY SERVICE CONVENTION REPORT

14

15 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: The  
16 Convention Committee on program Community Service met on  
17 June 25th, 2015 in room Walnut of the Ontario Airport  
18 Hotel, Ontario, California. The statistical report of  
19 this chairman appears on page 27 of the Book of Reports.

20 Gayle Stewart was appointed secretary, Olivia  
21 Jackson offered prayer, and Geni Lefler was appointed  
22 Sergeant-At-Arms. A total of 18 district delegates  
23 answered roll call. There were four visitors present.

24 The committee agreed upon the following report.  
25 Started the meeting with prayer. The code was read.

1 There were no resolutions made. District 14 recommended  
2 adding code regarding midyear reports. Many of the ladies  
3 agreed with the recommendation. Awards were given out.  
4 Twelve districts received 100 percent reporting awards and  
5 the closing prayer was read at 10:30 and the meeting was  
6 closed.

7 That's my statistical report. May I continue  
8 with my supplemental?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

10 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Thank you.

11 The great Department of California has proven without a  
12 doubt that they have been creating relationships with our  
13 veterans and their communities. As American Humorist Leo  
14 Rosten stated: "The purpose of life is not to be happy,  
15 but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, to have it  
16 make some difference that you have lived at all."

17 They have proven time and time again that they as  
18 Auxiliary members give selflessly and tirelessly to  
19 families in time of need, veterans down in their luck, all  
20 while spreading their love and letting the community know  
21 who they are, the American Legion Auxiliary.

22 Our Department of California Auxiliary shows  
23 through hard work and dedication that although many of us  
24 work full time, raise families, and take care of our  
25 elderly, we still have time to volunteer for our

1 communities. This year, 2,599 volunteers participated in  
2 helping our community with the majority volunteering at  
3 food banks, 17 percent of our volunteers recycle, and 15  
4 percent volunteer for cancer research. The value of  
5 in-kind donations throughout our great department totaled  
6 \$132,000 with the majority of donations given to the  
7 women's programs and homeless shelters. 79,838 hours were  
8 donated throughout the year, with the majority of the work  
9 being done at senior centers, food banks, and nursing  
10 homes. \$76,000 was donated to all of the programs, with  
11 cancer awareness being the number one thought on  
12 everyone's mind. Donations of 26,000 were donated to  
13 cancer awareness, 12,000 has been donated to women  
14 programs, and 9,000 to community food banks.

15 Six districts participated in local Stand Downs  
16 for homeless veterans and donated clothing, food,  
17 toiletries and home goods in the amount of \$3700 to these  
18 Stand Downs -- sorry. That shouldn't have been there. To  
19 these Stand Downs with 1600 in monetary donations.

20 Two members from District 18, Unit 280 help an  
21 organization who looks for homeless veterans and tries to  
22 get them off of the streets. These two members have spent  
23 hundreds of hours seeking out homeless veterans in parks  
24 and under bridges. They were able to get a female veteran  
25 off the street and set her up in housing and furniture

1 which are for her apartment. Great job, ladies.

2 (Applause.)

3 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Several of  
4 our districts hosted lunches, dinners, and barbecues for  
5 veteran centers, rescue missions, and homeless shelters.  
6 One district helped veterans get jobs by working with  
7 headhunter groups. Our Department Auxiliary members have  
8 been hard at work donating food, clothing, taking CPR  
9 classes, quilting, knitting, transporting veterans and  
10 community members to appointments. Several districts  
11 donated blood to blood banks and donated \$8,500 to medical  
12 clinics.

13 Several members are trying to help veterans get  
14 back into college, while another unit is always at the  
15 airport for Honor Flight to Washington DC takeoffs and  
16 landings to help the veterans get to the planes. This  
17 same unit always provides afghans for the veterans'  
18 flights at takeoff.

19 District 27 has a member who delivers Meals on  
20 Wheels and served 693 meals while putting in 47 hours and  
21 522 miles. A unit bakes cookies for special holidays to  
22 be given out with Meals on Wheels. Another unit in this  
23 district set up a luncheon for local teachers and donated  
24 school supplies. What a great way to help the community  
25 and let them know we care.

1           Several districts went above and beyond during  
2 the holidays. For instance, Thanksgiving brought lots of  
3 good food cooked by unit members. Posts opened their  
4 doors to the public or brought in veterans to serve.

5           In District 19, Unit 341 and Unit 411 co-host an  
6 annual Christmas party for approximately 150 veterans.  
7 Each veteran is given a large bag filled with socks,  
8 blankets, toiletries, and opens their patio up to the  
9 veterans to go clothes and shoes shopping to fill the rest  
10 of their bag. They are treated to a home cooked meal and  
11 lots of wonderful desserts. This year they gave each  
12 veteran a to-go box filled with leftovers, which brought a  
13 smile to each of their faces. The Past Unit President was  
14 also interviewed on television regarding this successful  
15 event and the interview is on the Department of California  
16 Auxiliary website.

17           A unit in District 21 held a Christmas luncheon  
18 for Wounded Warriors at Balboa Hospital. The 25th  
19 District had several units that participated in  
20 Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and even provided  
21 baskets for the needy families. Total expenses for the  
22 baskets were \$1,122.

23           Several districts either walked in Relay For Life  
24 for cancer or supported it by helping on the sidelines.  
25 One unit formed a team and raised \$2,000 and walked the

1 full 24 hours. More than half of our 30 districts  
2 volunteered for a whopping total of 398 volunteers and  
3 6,049 hours in support of cancer awareness. This cruel  
4 disease has touched many of our lives, so we should be  
5 proud to hear how many people are stepping up for cancer  
6 research and awareness.

7 District 27 has a group of Auxiliary members who  
8 like to have fun, so they take veterans from an assisted  
9 living facility to breakfast and pay for their meal.  
10 Another unit in that district participates in a ghost walk  
11 at the cemetery by providing baked goods, being guides and  
12 also actors for the entertainment.

13 I could go on and on about all of the wonderful  
14 things that are being done by each unit and each district.  
15 And you would notice a pattern. The pattern is that no  
16 matter who we help, how we help, or where we help, our  
17 membership is always willing to take the extra step and go  
18 the extra mile to create a relationship with our community  
19 and our Auxiliary. As the saying goes, being good is  
20 commendable, but only when it is combined with doing good  
21 is it useful. Author unknown. Our Auxiliary demonstrates  
22 that day in and day out, humbly and selflessly.

23 Madam President, that ends my supplement. May I  
24 pass out my awards?

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Of course you

1 may.

2 (Applause.)

3 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Okay. For  
4 Best Unit Supplemental, Unit 146, District 22,  
5 Manuela (inaudible).

6 (Applause.)

7 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Best  
8 District Supplemental, District 22, Lois Cornish.

9 (Applause.)

10 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: All right.  
11 And now we will have the Junior Volunteer of the Year  
12 Award. District 21, Unit 53, Kathleen McCoy.

13 (Applause.)

14 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: And  
15 ta-ta-da, Senior Volunteer of the Year, Unit 249, District  
16 11, Joan Cannon.

17 (Applause.)

18 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN SOLLAZZO: Madam  
19 President, that concludes my report.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
21 Tammy.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Will the  
24 Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal, along with our Distinguished  
25 Guest Chairman, please escort Paul Cox, Director of the

1 War Memorial from San Francisco.

2 (Processional.)

3 DIRECTOR COX: Good morning. My name is Paul  
4 Cox. I'm a Marine veteran Vietnam.

5 (Applause.)

6 DIRECTOR COX: I am a Legionnaire in good  
7 standing in Post 315 in San Francisco and I have recently  
8 been elected the Chair of the Memorial War Commission in  
9 San Francisco which is not a state position. It's a  
10 committee of District 8. Is there anybody from District 8  
11 here?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: No.

13 DIRECTOR COX: Sorry. I also want to apologize.  
14 I had to check out of the hotel this morning and I left my  
15 hat in my suitcase, so I'm feeling a little exposed up  
16 here. I'm just going to speak to you briefly about the  
17 situation I'm sure many of you are far more aware of it  
18 than I am, but just to very quickly summarize.

19 In March the Legion voted to move the offices of  
20 the state department to Sanger, California. That seems to  
21 be a near certainty at this point, but the vote at the  
22 convention floor has not yet happened. So it might not  
23 fly, but we're sort of assuming it will.

24 And I think, you know, I think it was Eisenhower  
25 that said, "Plans are nothing. Planning is everything."

1 And so we're sort of planning for eventualities, so I'm  
2 here today to invite the Auxiliary to stay in San  
3 Francisco. We have --

4 (Applause.)

5 DIRECTOR COX: We're certainly hoping that the  
6 Legion stays in San Francisco also, but I'm -- but as I  
7 said, that's not yet certain, so -- but it is our warmest  
8 invitation that if you should choose to stay in San  
9 Francisco, we will provide you with really a wonderfully  
10 remodeled historic building.

11 If you're familiar with the Veterans Building, it  
12 was built in 1932 it's 230,000 square feet, of which we  
13 have about 22,000. It's a little strange that there's --  
14 in the Veterans Building the veterans get 10 percent of  
15 the building, but we're working on that. We're working on  
16 that quite heavily. We have filed with the City of San  
17 Francisco to allow us access to more space to provide  
18 direct services to veterans. At this point what they have  
19 told us is we cannot provide services to veterans. We can  
20 have meetings there, we can have offices there, but we  
21 can't help veterans. That litigation is just getting  
22 started. The first hearing is in three days, and I am  
23 sure that we will prevail and wind up with additional  
24 space in the building that we can use to provide direct  
25 services to VSO.

1           But as to the Auxiliary, I just toured the  
2 remodeled space last week and it's quite nice. It's on  
3 the third floor where it was on the first, but it's in the  
4 same area of the building but up two floors. The floors  
5 are -- the carpet's down, the floors are in, the walls are  
6 painted. It has no furniture. And we're certainly hoping  
7 that whatever happens with the Legion, if they move to  
8 Sanger, that the Auxiliary will stay with us and we  
9 welcome you with open arms.

10           In the many years in the past -- and just in the  
11 interest of full disclosure, we would like to talk with  
12 you about a small donation to the War Memorial for the  
13 administration costs that we have. We have pretty severe  
14 budgetary problems, but we're not talking about much money  
15 for what is involved with the efforts that we are making.  
16 And that will also work for the Auxiliary.

17           We don't want to talk amounts now, and it's  
18 really something for you to decide what you would like to  
19 donate to the space. It's your decision how much that  
20 might be, but we are asking for a small stipend of a  
21 donation for the space.

22           So now that I dropped that bomb, is there  
23 anything else you would like to hear from me?

24           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Do we have any  
25 questions from the floor? Please come to the microphone

1 and state your name and district, please.

2 DISTRICT 21 MEMBER VONRIGHT: Good morning, Madam  
3 President. My name is Leslie Vonright from Unit 519,  
4 District 21. My question is can we get the information  
5 where to make a donation if we want to, the donation for  
6 your War --

7 DIRECTOR COX: I think they're currently with us  
8 in a temporary space. I think the staff knows where it  
9 is. We're not asking for donations from you as  
10 individuals. We're asking it from the Auxiliary as a  
11 donation.

12 DISTRICT 21 MEMBER VONRIGHT: Well, I'm --

13 DIRECTOR COX: If you want to give me money,  
14 that's fine.

15 DISTRICT 21 MEMBER VONRIGHT: I'm asking as a  
16 unit can we donate to --

17 DIRECTOR COX: Oh, absolutely.

18 DISTRICT 21 MEMBER VONRIGHT: That's what I was  
19 asking. Can we donate to you?

20 DIRECTOR COX: Of course.

21 DISTRICT 21 MEMBER VONRIGHT: Okay. Not me  
22 personally. I would like to support you as a unit, not  
23 as -- you know.

24 DIRECTOR COX: Thank you so much for that.

25 (Applause.)

1           DIRECTOR COX:  And I do want to say the  
2 Auxiliary, the work that you do is just really, really  
3 extraordinary work to veterans and we're so appreciative  
4 of the great work that you do, both for Girls State and  
5 for veterans and veterans hospitals.

6           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  I have  
7 a couple questions.  Maybe you can give us an idea.  This  
8 donation, can you give us -- is there a ballpark figure of  
9 what the War Memorial Commission may be expecting or  
10 like --

11          DIRECTOR COX:  We are expecting nothing.  
12 Something greater than zero.

13          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
14 Whatever we decide; is that correct?

15          DIRECTOR COX:  That is correct.  It's your  
16 donation.

17          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  Second  
18 part of the question is would the War Memorial Commission  
19 be willing -- would we be under contract?  How is that  
20 situation going to be handled?

21          DIRECTOR COX:  You know, when this first came  
22 down within the Legion, they said we want to guarantee  
23 you'll never ask us for any more money.  And our response  
24 to that is, hey, you know, I can't speak for the next  
25 generation of veterans, but we would happy to provide you

1 with an agreement for ten years, you know.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Or a  
3 year or --

4 DIRECTOR COX: No, we'll go with ten years. I  
5 mean, the whole leadership can then vote for it.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
7 you, Paul.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Go ahead.

9 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: Madam President.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

11 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: Laloni Squire, Unit  
12 43, District 24. To the gentleman, where you say we would  
13 like to have you stay in Los Angeles, who is we? San  
14 Francisco. I'm sorry. I --

15 DIRECTOR COX: The War Memorial Commission of  
16 which I am the chair. Oops. That's just an accident.  
17 The War Memorial Commission of which I am the chair. It's  
18 District 8 of American Legion. We are a subsidiary  
19 committee of District 8.

20 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: And so you are in  
21 that building?

22 DIRECTOR COX: Yes.

23 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: That's your home?

24 DIRECTOR COX: Well, we oversee the veteran  
25 portion of it. So in 1932 when the building was built --

1 or 1921 a trust was established by the veterans of World  
2 War I and the arts community in San Francisco. And at  
3 that time there were three beneficiaries: The San  
4 Francisco Post of the American Legion, the San Francisco  
5 Symphony, and the San Francisco Museum of Arts, which  
6 later became the Museum of Modern Art. The Museum of  
7 Modern Art has moved out; they're gone. So that really  
8 only leaves two beneficiaries in the whole complex.  
9 There's four buildings. There's the opera building,  
10 there's the symphony building, there's the performing  
11 arts, and there's the veterans building.

12 So we're the only beneficiary of a trust that is  
13 a solid rock hard trust that guarantees the San Francisco  
14 Post of the American Legion stays in that building  
15 forever.

16 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: Madam President, may  
17 I ask one more question?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Sure.

19 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: Sir, what is the  
20 benefit of the Auxiliary staying in San Francisco? What  
21 is the benefit to you and to the Auxiliary?

22 DIRECTOR COX: Our function is to support the  
23 veterans, and the Auxiliary is an extraordinary  
24 organization that does that. The Auxiliary and the Legion  
25 have been in that building since it opened in 1932, 83

1 years ago. And, you know, we're family. So the benefit?  
2 We love you.

3 (Applause.)

4 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRE: Thank you.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Any further  
6 questions?

7 DISTRICT 19 MEMBER COOLEY-DESMEULES: Madam  
8 President, Jean Cooley-Desmeules, District 19, Unit 314  
9 Hawthorne. This donation that we choose to give to the  
10 War Memorial if we stay there, what would that include?  
11 Would that include our utilities and our insurance and all  
12 of that or would that be an extra cost?

13 DIRECTOR COX: No. The City of San Francisco has  
14 just spent \$210 million retrofitting this building for  
15 seismic upgrading, modernizing, standards, ADA approval,  
16 and all of that. They also pay utilities and they pay  
17 maintenance. There are no taxes. None of which -- none  
18 of which applies to the Sanger location.

19 DISTRICT 19 MEMBER COOLEY-DESMEULES: Thank you.

20 DIRECTOR COX: We're not allowed -- people are  
21 not allowed to spend the night there.

22 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: Madam President,  
23 Janie Bandera, District 7, Unit 119. As a district  
24 president, I was in DEC and we had a sheet showing all the  
25 benefits of San Francisco. I was wondering if you could

1 tell everybody -- he did tell some of it, but tell  
2 everybody what was listed as the benefits there that we  
3 will not be paying for. I mean Internet service.

4 DIRECTOR COX: Well, Internet.

5 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: There was a sheet  
6 there.

7 DIRECTOR COX: Is this a sheet that's been passed  
8 around.

9 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: It was saying what  
10 we will be provided.

11 DIRECTOR COX: I didn't bring the budgets that --  
12 the relative budgets with me, but I did just mention the  
13 fact that we will not be paying utilities, maintenance,  
14 janitorial, or taxes.

15 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: Harriet has it I  
16 think.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: He  
18 hasn't seen this sheet, so he's got to look at it first.

19 DIRECTOR COX: This is similar to other things  
20 that are going around. Well, now this is what we've asked  
21 from the Legion is \$500 a month, which may be renegotiated  
22 in the future at some point we think. That's pretty low  
23 and our budget requires something more than that. We do  
24 not expect this amount or anything greater or this amount  
25 from anybody, from the Auxiliary.

1           DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: But it shows the  
2 benefits basically on there.

3           DIRECTOR COX: All utilities, yes. The square  
4 footage for the new space, it's about 2,000 square feet.  
5 And at this point your office in a closet and it's  
6 probably 8-by-15. And we apologize, it was the best we  
7 could get for the interim. But it will be essentially the  
8 same size as the space you had prior to moving out. It  
9 looks different. It's not -- everything's -- it looks  
10 pretty good.

11           Does that answer your question? So it says  
12 utilities, property taxes, security, newly remodeled,  
13 state-of-the-art, and a continued relationship since 1932.  
14 And that's very important to us. You did mention WiFi,  
15 and probably the Auxiliary will be furnish its own WiFi.  
16 But you don't have to pay the electricity or any of those  
17 other things. Did that answer your question?

18           DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: Yes. Thank you.

19           DISTRICT 15 MEMBER RYAN: Okay. My concern --  
20 I'm Delores Ryan, Unit 26, District 15 -- is how the -- if  
21 we separate our departments from the Legion department,  
22 how is that going to affect our post and units and the  
23 things and family working together? Because I know that  
24 we have posts in the State of California that would love  
25 to get rid of their Auxiliaries and to make them go

1 someplace else. So we need to continue our American  
2 Legion family. And although I would love to stay in San  
3 Francisco, I think that if the Legion goes to Sanger, we  
4 should go to Sanger.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Delores, do you  
7 want a response?

8 DISTRICT 15 MEMBER RYAN: What?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Do you want a  
10 response?

11 DISTRICT 15 MEMBER RYAN: No. I just wanted to  
12 voice my opinion.

13 DIRECTOR COX: I would like to respond to that a  
14 little bit, which is that is a very difficult decision  
15 that you're going to have to make. And I respect  
16 whichever. We fully respect and honor the Auxiliary and  
17 know that you'll make the right decision for you.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Delores, this is  
19 just for information only. Okay? At this time like Mr.  
20 Cox has said right from the very beginning, we're still  
21 not exactly sure 100 percent what the Legion is going to  
22 do.

23 DISTRICT 15 MEMBER RYAN: I understand that, but  
24 I just want to throw out the idea before we vote or  
25 anything, that we think about what -- how our --

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: And we  
2 appreciate that.

3 PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Madam  
4 President, can I just quickly respond to being in separate  
5 locations. Oh, Nancy Brown-Park, Past National President.  
6 I'm sorry. Currently the National organization is in two  
7 different buildings in two different locations. We are a  
8 Legion family and we will work hard to make that happen,  
9 and that's what we continue to do. If we do end up in two  
10 different locations, an address is not what makes us a  
11 family.

12 (Applause.)

13 DISTRICT 29 MEMBER URICH: Madam President, Karen  
14 Urich, Unit 291, District 29. My question is for you and  
15 the office staff. If we move to Sanger, will the office  
16 staff be moving as well? Will they be volunteering their  
17 time at that location or not?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: We have been  
19 told that our office staff with need to be replaced if we  
20 move to Sanger.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All  
22 three.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All three.  
24 Thank you.

25 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Madam President, Wendy

1 O'Brien, District 6, Unit 521. I have a question for Mr.  
2 Cox. And this is just if we stay in San Francisco as a  
3 whole, will there be room in the new building for  
4 everyone? The Riders Department, the Sons Department,  
5 will there be room in this new facility for everyone to be  
6 in the same building in San Francisco?

7 DIRECTOR COX: If they choose to come, then yes.

8 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Okay.

9 DIRECTOR COX: The Riders have never been in the  
10 building nor have the Sons.

11 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: No, they haven't, but my  
12 question is because it's been remodeled and going there,  
13 is that a possibility?

14 DIRECTOR COX: It is a possibility.

15 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Because that's my  
16 understanding is what's happening in Sanger.

17 DIRECTOR COX: That is correct. So before we had  
18 to move out before the retrofit, we had 32,000 square  
19 feet. They cut 10,000 square feet out of our space.  
20 We're not happy about that and we're fighting for that.  
21 It's -- you know, there are buildings all over California  
22 and all over the country that are owned by the counties  
23 and cities that are going down, and we're not going to go  
24 down in San Francisco and we're fighting back very  
25 strongly.

1           But having said that, space is limited so it  
2 would be a negotiation with those other organizations.  
3 But they're certainly welcome. They're a veterans  
4 organization. It's a family, it's a Legion. Oh, hell,  
5 yeah, come on.

6           VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you very much.

7           (Applause.)

8           DISTRICT 22 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT KOCHUR: April  
9 Kochur, District 22, Unit 465. My question is for Mr.  
10 Cox. That is -- whatever -- how long would the longevity  
11 be of the contract agreement? How many years would that  
12 be enforced? Is it going to change year to year? Ten  
13 years?

14           DIRECTOR COX: Well, it would need to be  
15 negotiated, but we're prepared -- I mean, the War Memorial  
16 Commission has authorized me to say ten years, and then --  
17 but nobody is going to kick anybody out after ten years  
18 are up. That's not going to happen. We've been there  
19 since 1932. Stay there forever, please. And it's just  
20 that whatever that donation is, agreement is about, we can  
21 come to terms on how long that term is. And five years or  
22 ten years, leadership and commission can work that out.  
23 Okay. But -- and we're not out to gouge anybody. We  
24 understand that budgets are a problem everywhere in the  
25 Legion, and we really just want you to come and the rest

1 is all details.

2 DISTRICT 22 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Okay.  
3 Thank you.

4 DEPARTMENT NEC WOMAN BIGGS: Madam President,  
5 just to be clear about the -- Anita Biggs, District 23.  
6 Just to be clear about the American Legion Riders and the  
7 Sons of the American Legion, they are both programs of the  
8 American Legion so they are going to have to go wherever  
9 the Legion goes. We need to be clear that they're not a  
10 separate organization or entity.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
12 Anita. Okay.

13 DIRECTOR COX: Are we done?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay. I think  
15 we're done. There is no more, so I want to thank you very  
16 much for taking time out of our schedule for us.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: My theme is  
19 C.R.A.F.T.S. and it's to cultures working together.

20 DIRECTOR COX: My wife will probably want this  
21 one.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you so  
23 much. I appreciate it.

24 (Applause.)

25 (Processional.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay. Ladies,  
2 ladies, it's ten to 10:00, and at 10:00 o'clock we need to  
3 be back in here and in our seats for elections. So I'm  
4 going to give you a ten-minute break.

5 (Recess from 9:50 a.m. to 10:14 a.m.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Ladies, can we  
7 take our seats. This session will come to order.

8 Will everyone please be seated in their  
9 respective districts. Remember that only delegates and  
10 alternates taking their place of the delegates will be  
11 allowed to be present during elections.

12 Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal, please see that  
13 everyone in the lobby knows that the doors are being  
14 closed for the election process. And if they want to come  
15 in, to do so immediately, checking their badges, and then  
16 close the doors. No one will be permitted to enter and  
17 leave except in an emergency until the Chair states that  
18 the elections are concluded.

19 We will now have the report of the Elections  
20 Chairman Karen Bobren followed by the reading of the  
21 election rules.

22

23 ELECTIONS CONVENTION REPORT

24

25 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN BOBREN: Can you hear me? Can

1 everyone here me?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yes.

3 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN BOBREN: Good morning, ladies.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

5 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN BOBREN: The Elections  
6 committee met in the Ontario Airport Convention Center in  
7 the Juniper Room June 25th of 2015 at 11:30 a.m. Susan  
8 Baker from District 28 was appointed secretary, Donelda  
9 Denny from District 13 was appointed chaplain, Stephanie  
10 Reid from District 16 was Sergeant-At-Arms. Seventeen  
11 delegates answered roll call. Seven guests were present,  
12 three of them were juniors.

13 Each delegate received a copy of the 2015  
14 convention rules. The election rules were read and  
15 discussed. There were no recommendations or suggestions.  
16 The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

17 Madam President Harriet, thank you for this  
18 appointment. It has been my honor serving as your  
19 Elections Chairman. This concludes my Election Committee  
20 report.

21 Madam President, may I proceed to the reading of  
22 the election rules?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

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25 READING OF ELECTION RULES

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ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN BOBREN: These will be found in the Book of Reports on pages 18 and 19, Convention Rules No. 25 through 36.

Number 25: Election of Department Officers, Junior Member of Finance, National Candidate, Department Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be held on Saturday morning, June 27th, 2015.

Number 26: The doors of the convention hall shall be closed during the entire election procedure and no one shall leave or enter the hall until Chair states that election is concluded. The exception to this shall be that in an emergency a member may leave, and if her absence affects the voting strength, the District President shall immediately notify the Presiding Officer.

Number 27: When there is but one nominee for all Department Officers and but one nominee for Junior Member of Finance, the nominees shall be elected viva voce. (Article 5, Section 3, Department Constitution). Upon roll call the District Presidents shall report the number of units partially or wholly represented by duly elected delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the time of roll call. This is to determine that there is a quorum of units present at the time of the election.

Number 28: When there is more than one nominee

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

8           Number 29: When there are three or more nominees  
9 for office, Junior Member of Finance, or endorsement of  
10 National Office, unless one nominee receives a majority  
11 vote on the first ballot, the nominee receiving the lowest  
12 number of votes shall be automatically dropped before  
13 proceeding with the next ballot.

14           Number 30: When there is a candidate or  
15 candidates for an endorsement to a National Office, a  
16 majority vote shall be by ballot. (Constitution Article  
17 V, Section 13).

18           Number 31: Each District President and District  
19 Member of the Elections Committee shall distribute and  
20 collect the votes cast by the district delegation and  
21 deliver them to the Department Chairman of the Elections.

22           Number 32: Department Officers, Chairmen,  
23 Committee Member, and Past Department Presidents shall  
24 vote with their respective district.

25           Number 33: Each delegate shall be entitled to

1 one vote, the vote of an absent Unit delegate not  
2 represented by an alternative, shall be cast by the  
3 majority of the delegates from the unit. When two  
4 delegates represent three votes, the chairman of the unit  
5 delegation shall cast the third vote.

6 Number 34: A majority of all votes cast shall  
7 elect, except that in the election of national delegates  
8 and alternates a plurality shall elect.

9 Number 35: These convention rules may be amended  
10 during the convention by a two-thirds vote.

11 And number 36: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly  
12 Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all  
13 points not covered by these rules, the Department  
14 Constitution & Bylaws, and convention mandates.

15 Thank you, ladies.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
17 Karen. Will the District -- will the District Presidents  
18 please proceed to the microphone and line up numerically.  
19 The secretary will call the roll of districts. Thank you,  
20 Ruby.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Cheryl  
22 Neiffer.

23 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Yes, ma'am.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Can I  
25 have a copy of your final credentials report. Okay.

1           Okay. Madam President, are you having them give  
2 their voting strength and then --

3           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

4           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.  
5 District 1. Absent. District 2.

6           DISTRICT 2 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JOHNSON:  
7 District 2 has nine votes.

8           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 Correct. Thank you. District 3.

10          DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: District 3 has four  
11 votes.

12          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
13 you. District 4.

14          DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT DOWDEN: District 4 has nine  
15 votes.

16          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
17 Correct. Thank you. District 5.

18          CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN PRESIDENT TAYLOR:  
19 We have four votes.

20          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
21 you. District 6.

22          DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT LOPEZ: District 6 has 20  
23 votes.

24          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
25 Correct. Thank you. District 7.

1 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT BANDERA: District 7 has  
2 seven votes.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
4 you. District 8. Oh, they're absent. Nap time.  
5 District 9.

6 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: We have five votes.  
7 District 9.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
9 you.

10 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: District 9 I show  
11 five votes.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Five  
13 votes.

14 DISTRICT 9 MEMBER: We have four.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Four.  
16 Dolly, just come up and see Cheryl. District 10.

17 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PARSHAL: District 10 has  
18 six votes.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Could  
20 you repeat that, District 10.

21 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PARSHAL: District 10 has  
22 six votes.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
24 Correct. Thank you. District 11.

25 DISTRICT 11P RESIDENT ADAME: District 11 has 11

1 votes.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
3 you. District 12.

4 DISTRICT 12 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT KELLEY:  
5 District 12 has ten votes.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
7 you. District 13.

8 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT DENNY: Five votes.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Five.  
10 Thank you. District 14.

11 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: We have 16 votes.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 16?

13 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Yes, ma'am.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
15 you. District 15.

16 DISTRICT 15 PRESIDENT GRAHAM: 17.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
18 you. District 16.

19 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT MUNCH: 34.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
21 you. District 17.

22 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT PARSONS-CROOKS: We have  
23 one.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
25 you. District 18.

1 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT BRADSHAW: 34.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
3 you. District 19.

4 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT BULLARD: District 19 has  
5 33 because Cary Mount left the house and that's two. We  
6 would have 35. Thirty-three; is that correct?

7 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: They would have  
8 had 35 if she would have been here.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
10 you very much. District 20. District 20.

11 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT McCHESNEY: 21 votes.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
13 you. District 21.

14 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT WARDRIP: 30 votes.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 30  
16 votes for 21. Cheryl, 30 votes for 21?

17 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: That's correct.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
19 you. District 22.

20 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT COATNEY: District 22 has  
21 45 votes.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 45,  
23 Cheryl?

24 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Yes, ma'am.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That's

1 correct?

2 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Yes, ma'am.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
4 you. District 23.

5 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT BARBER: District 23 has 20  
6 votes.

7 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: District 23?

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes.  
9 Thank you. District 24.

10 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT HACKNEY: District 24 has  
11 nine votes.

12 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Correct.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
14 you. District 25.

15 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT ROWLAND: District 25 is  
16 happy to say we have 67 votes.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Great.  
18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
20 District 26.

21 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Nine  
22 votes.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
24 you. District 27.

25 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MYERS: District 27 has 17

1 votes.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
3 you. District 28.

4 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT BAKER: District 28 has 15  
5 votes.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
7 you. District 29.

8 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT TOMLIN: District 29 has 54  
9 votes.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
12 you. District 30.

13 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: District 30 has  
14 six votes.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And we  
16 go back to District 9. Do they have four votes? District  
17 9 is correct. I want a drum roll.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That is  
20 fabulous. Hooray. Great job. District 30, would you  
21 please see Cheryl? Hey, one out of 30 ain't bad. Okay.

22 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Three votes is  
23 correct.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Three  
25 votes.

1 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: I have three  
2 votes.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Three  
4 votes for District 30. Still a great job.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The Credentials  
7 Chairman will make the final credential report.

8 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Can I have 30  
9 seconds?

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.  
11 Can we have a little music?

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Liz,  
13 can we have a little music over here? Well, we'll have a  
14 lullaby. Play some of that great music, that tape that  
15 District 18 is selling.

16 (Music playing.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Cheryl, are you  
18 ready now? Thank you.

19 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Madam President,  
20 Ladies of the Auxiliary, thank God it's over. After a lot  
21 of number crunching and a lot of praying and inevitably  
22 and with the help of Ms. Odette Cuccaro --

23 (Applause.)

24 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: -- the total  
25 voting strength for this convention is 514 votes.

1 (Applause.)

2 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: Half of that would  
3 be 257, plus one needed to elect will be 258.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
5 much, Cheryl.

6 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN NEIFFER: You're welcome.  
7 Thank you, Madam President.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
9 much, ladies. We did great job through that. There is --  
10 we will now begin with the election of officers.

11

12 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

13

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: There is but one  
15 nominee for the office of Department President, Susie  
16 Tozier. All those in favor of electing Susie Tozier for  
17 Department President, signify by saying on Aye.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

20 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: No.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Is that Susie?  
22 You have elected Susie Tozier for your Department  
23 President 2015-2016. Congratulations, Susie.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Election of

1 Department Vice President. There is but one nominee for  
2 the office of Department Vice President, Wendy O'Brien.  
3 All those in favor of electing Wendy O'Brien Department  
4 Vice President, signify by saying aye.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You have elected  
9 Wendy O'Brien for the Department Vice President for  
10 2015-2016. Congratulations, Wendy.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Junior Member of  
13 Finance, there is but one nominee for Junior Member of  
14 Finance, Linda Hayes. All those in favor of electing  
15 Linda Hayes Junior Member of Finance, signify by saying  
16 aye.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Congratulations.  
21 You have elected Linda Hayes Junior Member of Finance  
22 2015-2016.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Congratulations,  
25 Linda.

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ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: And Delegates to National Convention. The secretary will now read the nominees for Delegates to National Convention.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam President, I need to move that the nominations of the alternates be reopened. Not everything can go well, but this is not as bad as what we went through yesterday.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It's been moved and seconded to reopen the nomination for alternate to National Convention. Is there any discussion?

(No response.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All those in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

(No response.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Now we have a lot of great ladies, we just can't count. I'm sorry. But there was only 19 alternates yesterday, so we need to have one more alternate. Is anyone going to National Convention that would like to be an alternate?

1       Whoever gets to the microphone first.

2                 DISTRICT 14 MEMBER:   District 14, we have  
3       alternate and her name is Diane Rapport.   Josie Melgard's  
4       daughter.

5                 (Applause.)

6                 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:   Great.  
7       And District 10, I was told you want to withdraw your  
8       alternate?   Liz Parshal, are you withdrawing your  
9       alternate from District 10?

10                DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT PARSHAL:   Yes.

11                DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:   I was  
12       told to tell everybody once you're in, you can't get out.  
13       Go ahead.

14                DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT LOPEZ:   District 6, Maria  
15       Lopez.   Ramona Tafoya will be the alternate for us.

16                DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:   Is she  
17       going?

18                DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT LOPEZ:   Yes, she is.

19                DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
20       Whatever it takes.   That's okay.   Ramona Tofoya.

21                Madam President, I move that the nominees go to  
22       vote.

23                DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT:   Second.

24                DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN:   It's been moved  
25       and seconded that the nominations for -- are we

1 actually --

2 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Okay. I  
3 didn't hear her.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It's been moved  
5 and seconded to -- oh, oh. I lost my train of thought.  
6 It has been moved and seconded to close nominations for  
7 alternates to National Convention. Is there any  
8 discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We got  
17 everybody there. Okay. You want the delegates right now,  
18 Madam President?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, please.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
21 District 29 Tami Bell. Or, I'm sorry, I guess I should  
22 start with the ones that are automatic. President Harriet  
23 Clendenin. President Elect Susie Tozier. National  
24 Convention Secretary Diane DeLashmit. District 29 Tami  
25 Bell. District 22 Donna Smith. District 25 Donna Scott.

1 District 21 passes. District 19 Tammy Sollazzo. District  
2 16 Linda Fercho. District 28 passes. District 18 Aurora  
3 Sosa. District 16 passes. District 5 Melanie Taylor.  
4 District 23 Jackie Cleveland. District 6 Wendy O'Brien.  
5 District 14 Gloria Sinopoli. District 27 LuAnn Capazzi.  
6 District 15 Zana Chaney. District 20 passes. District 12  
7 passes. District 26 Linda Workman. District 7 Connie  
8 Bradbury. District 2 passes. District 3 passes.  
9 District 4 passes. District 13 passes. District 24 is  
10 Deloris Artis. District 10 is Constance Harbour.  
11 District 1 passes. District 9 passes. District 3 passes.  
12 District 8 passes. District 17 passes. And we have  
13 District 29 Kendall Madsen. And I believe that completes  
14 your 20 delegates, Madam President.

15 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yes.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you. It  
17 does.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I move  
19 to accept the nomination of the delegates to the National  
20 Convention.

21 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I second.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It has been  
23 moved and seconded as read. All those in favor?

24 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You have elected  
3 the Delegates to National Convention.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The secretary --  
6 yes. The secretary will now read the list of nominees for  
7 Alternates to National Convention.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 District 29 Cheryl Neiffer. District 22 June Coatney.  
10 District 25 passes. District 21 passes. District 19  
11 Brenda Boyd. District 16 Darlene Duncan. District 28  
12 passes. District 18 Norma DuVall. District 11 passes.  
13 District 5 passes. District 23 Wantu Robinson. District  
14 6 Ramona Tafoya. District 14 Rosalie Taylor. District 27  
15 Diane Brentworth. District 15 Dee Ann Graham. District  
16 20 passes. District 12 passes. District 26 Sherry  
17 Schneider. District 7 passes. District 2 passes.  
18 District 3 passes. District 4 passes. District 13  
19 passes. District 24 Ruth Hackney. District 10 passes.  
20 District 1 passes. District 9 passes. District 3 passes.  
21 District 8 passes. District 17 passes. District 22 April  
22 Kochur. District 19 Jean Cooley-Desmeules. This one gets  
23 a little complicated. I thought we were reading the order  
24 of the --

25 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yeah,

1 there was 19.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.

3 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT MYERS: Excuse me, Ruby. I  
4 thought I heard you read a name as an alternate for  
5 District 27.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: No.  
7 Hold on. Let me see. No. We got a pass. Oh, yeah.  
8 Diane Brentworth. She was on the wrong line. That was  
9 14; right?

10 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MYERS: 27 is my district.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I know,  
12 but Diane Brentworth is she 14?

13 DISTRICT 14 MEMBER: No.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Where  
15 is Diane Brentworth from? Someone just gave me Diane  
16 Brentworth.

17 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Diane Rapport.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I can't  
19 hear you. You're going to have to go to the microphone.  
20 I'm sorry I can't hear.

21 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: It was Diane  
22 Rapport, R-A-P-P-O-R-T, from District 14.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.  
24 All right. Yes. I put it on the wrong line. I'm sorry.  
25 These eyes are getting old. All right. Thank you. I'm

1 sorry. I -- my ears heard wrong. And I have removed it  
2 from the 27th. Thank you, Vella.

3 Okay. So you want me to read by the district  
4 rather than going -- I was skipping. I was doing it in  
5 order.

6 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: District  
7 29 has more than District 22?

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes.

9 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Can we  
10 just --

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I know.  
12 Then I'm going to read it the way I've got it there  
13 because that is my voting numerical strength. That was my  
14 mission, understanding I thought you wanted me to read it  
15 like that.

16 Back up here. District 29 Cheryl Neiffer.  
17 District 29 Melveta Mason.

18 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I'm sorry.  
19 This is very, very confusing really.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Do I  
21 have your permission to read them as they are?

22 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: The only  
23 reason we're -- the only reason we have stressed and  
24 stressed and stressed in the units, the alternates have to  
25 be moved up according to how they are voted; right? So

1 everybody gets a first pass, then we go back to the voting  
2 strength of the constituents and so forth. If we read --  
3 if we read Cheryl Neiffer and Melveta Mason which is on  
4 this paper this way, those are the first two which they're  
5 both from the same district. You understand why I put  
6 that into issue this way?

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.  
8 All right. That's -- all right. Let's go to Cheryl  
9 Neiffer, District 29. Okay. District 22 June Coatney.  
10 District 25 passes. District 21 passes. District 19  
11 Brenda Boyd. District 16 Darlene Duncan. District 28  
12 passes. District 18 Norma DuVall. District 11 passes.  
13 District 5 passes. District 23 Wantu Robinson.

14 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:  
15 Ruby, we can't hear you over here in the cheap seats.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
17 District 6 passes. District 14 Rosalie Taylor. District  
18 27 passes. District 15 Dee Ann Graham. District 20  
19 passes. District 12 passes. District 26 Sherry  
20 Schneider. District 7 passes. District 2 passes.  
21 District 30 passes. District 4 passes. District 13  
22 passes. District 24 Ruth Hackney. District 10 passes.  
23 District 1 passes. District 9 passes. District 3 passes.  
24 District 8 passes. And District 17 passes. Now Melveta  
25 Mason.

1 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT LOPEZ: Excuse me. Maria  
2 Lopez, District 6. We did not pass.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm  
4 sorry. I took it from another sheet. You're right.

5 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT LOPEZ: Thank you.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And  
7 Diane Rapport from District 14. Okay. Now I'm going back  
8 here. Melveta Mason, April Kochur, Jean Cooley-Desmeules.  
9 I'm sorry; I just can never get that right. Debbie  
10 Hurado. If I crucify your name, forgive me. Judy Urich.

11 Okay. All right. Back to the top. Vergie  
12 Goffney, Doreen Long, Nancy Niles. And I believe that  
13 should be the 20; is that correct?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Diane Rapport.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Diane  
16 Rapport. Is that it? I move the election of these  
17 Alternates to the National Convention.

18 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Second.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It has been  
20 moved and seconded to elect the alternates as read. Is  
21 there any discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All those in  
24 favor?

25 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You have elected  
4 the Alternates to National Convention.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

7 Remember I told you sometimes it doesn't pay to get out of  
8 bed. I thought it was going to be a good day, but you  
9 just never know.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: We will now  
11 proceed to ratify the election of District Presidents and  
12 Vice Presidents.

13 Madam Secretary, please read the names of the  
14 District President Elect.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

16 District 1 Marialice Clanclini. District 2 Judy  
17 Henderson. District 3 Lola Ramey. District 4 Barbara La  
18 Doucer. District 5 Sandy Paxton. District 6 Maria Lopez.  
19 District 7 Bonnie Chavoya. District 8 Tammy Manini.  
20 District 9 Helaine Rios. District 10 Gweniviere Woody.  
21 District 11 Beverly Villines. District 12 Anne Kelley.  
22 District 13 Jennifer Fanucchi. District 14 Geni Lefler.  
23 District 15 Dee Ann Graham. District 16 Tracy Varnell.  
24 District 17 Rachel Yee. District 18 Melinda Sinclair.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
2 District 19 Diana Livas. District 20 Roberta Estes.  
3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
5 District 21 Judy Bendzala. District 22 April Kochur.  
6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
8 District 23 Phyllis Meyi. District 24 Ruth Hackney.  
9 District 25 Tamara Duran.  
10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
12 District 26 Dolly Vitangeli. District 27 Vicky Goodchild.  
13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
15 District 28 Susan Baker.  
16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
18 District 29 Cheryl Neiffer. District 30 Kim Vincent.  
19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I move  
21 the election of -- oh, we have one --

22 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Madam President,  
23 District 14, Ellen McClurg. And I am taking District 14  
24 again one more year.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Second

1 Vice?

2 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: No. Ellen  
3 McClurg is first as District President.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Just a  
5 moment. One at a time so Ellen McClurg is the president.

6 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Yes, ma'am.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Who is  
8 your First Vice?

9 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Sandy Urban.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And the  
11 second?

12 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Geni Lefler is  
13 the second.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It's  
15 pronounce Geni?

16 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Geni.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.  
18 District 14 Ellen McClurg.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam  
21 President, that concludes the election of -- or nomination  
22 of your district presidents. I move the ratification of  
23 their election.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It has been  
25 moved and seconded that we ratify the election of the

1 district presidents. Is there any discussion?

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor say  
4 aye.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.  
9 You have ratified the election of District President.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Madam Secretary,  
12 please read the list of District First Vice Presidents  
13 Elect.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
15 District 1 Doris Pinckney. District 2 Pat Carey.  
16 District 3 Rosemarie Bejeck. District 4 Elsa Johnson.  
17 District 5 Norma Harrison. District 6 Ramona Tafoya.  
18 District 7 Linda Harmon. District 8 Kathleen Sullivan.  
19 District 9 Rosemarie Moreno. District 10 Dorothy  
20 Castillo. District 11 Charlene Marthei. District 12  
21 Donna Sturm. District 13 CeCe Harvey.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
24 District 14 Sandy Urban. District 15 Zana Chaney.  
25 District 16 Terry Oclaray.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
3 District 17 Cindy Wong. District 18 Gail Pauliot.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sorry,  
6 Gail. District 19 Nancy Rayner.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 District 20 Ann Philcox. District 21 Susan Romero.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
12 District 22 Donna Smith. District 23 Patricia Patrick.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
15 District 24 Delores Artis. You better get your meters up  
16 again. District 25 Maria Teresa (Terry) Grandado.  
17 District 26 Arlene Muller. District 27 Joyce Curwick.  
18 District 28 Karol Adams.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
21 District 29 Cindy Mayfield.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
24 District 30 Karen Marquardt. I move the ratification of  
25 the election of your District First Vice Presidents.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It has been  
2 moved and secondified -- seconded.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It's  
4 contagious.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay. It has  
6 been moved and seconded that we ratify the elections of  
7 the District First Vice Presidents Elect. Is there any  
8 discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All those in  
11 favor say aye.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed no?

14 (No response.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You have  
16 ratified the election of First Vice Presidents.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Madam Secretary,  
19 please read the list of District Second Vice Presidents  
20 Elect.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
22 District 1 Pat Lindley. District 2 Anita Ray. District 3  
23 Wendy Jacobs. District 4 Jean Edson. District 5 Wenonah  
24 Angler. District 6 Sherry Watson.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
2 District 7 Peggy Vogeles. District 8 Teresa Canonizado.  
3 District -- I'm sorry. Go with it. District 9 Wendelin  
4 Geltz. District 10 Susan Peters. District 11 Kirsten  
5 Anderson. District 12 Ann McCauley. District 13 Patricia  
6 Leonardo.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
9 District 14 Geni Lefler. District 15 Harriet Clendenin.  
10 What, do you want this job again or what?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I love to be a  
12 nominee.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
14 District 16 Stephanie Reid.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
17 District 17 Annie Chao. District 18 Betty Ramos.  
18 District 19 Becky Bullard wants to go again.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
21 District 20 Nancy Heinich.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
24 District 21 Cathy McCoy.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

2 District 22 Maureen Giacalone.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm  
5 sorry. This is really a challenge you know. District 23  
6 Raychelle Trimble.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh,  
9 it's Raychelle.

10 DEPARTMENT NEC WOMAN BIGGS: Our young blood.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

12 District 24 Beatriz Huppert. All right. All right.

13 District 25 Patricia Patti Galatioto.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All  
16 right. District 26 Leslie Tozzini. District 27 Norma  
17 Billings. District 28 Mary Concepcion. District 29 Jean  
18 Dudbeck. District 30 is Joanne Likens. And I wish you  
19 guys would get some easier names.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Why don't we  
21 change them all to Smith.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Huh?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Why don't we  
24 just change them all to Smith.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We're

1 going to change them all to Smith.

2 Madam President, I move the ratification of the  
3 District Second Vice President.

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

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All those in  
9 favor say aye.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed, no?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I'm sorry. That  
14 was only one, so -- okay, ladies, you have ratified the  
15 election of the District Second Vice President.

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: And this  
18 concludes the election and the pages may open the doors.

19 Will the newly elect Department Officers please  
20 come to the stage to be presented.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Cheryl  
22 Neiffer, we're going to the bar to have a drink.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Susie, Linda,  
24 and Wendy. Linda, are you in the house? Okay. Everybody  
25 get your cameras ready.

1           It gives me great pleasure to present to you the  
2 newly elected Department Officers for the year 2015-2016.  
3 Department President Susanne (Susie) Tozier, Department  
4 Vice President Wendy O'Brien, Junior Member of Finance  
5 Linda Hayes. Congratulations to you all.

6           (Applause.)

7           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Ladies, if  
8 there's any -- could I have -- could I please have the AEF  
9 Chairman, Public Relations, and Poppy. Okay. AEF, Public  
10 Relations, and Poppy.

11  
12                                   AEF CONVENTION REPORT

13  
14           AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: The Convention  
15 Committee on Auxiliary Emergency Fund met on June 25th,  
16 2015 in the Riesling Room of the Ontario Airport Hotel,  
17 Ontario, California. The statistical report of this  
18 chairman appears on page 24 of the Book of Reports.

19           Gloria Williams, District 23, was appointed  
20 secretary, Susan Zimmerman of District 27 offered prayer,  
21 and Karen Herrera, District 15, was appointed  
22 Sergeant-At-Arms. A total of 22 district delegates  
23 answered roll call and there were four visitors.

24           The committee agreed on the following report.  
25 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The secretary

1 called roll. The Department Code was read and there were  
2 no recommendations for code changes. There were also no  
3 resolutions. Discussion followed on ideas to improve the  
4 program in the future. One consistent thought was how to  
5 share ideas for fundraising. It was suggested that there  
6 be a page added to the Department website where members  
7 could share ideas.

8 100 percent reporting and other awards were  
9 placed in the delegate envelopes. The meeting was  
10 adjourned at 12:06.

11 Madam President, may I continue with my  
12 supplemental and awards?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

14 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: Thank you. Short,  
15 sweet, simple. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund, although a  
16 National program, is extremely important to the members of  
17 California. The assistance available through this program  
18 may make a huge difference in the life of a member facing  
19 an emergency. Please continue to spread the word and be  
20 ready to offer assistance when the need arises. With the  
21 severe drought in California, the likelihood of a member  
22 needing assistance is greatly increased.

23 Of the Beaders providing a supplemental, there  
24 were some very ingenious ideas for raising funds. These  
25 ranged from funds from a used treasure sale to various

1 decorated cans available to collect funds at any time as  
2 well as being passed around during meetings and a happy  
3 hour opportunity drawing. That sounds like fun. Our  
4 members were thinking outside the can on this one.

5 One unit, who is without a place to call home,  
6 was still able to keep things going stringing lines  
7 together and keeping things going through all adversity.  
8 I am happy to report that donations from the State of  
9 California were the highest in the Western Division.  
10 Thank you, ladies.

11 (Applause.)

12 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: And my awards, please.  
13 Thank you. First I have to offer is the -- wait a minute.  
14 Unit 252, Patricia Michaels, chairman, Best Unit  
15 Supplement First Place.

16 (Applause.)

17 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: District 23.

18 (Applause.)

19 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: Then we have our  
20 District Best Supplemental First Place goes to Gloria  
21 Williams, chairman.

22 (Applause.)

23 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: And I did a little  
24 challenge to see if I could get a little extra funds  
25 raised this year, so on a personal side I'll offer a

1 little thank you to the unit and the district who made the  
2 largest contribution to AEF through the depending on per  
3 capita. So the district winner for this one is District  
4 27, Victoria Goodchild, chairman. First place raised  
5 donation equaled out to \$1.20 per member.

6 (Applause.)

7 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: And our last one is to  
8 our unit who did the largest per capita donation. First  
9 place \$1.62 per member going to Unit 482, Jackie Thomas,  
10 chair.

11 (Applause.)

12 AEF CHAIRMAN FALKENBERG: Madam Chairman, thank  
13 you very much for this appointment. It was a wonderful  
14 way to learn. And this completes my report.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
16 much. Great job.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good morning.

19  
20 PUBLIC RELATIONS CONVENTION REPORT

21  
22 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Good morning.  
23 The Public Relations Committee met on Thursday, June 25th  
24 at 9:00 a.m. in the Riesling Room of the Ontario Airport  
25 Hotel. The meeting opened with a prayer, the pledge, and

1 introductions. A total of 13 delegates, one alternate,  
2 and two guests answered roll call. Appointed secretary  
3 was Dodie Leaf of District 22, Chaplain was LuAnn Capazzi  
4 of District 27, and Geni Lefler of District 14 was  
5 appointed Sergeant-At-Arms.

6 The statistical report appears on page 33 of the  
7 Book of Reports. The meeting opened with Estella Avina  
8 discussing the Editors code and dates required for the  
9 submittals to the Legionnaire. Then the Public Relations  
10 code was read by this chairman and the committee made no  
11 proposed changes.

12 The social media policy was reviewed and the  
13 basic social media posting guidelines were discussed. For  
14 example, when posting wording and photos on social media,  
15 they should be neutral. Items being posted or shared  
16 should reflect a positive and inviting environment to all  
17 that view them. No alcohol, political, or religious  
18 postings should be involved.

19 This chairman reminded the committee that what is  
20 funny to someone could be offensive to someone else. The  
21 committee also shared stories of their experiences.  
22 Social media should be used as a tool to reach out to the  
23 public in a positive manner and everybody should  
24 understand that when something is posted, it lives in  
25 history forever.

1           So think before you share something, check your  
2 wording twice, and if you aren't sure if something is fit  
3 to be posted, as a rule of thumb you should not continue  
4 with it, as it is better to be safe than sorry.

5           During the meeting second and third place awards  
6 were distributed, as well as the district second through  
7 fourth place awards.

8           By the direction of the committee I move for the  
9 adoption of this report.

10           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Go ahead.

11           PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Thank you.

12           Madam President, with your permission, may I continue with  
13 my first place and submittal awards?

14           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

15           PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: As well as my  
16 short report. Okay. I did pass a note to the winners, so  
17 hopefully the folks are lined up. For most submittals  
18 from a unit, it goes to Unit 684 LuAnn Capazzi. And I  
19 brought metals.

20           (Applause.)

21           PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Public  
22 Relations works hard, so they get a metal. Okay. And  
23 then for District Most Submittals goes to District 27.

24           (Applause.)

25           PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: And the metal

1 has the Auxiliary logo on one side and then it has what  
2 they got a metal for. Thank you. I'm sorry. I forgot to  
3 shake your hand. Oh, and First Place Unit Award for the  
4 best report goes to Unit 716, District 28.

5 (Applause.)

6 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Okay. And for  
7 first place for the district goes to District 30, Kim  
8 Vincent.

9 (Applause.)

10 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Okay. The  
11 other awards that were distributed at the meeting was  
12 second place for the unit report was 777, third place was  
13 741. For the district second place was District 29. And  
14 third place was District 22 and fourth was District 25.

15 (Applause.)

16 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Madam  
17 President, if I could continue with my brief report.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

19 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Thank you.  
20 Madam Department President Harriet, your theme of  
21 C.R.A.F.T.S. has really been a fun experience. Making our  
22 creative minds do some extracurricular fun and bringing  
23 the sisters of the American Legion Auxiliary together.  
24 After reading your theme, Creating Relationships Assisting  
25 Families Through Service, I knew that this Public

1 Relations Chairman wanted to ensure that social media  
2 exposure would become an additional resource for our  
3 department.

4           Thankfully we were able to kick off the year by  
5 accomplishing that goal. Shortly following the last  
6 convention for the Department of California, a Facebook  
7 page was launched and the ALA Cali connection quickly got  
8 off to a great start. Units and districts from up and  
9 down the Golden State were posting events, recognizing  
10 members and sharing what exciting activities their posts  
11 and units had to offer. Facebook quickly became a place  
12 members were sharing stories and posting resources.

13           Members have worked so hard this year to get the  
14 word out and promote the American Legion Auxiliary in a  
15 positive manner. Units and districts have spent countless  
16 hours volunteering, working on Poppy fundraisers, memorial  
17 service, pocket flag programs, Girls State programs, young  
18 military children events, bingo with hospitalized  
19 veterans, BBQs, Stand Downs, female veterans tributes,  
20 local community cleanups, and post beautification  
21 projects. And the list goes on and on.

22           There have been so many rewarding and wonderful  
23 activities, Madam Department President, and I thank you  
24 for the honor of this appointment. I would also like to  
25 thank all of the units and district that took their time

1 to send their press releases to be included in your book.  
2 Without their assistance I could not have accomplished  
3 this task, but I think when you look back and see the  
4 extraordinary work that your Auxiliary members have  
5 accomplished, I know you will be very proud.

6 Madam Department President, that concludes my  
7 report. May I approach your station to present you with  
8 your book?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Of course.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
12 Jennifer. I love it.

13

14 POPPY CONVENTION REPORT

15

16 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good morning, ladies.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

18 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Oh, there they were. I  
19 knew there were words on the paper somewhere. The  
20 Convention Committee on Poppies met on June 25th, 2015 in  
21 the Redwood Room of the Ontario Airport Hotel, Ontario,  
22 California. The statistical report of this chairman  
23 appears on page 32 of the Book of Reports.

24 Pat Alvarez, District 29, was appointed  
25 secretary, Vella Myers, District 27, offered prayer, and

1 Patricia Patrick, District 23, was appointed  
2 Sergeant-At-Arms. A total of 24 district delegates  
3 answered roll call. There were four visitors present.  
4 Meeting opened according to ritual. The code was read and  
5 there were no code changes.

6 (Applause.)

7 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: There is one  
8 housekeeping change to be made to Code 14. There is no  
9 apostrophe S on "presidents." Discussion and  
10 recommendation to the Poppy program were made and will be  
11 submitted to the successive Department Chairman and  
12 Department President.

13 All certificates of appreciation, participation,  
14 and second place awards were given in committee. And  
15 those that did not get printed are being passed out by the  
16 pages at this time.

17 This concludes my committee report. May I  
18 continue with my supplemental?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Of course.

20 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Madam President, it is  
21 hard to believe that this year is over. What a wonderful  
22 year it has been serving as the Department of California  
23 Poppy Chairman. Your theme C.R.A.F.T.S., Creating  
24 Relationships Assisting Families Through Service, has been  
25 in motion all year and your Magical Flower Makers produced

1 a garden full of magical flowers.

2 Our year began with securing our contracts with  
3 the Poppy production facilities in Yountville, Long Beach,  
4 and the WAVE Clinic for a total of 360,000 Poppies to be  
5 produced. Information relating to poppy orders, seals,  
6 and displays were distributed at the three workshops. As  
7 the poppy orders started coming in, I was not sure my mail  
8 carrier was going to survive. She had never delivered  
9 that much mail to me in six months. But she did survive.

10 We had 88 percent of the units ordering poppies  
11 for distribution and over 65,000 seals were ordered.

12 Thank you, ladies.

13 (Applause.)

14 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Disabled and  
15 rehabilitating veterans handmade over 300,000 poppies for  
16 distribution to 264 units in the Department of California.  
17 Although ten cents per poppy does not look like a lot, it  
18 is gold to our veterans when they know they have their own  
19 money to purchase the things that they want when they  
20 want. Thank you to each and every unit that placed an  
21 order.

22 Members have attended their local city council  
23 meetings, town hall meetings, submitted articles to their  
24 newspapers, both in print and via Internet. The poppy  
25 story along with information on how our poppies are made,

1 what the income the veteran is used for, and what the  
2 donations generated by offering our poppies were  
3 distributed to local retailers, businesses and merchants.  
4 Units set up booths at their local craft fairs, flea  
5 markets, reaching out to many people that may not normally  
6 be in contact with.

7 In addition to getting the word out to the  
8 public, units worked with their schools in promoting the  
9 poppy poster and window display contest. One member  
10 created a PowerPoint presentation of the history and story  
11 of the poppy and presented it to a Veterans Museum.

12 Year-end reports showed that there were --  
13 year-end reports showed that there were ten units with  
14 poppy window displays and six units with poppy posters.  
15 This chairman, however, only received seven posters to  
16 consider for competition. Ten units held a Miss/Little  
17 Miss Poppy competition within their district, yet there  
18 were no entries submitted for consideration to this  
19 chairman. And I was so looking forward to presenting a  
20 Miss or Little Miss Poppy to this delegation.

21 Units distributed our poppies at their local  
22 grocery stores, setting up booths outside major retailers,  
23 attending school award programs, preparing corsages and  
24 boutonnieres. Boxes were sent to our troops overseas with  
25 poppies enclosed. One unit reported that their Girls

1 State delegate offers the first poppy in May, and this  
2 year the recipient was the head chaplain of the California  
3 National Guard.

4 The Magical Flower Makers of the Department of  
5 California planted their seeds, tended to their gardens,  
6 and harvested the magic created by our veterans. Memorial  
7 Day saw 295 crosses, 43 sprays adorned with our magical  
8 flowers, and 1395 flags placed at the graves of our fallen  
9 soldiers. Memorial wreaths were placed at various  
10 memorial ceremonies.

11 In addition to honoring those that gave their  
12 all, units are also honoring those that have chosen to  
13 become citizens of this great country by presenting them  
14 poppies, flags, and the poppy story at their  
15 nationalization ceremony. Units partnered together with  
16 the local youth groups such as the Boys and Girl Scouts,  
17 Junior ROTC, and others as they participated in their city  
18 Memorial Day programs.

19 Poppy cans were decorated for Poppy Month.  
20 Social and local media was there to capture all of the  
21 tributes to our fallen veterans.

22 Madam President, may I proceed with the first  
23 place awards?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

25 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Thank you. Okay.

1 Everybody is here except for one because I have a problem  
2 with it. First place poster Class V, grades 10 to 11,  
3 Jenna Garcein, Salinas, California. I did not write the  
4 unit or district before I sent that poster, so I could not  
5 send a note, but could someone please come forward?

6 (Applause.)

7 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: I realized afterwards  
8 that I forgot to write some stuff down. And this is Unit  
9 589, District 28. Congratulations. Thank you very much.

10 (Applause.)

11 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Excellent poster.  
12 First Place Poppy Poster Class VI, Leslie Chan, Unit 43,  
13 District 24.

14 (Applause.)

15 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Thank you. First Place  
16 Unit Supplemental goes to Unit 6, District 22, Irma  
17 Manthi.

18 (Applause.)

19 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: She's on her way.  
20 She's on her way. I probably should have put Irma's name  
21 on the note when I sent it out. I'm still learning.

22 (Applause.)

23 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: First Place District  
24 Supplemental goes to District 22, Suzanne Dooley-Baily,  
25 chairman.

1 (Applause.)

2 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Thank you. And now for  
3 the displays, first place poppy displays. President's  
4 Theme goes to Michelle Banks, Unit 751, District 25.

5 (Applause.)

6 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Excellent job,  
7 Michelle. Thank you. And again I am learning I need to  
8 put the names on it, not just the district. Okay. First  
9 Place Poppy Display Freestyle, Unit 261, District 18,  
10 Celia Farinella.

11 (Applause.)

12 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Thank you. And first  
13 place, only place, Poppy Display President's Choice goes  
14 to Unit 2, District 21, Cheryl Flemming. Cheryl, are you  
15 here?

16 (Applause.)

17 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: They must have -- okay.  
18 I will double-check my pages and see what they did. But  
19 Cheryl Flemming. Do we know who that is? Is that  
20 District 21? Is she in District 21?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's District 21. That's my  
22 daughter.

23 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: I may have the unit  
24 wrong, but I have the rest of it right. Thank you,  
25 ladies. I had a difficult time kind of deciphering the

1 judges. We may have left the number off. I may have left  
2 the number off.

3 Okay. One last award for -- and I will have to  
4 print a certificate for this. For the unit -- it was to  
5 be for the unit that -- I did not get a lot of year-end  
6 reports, so this is going to the district with the  
7 greatest increase in Poppy orders goes to District 6 with  
8 an increase of 29.82 poppies.

9 (Applause.)

10 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Okay. Madam President,  
11 I want to thank you for this appointment and allowing me  
12 to attend to your Magic Flowers over this past year. It  
13 has been an honor and this concludes my report.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
15 Kathie. Good job.

16 (Applause.)

17 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Wait, wait, wait. I  
18 forgot to write this down. Poppy production managers,  
19 this was what I was supposed to put at the end of this  
20 report and I didn't. Poppy production managers,  
21 Yountville Geri Fitzpatrick.

22 (Applause.)

23 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Lois Cornish. Right  
24 here. You guys should come up. My mind was blank. And  
25 Long Beach VAMC, Pat Alvarez.

1 (Applause.)

2 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: And I do have a small  
3 token that I will give to them off stage. Madam  
4 President, this now concludes my report. Thank you very  
5 much.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you. I'd  
7 like to now hear a report from Leadership and Americanism.  
8 Norma DuVall, are you in the house? Okay. And Donna  
9 Scott, are you in the house?

10 Donna, could you please follow Norma with your  
11 report? Donna, could you please come up here for a  
12 second?

13

14 LEADERSHIP CONVENTION REPORT

15

16 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Thank you, Madam  
17 President. The Convention Committee on Leadership met  
18 9:00 a.m. on June 25th, 2015 in the Walnut Room at the  
19 Ontario Airport Hotel, Ontario, California. The  
20 statistical report appears on page 30 of the Book of  
21 Reports.

22 Gigi Manno, District 22, was appointed secretary.  
23 Tracy Varnell, District 26, offered prayer. Alzora  
24 Carter, District 23, was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms. A  
25 total of 20 districts answered roll call and there were

1 four visitors.

2 The Committee agreed on the following report:  
3 The code was read and the following changes were  
4 presented. Code No. 4 now reads: "Department Chairman  
5 will complete the attendance cards upon receipt from  
6 certified instructors and forward to Department President  
7 for signature."

8 We have a proposed change to delete this code in  
9 its entirety. By direction of the committee I move this  
10 change.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It's been moved  
12 and seconded to delete Code 4. Is there any discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor say  
15 aye.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

18 NAT'L STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER TAYLOR:  
19 No.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

21 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Thank you. Code No.  
22 7 now reads: "Requirements for certification or  
23 recertification of certified instructor. A, passed the  
24 National Correspondence Course. B, attended and/or  
25 participated in a leadership workshop for a minimum of six

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

11 We have a proposed change to this code. With the  
12 adoption, Code No. 7 will now read: "Requirements for  
13 certification or recertification of certified instructor.  
14 A, attended and/or participated in a leadership workshop  
15 for a minimum of six hours. B, certified instructors must  
16 conduct or have participated in a workshop every five  
17 years to maintain their certification. C, proper forms  
18 must be completed by applicant and recommendation made by  
19 the certified instructor. D, after receipt of the  
20 application and one dollar, the Department Chairman will  
21 complete the blue leadership instructor card to include  
22 the five-year term and forward it to the Department  
23 President for her signature."

24 By direction of the committee I move this change.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Proposed code

1 change: "Requirements for certification or  
2 recertification of certified instructor. A, attended  
3 and/or participated in a leadership workshop for a minimum  
4 of six hours. B, certified instructors must conduct or  
5 have participated in a workshop every five years to  
6 maintain their certification. C, proper forms must be  
7 completed by applicant and recommendation made by the  
8 certified instructor. D, after receipt of the application  
9 and one dollar, the Department Chairman will complete the  
10 blue leadership instructor card to include the five-year  
11 term and forward it to the Department President for her  
12 signature."

13 Is there any discussion?

14 (No response.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

20 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Thank you. Code No.

21 9 reads: "White cards will be issued upon receipt of  
22 attendance and one dollar each from the certified  
23 instructor. Leadership pins, at current cost, are also  
24 available and can be ordered from National Emblem Sales by  
25 any attendee, but they do not include instructor status.

1 Monies in full must accompany all requests for pins and  
2 cards."

3 We have a proposed change to this code. With its  
4 adoption Code No. 9 will now read: "Department Chairman  
5 will complete the white attendance cards upon receipt from  
6 instructors of the workshop sign-in sheet and one dollar  
7 for each card. The cards will be mailed to the  
8 instructors for distributions. Leadership pins, at  
9 current cost, are also available and can be ordered from  
10 National Emblem Sales by any attendee, but they do not  
11 indicate instructor status."

12 By direction of the committee I move this change.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Code 9 change --  
14 proposed change will be: "Department Chairman will  
15 complete the white attendance cards upon receipt from  
16 instructors of the workshop sign-in sheet and one dollar  
17 for each card. The cards will be mailed to the  
18 instructors for distributions. Leadership pins, at  
19 current cost, are also available and can be ordered from  
20 National Emblem Sales by any attendee, but they do not  
21 indicate instructor status."

22 Is there any discussion?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

25 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

4 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Thank you. Code No.  
5 13 now reads: "All members are encouraged to complete the  
6 Auxiliary Correspondence Course."

7 We have a proposed change to this code. With its  
8 adoption Code 13 will now read: "The National Leadership  
9 course teaches members about our organization, history,  
10 basic protocol, and basic conduct of business through a  
11 self-paced study course. The course is designed and  
12 available for any member in good standing. A, all  
13 certified leadership instructors are encouraged to  
14 complete the National Leadership Course. B, California is  
15 responsible for their own recordkeeping and grading. Ten  
16 incorrect answers are allowed for a passing score" --  
17 excuse me -- "passing grade. C, every member that  
18 participates in the National Leadership Course will send  
19 their members instruction sheet and exam answer sheet to  
20 the Department Chairman for grading. After grading, the  
21 Department Chairman will, 1, record the member's  
22 information for recordkeeping. 2" -- that was a typo.  
23 "2, issue gray cards signed by the current National  
24 President and National Leadership Chairman to each member  
25 with a passing grade and mail it with a congratulatory

1 letter. 3, send a letter to each member that did not  
2 pass, encouraging them to review the material and resubmit  
3 their test answers."

4 By direction of the committee I move this change.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The proposed  
6 change will now read: "The National Leadership Course  
7 teaches members about our organization, history, basic  
8 protocol, and basic conduct of business through a  
9 self-paced study course. The course is designed and  
10 available for any member in good standing. A, all  
11 certified leadership instructors are encouraged to  
12 complete the National Leadership Course. B, California is  
13 responsible for their own recordkeeping and grading. Ten  
14 incorrect answers are allowed for a passing grade. C,  
15 every member that participates in the National Leadership  
16 Course will send their members instruction sheet and exam  
17 answer sheet to the Department Chairman for grading.  
18 After grading, the department chairman will, 1, record the  
19 member's information for recordkeeping. 2, issue gray  
20 cards signed by the current National President and  
21 National Leadership Chairman to each member with a passing  
22 grade and mail it with a congratulatory letter. 3, send a  
23 letter to each member that did not pass, encouraging them  
24 to review the material and resubmit their test answers."

25 Is there any discussion?

1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

7 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Thank you. Thank  
8 you. There were no resolutions or recommendations. 100  
9 percent reporting citations and second and third place  
10 winners were presented and will be posted in the  
11 department office. With no further business the meeting  
12 adjourned at -- I believe it was at 9:55.

13 That concludes my report. May I conclude with my  
14 supplemental?

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Please do.

16 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Bless you. Thank  
17 you. Each of us is faced with the challenge of finding a  
18 way to help and strengthen the units within our respective  
19 districts. California is not unique. We join units  
20 nationally faced with challenges of reaching membership  
21 goals, having effective, productive meetings, and growing  
22 our leadership with trained active members. Additional  
23 challenges include low number of volunteers, conflicts,  
24 bad attitudes, and lack of interest or caring about our  
25 mission, vision and purpose.

1           Oceanside 146 did not let that stop them. By  
2 sharing our mission they increased their membership by 19  
3 and I know now has surpassed their 137.78 percent.

4           (Applause.)

5           LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: California continues  
6 to strive for success in leadership. How are we  
7 accomplishing our goals? Camarillo Unit 741 chairman  
8 says, and I quote, "Leadership is practiced on a daily  
9 basis more through actions than spoken words," end quote.

10          (Applause.)

11          LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Whether working  
12 one-on-one or a group setting, California's leaders  
13 provide guidance by assisting, encouraging, and mentoring  
14 with compassion, pride, and understanding, always keeping  
15 the best interest of our organization in mind. Individual  
16 members meet and greet, exchange ideas, and bring learning  
17 experiences back to the unit. They hold age appropriate  
18 hands-on activities. Their knowledge is shared in a  
19 practical fashion.

20          Lakewood Unit 496 chairman stated, and I will  
21 quote, "Mentoring through leadership program is a great  
22 way to ensure a strong Legion family," end quote. And we  
23 are striving to be California strong, being a good role  
24 model working together in an atmosphere of responsibility  
25 and love for our organization.

1           Our year always begins with the department  
2 officers' and chairmen training, followed by a program  
3 workshop to introduce the program goals for the year to  
4 our members. This year two workshops had 210 members  
5 attending. Twenty-nine units then held workshops with 327  
6 attending. Sixteen out of our 30 districts held workshops  
7 with 364 attending, and the National Mission Training was  
8 well received with 53 members attending.

9           Although unforeseen circumstances cancelled two  
10 district workshops and attendance was lower than desired  
11 at the others, a total of 78 members directly benefited.  
12 With the assistance of 12 certified instructors and many  
13 more qualified instructors, this chairman conducted four  
14 senior department workshops and one department junior  
15 workshop traveling from the northern Sierra Nevada area of  
16 District 27 to the Los Angeles basin in District 23  
17 through the Santa Ana Valley in District 29 and the San  
18 Diego Valley in District 18.

19           Two of these districts held six-hour workshops  
20 that would meet qualifications of certifying or  
21 recertifying instructors. The other two districts held  
22 either a four- or five-hour Department Leadership workshop  
23 to provide a means to help and strengthen their units as  
24 well as provide a platform for constructive learning.

25           Some of the topics for workshop training included

1 our programs, history, and ALA mission, supporting  
2 American Legion family, membership and benefits, unit,  
3 district, and end-of-the-year reporting, how to wear the  
4 American Legion Auxiliary pin, relationship of post and  
5 unit, taxes and legal mandates, effective meetings,  
6 ceremonies, awards, tradition, core values, how to select  
7 leaders, dos and don'ts, how to make motions, conflict  
8 management, and understanding the generation gap.

9 This chairman put together a 108-page Leadership  
10 booklet entitled, "Guide for Leadership Traditions and  
11 Unit Management" with sections on our American Legion  
12 Auxiliary basics, history including Past Department and  
13 National Presidents from California, membership, acronyms  
14 and terms, programs, duties and meetings, UD&R, image,  
15 tidbits, and words of wisdom. Other tools used for  
16 training included procedure books, role playing and skits.  
17 Quizzes -- oh, oh, Madam President.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Go on.

19 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Included role play,  
20 quizzes on assessing your unit, parliamentary points,  
21 officers' duties and responsibilities, interactive  
22 learning through games that included Simon Says for  
23 membership and eligibility, Family Feud for programs, game  
24 board for the three Children & Youth program categories,  
25 and a Q and A game board for five areas of acronyms,

1 programs, protocol, membership, and basics.

2 Various project boards were used as visual aids  
3 to display our mission, programs, Legion's four pillars,  
4 scholarships, and the American Legion family.

5 Although there were no exams submitted for the  
6 junior course, a total of 19 exams for the Auxiliary  
7 basics course included three unit presidents and one  
8 district president were submitted, with five passing and  
9 14 needing to resubmit their answers. However, I will  
10 make a correction in that because four -- I believe four  
11 of those 14 did receive a passing score.

12 One unit held a training class attended by 17  
13 senior members, several which were new members. Although  
14 diligent studying of the material was a great learning  
15 tool, their disappointment in the exam records was  
16 heartfelt. Hopefully this will not be a deterrent to  
17 active involvement by enthusiastic members embracing our  
18 vision in the spirit of service, not self.

19 There were eight districts and two units  
20 reporting training on nurturing a culture of goodwill.  
21 Others reported no formal training but a continuous effort  
22 made at all meetings. Some of the topics included be  
23 respectful of each other, work to develop pleasant  
24 atmosphere at all events, be supportive, helpful and nice,  
25 nurture family feelings and each other, spirit of

1 cooperation, refrain from talking when others are  
2 speaking, greet new members, leave attitudes at the door.  
3 Practice, tolerance, promote goodwill at all times.

4 A unique presentation seen years ago provided the  
5 inspiration for this chairman's focus on civility, a virus  
6 chest. At each workshop and the midyear meeting everyone  
7 received two index cards and was asked to write on one  
8 card a negative word or thought and the other a positive  
9 word or thought that did not have to be organization  
10 specific. All responses on are the project boards, "Is  
11 this Civility?" They are over here.

12 And mind you these are not my words. These are  
13 your words. Those of you that each filled out a card,  
14 your response is over there, one negative, one positive.  
15 If you take the time to look at it, I'm sure that you will  
16 realize if you didn't have the opportunity to write one of  
17 those words, you probably are going to find it over there  
18 anyway because we all are experiencing the same thing.  
19 And we need to change the negative.

20 My hope that the "Virus Chest" exercise focuses  
21 on that we are an organization with goals to do good for  
22 veterans, youth, and our communities as well as our own  
23 members and that we're all individuals and our likes and  
24 dislikes are what set us apart and that each of us has the  
25 responsibility to treat each other with respect and

1 courtesy.

2 San Benito Unit 69 chairman said it the best, and  
3 I will quote, "Belonging to the American Legion Auxiliary  
4 is a constant learning environment. The information is  
5 available everywhere. You just have to reach out and  
6 grasp it, read it, absorb it and implement it in your  
7 unit," end quote.

8 This concludes my report.

9 (Applause.)

10 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: May I continue with  
11 my first place awards?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, please.

13 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: There were no  
14 entries for the Junior Outstanding Leadership Award, Unit  
15 Nurturing Goodwill Award, or District Nurturing Goodwill  
16 Award.

17 I have two awards. First Place District  
18 Leadership Training award goes to Linda Fariss and Linda  
19 Diebel, District 19.

20 (Applause.)

21 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: And the First Place  
22 Unit Leadership Training award goes to Oceanside Unit 146,  
23 District 22, Kim Crone, Chairman.

24 (Applause.)

25 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Thank you, Madam

1 President, for this appointment. This concludes my  
2 report.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
4 Norma.

5 Madam Secretary, do you have any notices before  
6 we recess for lunch?

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ways &  
8 Means wants to remind everyone they have a 50/50 ticket  
9 sale going on out there in the back of the room. Get your  
10 tickets. You might be the lucky winner.

11 The 25th District opportunity drawing for Ways &  
12 Means is drawing tickets at 2:00 p.m. today. Please pick  
13 up your winning prize at the end of session today.

14 On behalf of the 25th District Ontario Convention  
15 Committee, we thank you for your support and donations.  
16 Carol Fuqua, co-chairman Ways & Means, Ontario Convention.

17 District 14 still has one banquet ticket.  
18 District 22 had two. I think they're down to one. I've  
19 got a note here for two, and then I have a note for one.  
20 Does that mean you have three or two?

21 DISTRICT 22 MEMBER: I think -- I have two and  
22 Karen Bobren has one.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.  
24 They have three tickets. District 22 has two dinner  
25 tickets -- oh, sorry about that. I already did that.

1           Okay. I remind all the District President we  
2 have the membership cards for next year in the office.  
3 You need to sign for them and pick them up. Also the  
4 National delegate packets, you need to sign for them and  
5 pick them up before the close of session tomorrow.

6           Norma's Caribbean Queens and Linda's Rodeo Queens  
7 will meet in the restaurant, not the atrium. Thank you,  
8 Linda. Goldie's Golden Links, Gerry's Cards, Ruby's  
9 Allstars and Pilar's Musicians will meet for lunch in this  
10 hotel in Room 216 at the close of this session.

11           Bev's Stars, Madeline's Miracle Workers, and  
12 Linda Caples' Racers will meet for lunch today at The Blu  
13 Bar & Grille.

14           Can you please ask all districts that received a  
15 tissue boxes to please meet me at the flag -- at the flags  
16 with this -- with their boxes at the lunch recess for a  
17 photo, Jen.

18           A memorial for Pat Sweeney will be held Saturday,  
19 July 25th, 11:00 a.m. at 1820 North Gem Street in Tulare,  
20 California.

21           That concludes the announcements.

22           AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Announcements, announcements,  
23 announcements. A horrible death to die. A horrible death  
24 to die. A horrible, horrible, horrible, horrible, a  
25 horrible death to die. Announcements, announcements,

1 announcements.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam  
3 President, are you retiring the colors at the end of  
4 today's session? Do the color bearers need to come  
5 dressed to retire colors?

6 The banquet is out in the lobby, isn't it?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: So you  
9 won't --

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I had it on my  
11 agenda.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Today?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
15 Everyone that needs -- that brought colors needs to come  
16 dressed and ready to retire colors at the end of today's  
17 session.

18 Here's another one. She's trying to trick me.  
19 She's saying that A word. Today we are posting to  
20 Instagram. Oh, God. Here we go again. Sites Ontario  
21 Bell and ALA For Veterans. Please join the -- oh,  
22 conversation and shave? Oh, share. Oh, yeah.

23 And the Hoops. The Hoops can meet in the bar  
24 with Bev's -- oh, they're Team Captains. Whatever.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: This session is

1 now in recess for lunch until 1:30. Thank you.

2 (Lunch recess.)

3 (Time noted: 12:02 p.m.)

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AFTERNOON SESSION - 1:41 P.M.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good afternoon, ladies. Let's get started a little bit here.

Will the Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal please close the doors, unless you want to go all the way around the hotel.

Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal, please get everyone in the parade and Liz is going to play some Old Time Rock & Roll as our crafters make their way around the room.

(Parade processional.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Did you have fun?

(Applause.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I don't know about you, but I've got to catch my breath. Excuse me, ladies. The Membership Committee needs the delegates to meet outside. So those of you who are -- who are in the -- go outside if you are a delegate. Membership. Membership. If you are a delegate at the Membership Committee meeting, please go outside.

Americanism. And Junior Activities, will you please follow Americanism. And Legislative after that, please.

AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Are you ready?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes. Are you  
2 ready for us?

3 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I'm not sure with  
4 that Old Time Rock & Roll.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay. I should  
6 say are you out of breath like I am.

7 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Absolutely.

8

9 AMERICANISM CONVENTION REPORT

10

11 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Okay. Madam  
12 President, the Americanism Committee met in the Maple Room  
13 on Thursday, June 25th at 10:00 a.m. Genieca Risner,  
14 District 15, acted as my secretary, Robin Falkenberg,  
15 District 28, offered prayer, and Kathleen Filkens from my  
16 District 25 was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms. We had a  
17 total of 20 delegates and nine guests.

18 The code was read and a motion was made to change  
19 6D to add "school address." It will now read -- let me  
20 read it in its entirety. I'll read it the way it was  
21 first. "6D: A sealed envelope from each group shall be  
22 attached to the student's essay and forwarded to the  
23 District Chairman for competition. The following must be  
24 enclosed: Student's name, address, age, grade, name of  
25 school, teacher's name, and name of unit chairman.

1 Outside of the sealed envelope shall indicate the name and  
2 number of the unit and district -- of unit and district  
3 number."

4 The committee voted to because of all the privacy  
5 acts, that's the reason that they wanted to change this.  
6 Some we were having a hard time getting students'  
7 addresses because the schools won't give them out, which  
8 is what should happen, they should not give them out, and  
9 so they were having problems.

10 And so what they suggested was to change --  
11 instead of the student's name, address, age, et cetera,  
12 they want to change it to read the student's name, age,  
13 grade, name of school, school address, teacher's name, and  
14 name of the unit chairman, and the rest remains the same.  
15 We thought if we added the school's address it would --  
16 possibly that would be easier contact for the students.

17 With that I move the adoption of this code  
18 change.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Can you please  
20 read the code in its entirety as -- with the code change.

21 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: With the change?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: With the change.

23 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: "A sealed envelope  
24 with each group shall be attached to the unit's winning  
25 essay and forwarded to the District Chairman for

1 competition. The following must be enclosed: Student's  
2 name, age, grade, name of school, school address,  
3 teacher's name, and name of the unit chairman. The  
4 outside of the sealed envelope shall indicate the name and  
5 number of the unit and district number."

6 I move the acceptance of this code change.

7 DEPARTMENT NEC WOMAN BIGGS: Second.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Just one second.  
9 Okay. "A sealed envelope with each group shall be  
10 attached to the unit's winning essay and forwarded to the  
11 District Chairman for competition. The following must be  
12 enclosed: Student's name, age, grade, name of school,  
13 school address, teacher's name, and name of the unit  
14 chairman. The outside of the sealed envelope shall  
15 indicate the name and number of the unit and district  
16 number."

17 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: (Nods head.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Just a second,  
19 please. Okay. Is there any discussion?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

1           AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Second and third  
2 place winners were announced and first place awards to be  
3 given on the convention floor. Jean Howard, District 22,  
4 recommended that a parental concept form be made to go  
5 into the packets presented to the schools. Hopefully this  
6 would -- I think we have that in the department office. I  
7 think that's -- we use that for other things such as maybe  
8 Girls State maybe. So that was just a thought, a  
9 recommendation, a suggestion. And the meeting was then  
10 adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

11           May I continue with my supplemental report?

12           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

13           AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Madam President,  
14 your Crafters of Patriotism have outdone themselves this  
15 year. Your theme of Creating Relationships Assisting  
16 Families Through Service apparently gave new life to the  
17 Americanism program. Unit and district chairmen jumped  
18 right in and started the rear off by participating in 4th  
19 of July parades with their Legion family.

20           In August the department workshops began and were  
21 well attended. This chairman delivered or mailed out  
22 packets of information to each District Americanism  
23 Chairman. Included in the packet was a copy of the code  
24 and other information to help them work their program.  
25 Americanism is a year-round program and our chairmen

1 certainly have done just that.

2 Many units began early visiting schools to let  
3 them know about our wonderful Americanism essay contest.  
4 This apparently worked as 55 units reported receiving a  
5 total of 2,027 essays.

6 (Applause.)

7 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: You ladies came  
8 through. Great job, members. Of course this made the  
9 judging a bit more time consuming, but the essays were  
10 well worth our time. Four units reported participation in  
11 the National essay contest and this chairman received one  
12 entry which was forwarded on to National.

13 One thing I discovered is that we need more  
14 communication in our essay program. Some chairmen did not  
15 pay attention to the rules, deadlines, et cetera. The  
16 rules are very straightforward and must be followed.  
17 Sadly a number of essays were disqualified because rules  
18 were not followed. Many contained no information on the  
19 student. Others sent more than one essay for the same  
20 category, and several other problems caused  
21 disqualification all because rules were not followed.

22 Districts chairmen, please go over the rules with  
23 your units and make sure no essays are disqualified. The  
24 students work very hard on this program and they deserve  
25 to have their work recognized.

1 American flags were presented to 51 businesses or  
2 individuals during the past year for a reported total cost  
3 of \$350.94. Units promoted flying the American flag daily  
4 and 81 units promoted patriotism in schools. Another 134  
5 units reported participating in patriotic holiday events  
6 and 55 units promoted citizenship/patriotism in schools,  
7 with 150 members participating and 108 schools contacted.

8 The younger students were taught such things as  
9 flag etiquette and the proper way to display, respect, and  
10 dispose of the flags no longer serviceable. At least 64  
11 units supported American Legion baseball and oratorical  
12 contests. Some served as judges for oratorical contests  
13 and provided refreshments following competitions.

14 Forty Blue Star and 20 Gold Star banners were  
15 presented to our members -- by our members. One of the  
16 most important things we can do as American citizens is a  
17 right to vote. Seventy-one units reported participating  
18 in the Get Out the Vote campaign by posting articles in  
19 Post and Auxiliary newsletters, talking about it at Unit  
20 meetings, working with election polls, and even holding  
21 mock elections at schools to train students in the voting  
22 process.

23 One unit even borrowed the voting materials from  
24 the courthouse in an effort to make the training a  
25 reality. They had the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade

1 students vote on school issues and their ASB candidates.  
2 After voting, the students were all given an "I voted"  
3 sticker just like the ones you receive at your polling  
4 place.

5           There were 94 units that reported promoting  
6 flying the American flag daily. They did this by talking  
7 about it at meetings, placing articles in Post/Auxiliary  
8 newsletters, and visiting local businesses to present  
9 citations to those who did fly the flag daily.  
10 Individuals also received citations for flying their flag  
11 on a daily basis.

12           Patriotic holidays were well supported by the  
13 Auxiliary. They began the year with 4th of July parades,  
14 barbecues, craft shows, fireworks, and games for the  
15 military children at parks and posts. Next came  
16 ceremonies for 9/11. Another unit reported their  
17 participation -- their spectacular, sorry, parade of 1,000  
18 flags through the streets of their city and told of the  
19 breathtaking sight of Old Glory waving in the breeze as  
20 they paraded into City Hall.

21           Veterans Day again finds the Legion families  
22 working to provide ceremonies to honor veterans and  
23 families, as well as lots of great food and fellowship  
24 back to the Post. The last holiday for the year is  
25 Memorial Day where again ceremonies are seen throughout

1 our great state. The Legion family reported placing flags  
2 and crosses at local cemeteries for veterans buried there  
3 and those with National cemeteries spent hours placing  
4 flags and crosses on graves.

5 Whenever naturalization ceremonies occurred,  
6 there you would find our American Legion Auxiliary  
7 members. They would present a small American flag to each  
8 new citizen as they shook their hand and welcomed them to  
9 our beautiful America.

10 The pocket flag project was also a favorite  
11 throughout the department. There were 4286 pocket flags  
12 purchased and mailed to our active duty military or given  
13 to those ready for deployment. Units enlisted the help of  
14 our junior members, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in folding  
15 and preparing the flags for mailing. All felt this was a  
16 very good way to not only introduce and include the youth  
17 of their neighborhoods in our programs, but a great way to  
18 educate them -- to include them -- to educate them, I'm  
19 sorry, in the many aspects of the American Legion  
20 Auxiliary and the Legion family.

21 The statistical report on Americanism can be  
22 found on page 24 of the Book of Reports. Please read it  
23 and be proud of what all of you have done. After reading  
24 the unit and district reports, Americanism essays, and in  
25 communicating with so many of our members throughout this

1 year, this chairman is confident that America is in good  
2 hands. The inspiration I received from the outstanding  
3 essays was a real eye opener to this chairman.

4 Thank you, Madam President, for this appointment,  
5 and I can assure you that I have a new and much greater  
6 appreciation and respect for this chairmanship. This  
7 concludes my report -- my remarks, Madam President. May I  
8 continue with my first place awards?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

10 (Applause.)

11 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I got some notes  
12 yesterday. Okay. I'm just going to take these right off  
13 the certificates. This one is a first place for Group V  
14 essays. This is ages 11 through 14 and it's presented to  
15 Vincent Miller of Long Hill Middle School sponsored by  
16 Unit 475, District 18.

17 (Applause.)

18 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: First place for  
19 Group I. This goes to Sophia Reyes, Long View Elementary  
20 School sponsored by Unit 248, District 18.

21 (Applause.)

22 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And this is first  
23 place Group V, ages 14 nine months to 20 years sponsored  
24 by -- this goes to Emily Phillips, Julian High School  
25 sponsored by Unit 468, District 22, Cindy Sanders,

1 chairman.

2 (Applause.)

3 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: First place essay  
4 Group III goes to Tara Miller, Our Lady of Peace --

5 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yeah, that's  
6 our --

7 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It goes to Tara  
8 Miller sponsored by Unit 6, District 22, Susie Tozier,  
9 chairman.

10 (Applause.)

11 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: This one is a first  
12 place in group -- also in Group II sponsored by -- let's  
13 see the name first. Claudia Fedora, Round Valley School  
14 sponsored by Unit 118, District 27, Danielle White,  
15 chairman.

16 (Applause.)

17 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: This is another  
18 first place for Group IV. Name is Heather Navarro, Long  
19 Beach High sponsored by Unit 716, District 29, Stephanie  
20 Gangi, chairman.

21 (Applause.)

22 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: These essays, I  
23 cannot tell you. I've only served on the unit and the  
24 district level, and reading the essays, this was a real  
25 experience. I mean, there was a lot of essays and these

1 kids are just -- it just makes your heart full because you  
2 know that we are in good hands for our future.

3 And then we have on the -- on the wonderful  
4 writing, this one is for Elizabeth London Sheppard award  
5 for best youth program goes to Ann Marie Brown, Unit 6,  
6 District 22.

7 (Applause.)

8 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Now this one is for  
9 the Best Unit Americanism Project Supplemental Report, and  
10 it goes to Bradley Keeper, Unit 138, District 30, Kim  
11 Vincent, chairman.

12 (Applause.)

13 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: These reports are  
14 all amazing. It was very difficult, very difficult job.  
15 And we have for the Most Outstanding Americanism Program  
16 Targeting Children & Youth goes to Unit 716, District 29.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Cheryl,  
19 are you done happy or what?

20 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I wish I could have  
21 given everybody a first place award because there was so  
22 many wonderful essays and reports at the unit and district  
23 level. It was great. And the Best Overall Unit Get Out  
24 to Vote Program, this goes to Danielle White, Unit 118,  
25 District 27.

1 (Applause.)

2 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Danielle, came up.  
3 With the election, leave it to her to come up with  
4 something like that. She did a great job. And I had  
5 another couple ones here too. This one is for the First  
6 Place Best Overall District Supplemental. Ann Marie  
7 Brown, chairman, District 22.

8 (Applause.)

9 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: I spoke to her  
10 yesterday. I spoke to Ann yesterday and I saw her at the  
11 other hotel and I wanted so badly to say aren't you going  
12 to visit the Auxiliary this year? But I thought, well, I  
13 better not.

14 And my last award goes to -- this one is for the  
15 First Place Best Overall Unit Supplemental. And if you  
16 can guess who this goes to. Unit 684, District 27, LuAnn  
17 Capazzi.

18 (Applause.)

19 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And I just might add  
20 one little thing here. Let's see. Both the best overall  
21 unit supplemental and the best overall district  
22 supplemental were forwarded to National.

23 (Applause.)

24 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SCOTT: They were wonderful.  
25 Madam President, that concludes my report.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you so  
2 much.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Will the  
5 Sergeant-At-Arms and can Marshal, along with the  
6 Distinguished Guest Chairman, please escort someone that  
7 I've been very proud to work with this year, Michael J.  
8 Fox, president, or whatever, of the Sons of the American  
9 Legion Department of California and his entourage.

10 (Processional.)

11 SONS COMMISSIONER: Good afternoon. I'd like to  
12 introduce to you California's candidate for National  
13 Commander Sons of the American Legion Michael Fox.

14 (Applause.)

15 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: Thank you. Thank you.  
16 Well, first of all, before I say anything, I need to  
17 apologize. Madam President, this year has been I think  
18 one of the busiest conventions the Sons I think has ever  
19 had. And I'm sorry that I'm just now coming over to see  
20 you.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: That's okay.  
22 Better late than never.

23 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: So now the cat is out  
24 of the bag. Yes, I am going to be the next National  
25 Commander from the Detachment of California.

1 (Applause.)

2 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: Today there is not  
3 been an official date set yet, but it will happen before  
4 2020. There is a lot of changes going on at National  
5 right now with how they operate on the Sons side and the  
6 next two years is just going to be kind of waiting to see  
7 what they decide to do. But I have no problem telling you  
8 ladies out there that whether they decide to give me the  
9 blessing or not, California will have a National  
10 Commander, and I will run contested if necessary.

11 (Applause.)

12 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: You know, for those of  
13 who weren't there when I spoke at the DEC and convention  
14 last year, the Sons are not going to be able to do it on  
15 their own as all of you know. Just the day-to-day  
16 operations of the squadron, most of my squadrons would not  
17 exist if it wasn't for you ladies. There's no question  
18 about it.

19 (Applause.)

20 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: The women's Auxiliary  
21 is absolutely the greatest asset that the Sons have and I  
22 can tell you without a shadow of a doubt Unit 521 has  
23 supported me for 35 years now.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Don't you mean

1 34 and a half?

2 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: Well, I'm 35 and I  
3 have 36 years of membership. I was born in April of 1980  
4 and I was signed up the day I was born. So before I was  
5 born I was already in my second year.

6 Now in also saying that, I did start to become  
7 active at a young age. I held my first Detachment office  
8 at eight years old. I was Detachment Sergeant-of-Arms  
9 when I was eight and it progressed. And, you know, I took  
10 sometime time during college and family, and now I'm a  
11 single father raising my four girls and traveling all over  
12 this state.

13 (Applause.)

14 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: And also I would like  
15 to say all four of my daughters are Junior Auxiliary  
16 members.

17 (Applause.)

18 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: It's been a blessing  
19 this year to work with Madam President. We've crossed  
20 paths at times throughout the year in traveling. As I  
21 gave my report earlier, I've gone over 27,000 this year  
22 going up and down this state, back to Indianapolis as  
23 well. It's been a fantastic year for the Sons of the  
24 Legion. The organization has moved and has well exceeded  
25 my expectations.

1           So remember in the years to come I'm going to  
2 need the support from everybody to finish this plan. I  
3 started this plan two years ago and this is the first stop  
4 I've made. The resolution has been passed on our floor  
5 and is on its way to the American Legion Department of  
6 California to pass there as well. But before I leave, I  
7 have a couple of little things for you.

8           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I like little  
9 things.

10          DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: First of all, I have  
11 the National Commanders pen this year for the Sons of the  
12 American Legion as a gift for you. This year I decided to  
13 make up a Commanders pen that I've been given out. They  
14 will not be sold. You cannot get them unless they come  
15 out of my pocket. So that's for you.

16          (Applause.)

17          DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: She says that she has  
18 one. I started to do a fundraiser in anticipation of my  
19 motion getting passed on the floor today, but I'm not  
20 going to sell it to you. This is the first pin that I'm  
21 going to give away that has come out of my pocket. It  
22 says, "A home run hit for National Commander."

23          DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

24          (Applause.)

25          DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: And finally for my

1 tardiness, I would like to make \$100 donation to your  
2 special project.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I would like to  
5 see you later. Thank you so much.

6 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: Ladies, thank you so  
7 much for everything you've done for me personally and  
8 everything that you've done for all my squadrons  
9 throughout the state because I guarantee you the success  
10 that we had this year would have never have happened if  
11 you guys were not so involved with the squadrons. So  
12 thank you so much.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I have this, our  
15 Book of Reports, and you're in it so --

16 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: Oh, thank you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: So I would like  
18 to give it to you as a keepsake or whatever.

19 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: Thank you. And before  
20 we all leave, I would like to introduce -- most of you  
21 already know Junior Past Commander Chris Affolter.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUNIOR PAST COMMANDER AFFOLTER: For those of you  
24 that saw me a few years ago, I'm not afraid no more. If  
25 you weren't here a couple years ago, I had the pleasure of

1 serving two conventions as Commander for the Sons of the  
2 American Legion preceding him, and the first one they said  
3 you've got to go see the Auxiliary. So the ladies here  
4 that hadn't been here, I was -- I was scared. That's  
5 right. I needed my momma and she wasn't -- she was in the  
6 desert.

7 But it is an honor and privilege of course to be  
8 in front of you again. I -- I agree with Mike 100  
9 percent. The Auxiliary is an essential part of the Sons  
10 of the American Legion program. Growing up I wouldn't  
11 have known how to do my membership if it weren't for the  
12 Auxiliary and the members in the Auxiliary. Am I the only  
13 one? You know, your squadrons need you. The American  
14 Legion is a wonderful, wonderful bunch of guys, but  
15 they're not worried about the Sons and they don't realize  
16 in some cases that the Sons of the American Legion can  
17 make some dollars for you. The Commander -- what was our  
18 dollar figure that we earned this year?

19 DETACHMENT COMMANDER FOX: If you combine the  
20 hours with the National dollars and all the monies and  
21 goods that we brought in, over \$15.8 million dollars.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUNIOR PAST COMMANDER AFFOLTER: So I can tell  
24 you that your support and your help made that happen. So  
25 thank you, ladies, and give yourselves an applause.

1 (Applause.)

2 JUNIOR PAST COMMANDER AFFOLTER: And a shout out  
3 to District 18, the ladies there. Thank you very much.

4 (Applause.)

5 JUNIOR PAST COMMANDER AFFOLTER: They're mentoring  
6 me as I go along. I tell you, I've been corrected by them  
7 more than I have the Legionnaires. But today I come to  
8 you with an award. Normally our Public Relations Chairman  
9 does that, but this year he's a Past National Commander,  
10 and you know how those people are. So he wanted to go sit  
11 back and here I am to present it to you.

12 So this is the Dottie Shurad 2015 Auxiliary  
13 Member of the Year presented to Socaro B. Telford in  
14 recognition of your service and outstanding leadership,  
15 service and dedication to the principles of the Sons of  
16 the American Legion, and for your efforts on behalf of the  
17 programs of the American Legion family. Given the Sons of  
18 the American Legion Detachment of California June 2015.  
19 Michael Fox, Commander and Paul C. Rodriguez,  
20 Commissioner. Is this young lady here today?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Belen Telford?

22 JUNIOR PAST COMMANDER AFFOLTER: Well, the middle  
23 initial is B. Is she here?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: No, she's not,  
25 but is somebody here to receive this?

1 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: I will  
2 accept it on her behalf.

3 (Applause.)

4 JUNIOR PAST COMMANDER AFFOLTER: I've got one  
5 more shout out because I grew up in the 21st District.  
6 Thank you, ladies.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
9 much. We wish you the best of success in your future  
10 endeavors.

11 (Applause.)

12 (Processional.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: First the parade  
14 and then them. Wow. Is it just me?

15 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: Harriet, on  
16 behalf of all your chairmen and your district presidents  
17 and everybody, this is a gift for you, one I was supposed  
18 to give you the other day.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
20 much. I have to open it.

21 (Applause.)

22 NAT'L STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER TAYLOR:  
23 All right. All right. All right. That's beautiful.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Oh, you wanted

1 me in the picture? I've been in enough pictures. It is  
2 beautiful.

3 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: You have other  
4 craft item to start getting work done on.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Now that I'll  
6 have a few minutes. Yes, thank you. Thank you very much  
7 everybody. Thank you, Susie. Did you make that? Sort  
8 of? Okay.

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: I did put some  
10 stitches in, yes.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
12 much. Okay. Kim.

13

14 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CONVENTION REPORT

15

16 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Okay. Good  
17 afternoon. The Convention Committee met on Thursday, June  
18 25th, 2015 in the Maple Room of the Ontario Airport Hotel,  
19 Ontario, California. The statistical report of the Chair  
20 appears in the Book of Reports on page 29.

21 Junior Conference Committee Member Kathy Harris,  
22 District 23, was appointed secretary. Junior Conference  
23 Committee Member Jacqueline Cleveland, District 23, was  
24 appointed Chaplain offering prayer. Ellen McClurg,  
25 District 14, was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms, and Junior

1 Conference Director Diana Livas was present. Fifteen  
2 district delegates answered roll call. Three visitors and  
3 three junior members were present.

4 The committee agreed on the following report.  
5 The code was read and the following change was  
6 recommended, to combine the Junior Activities and Junior  
7 Conference Appendix A by combining Codes 4 into 2 and  
8 deleting Code No. 4 and renumbering all following codes  
9 accordingly.

10 Code 2 and 4 currently read: "2. The Junior  
11 Conference shall be self-supporting and the current income  
12 from the fundraising project and contributions shall be  
13 used to support the current Junior Conference. The  
14 Department Junior Activities Chairman will be responsible  
15 for the promotion of the conference and all fundraising  
16 efforts in support of the conference. 2009."

17 Number 4. "Funds raised for the statewide  
18 conference session shall only be used for planning and  
19 conducting the conference. There will be no exceptions."

20 The proposed change merging the two codes will  
21 read: "2. The Junior Conference shall be self-supporting  
22 and the current income from the fundraising project and  
23 contributions shall be used for planning and conducting  
24 the Junior Conference. There will be no exceptions. The  
25 Junior Conference Committee will add a line item of \$120

1 to the Junior Conference budget for the Veronica Spence  
2 Americanism Essay Awards for Junior members adhering to  
3 rules as outlined in the Department Americanism Code. The  
4 Department Junior Activities Chairman will be responsible  
5 for the promotion of the conference and all fundraising  
6 efforts in support of the conference. 2009."

7 Americanism Code No. 9b --

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You don't have  
9 to read that.

10 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Okay. Thank  
11 you. Madam Department President, by the motion of the  
12 committee I move acceptance of the code.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: We're going to  
14 conference for a second. Kim, did you go to finance about  
15 the money?

16 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:  
17 No.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: No?

19 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: No.

20 (Music playing.)

21 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Excuse me.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay.

23 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Madam  
24 Department President, by direction of the committee I move  
25 the acceptance of this code change.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: They  
2 want you to read it again.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Well, I can read  
4 it; right? The code change merging the two codes will  
5 read: "2. The Junior Conference shall be self-supporting  
6 and the current income from the fundraising project and  
7 contributions shall be used for planning and conducting  
8 the Junior Conference. There will be no exceptions. The  
9 Junior Conference Committee will add a line item of \$120  
10 to the Junior Conference budget for the Veronica Spence  
11 Americanism Essay Awards for Junior members adhering to  
12 rules as outlined in the Department Americanism Code. The  
13 Department Junior Activities Chairman will be responsible  
14 for the promotion of the conference and all fundraising  
15 efforts in support of the conference. 2009."

16 Is there any discussion?

17 District 28 PRESIDENT BAKER: Madam President.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

19 District 28 PRESIDENT BAKER: Susan Baker,  
20 District 28. Question. Can only a junior member who  
21 attends conference win that award?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: No, it doesn't  
23 say that. Any junior member in good standing who's paid  
24 the dues. Is there any further discussion?

25 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I will now call  
2 for the question. Those in favor of the code change?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Those opposed?  
5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.  
7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: May I give  
10 my supplemental award and first place awards?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, please.

12 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: In keeping  
13 with the Master Quilter's theme Creating Relationships  
14 Assisting Families Through Service, we completed the year  
15 with 24 district reports. The amount of monetary  
16 donations raised by stitchers totaled \$2425 with in-kind  
17 donations collected totaling over \$2200 in toys for  
18 children of active duty service -- active duty military  
19 families and a total of \$440 that was donated to Junior  
20 Conference.

21 The amount of volunteer hours reportedly  
22 performed by Stitchers was 1,602, including participation  
23 from 87 Stitchers. Thirty-nine Stitchers regularly attend  
24 meetings.

25 The Master Sewers were asked to focus their

1 Stitches on the Patch Program. It was reported the  
2 Stitches worked extremely hard this year to reach new  
3 goals, reportedly earning 27 Red Level patches, 117 Gold  
4 Level patches, and 128 Blue Level patches, including one  
5 sixth grader who earned the special Junior patch by  
6 raising money for the National President's Scholarship  
7 Fund. From District 18, Unit 261, Monica Hernandez.

8 (Applause.)

9 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT:

10 Congratulations to all the Stitches who worked the  
11 programs to earn these patches. Knowledge is wealth and I  
12 see a patriotic movement growing throughout the Department  
13 of California.

14 Unfortunately I did not receive many of the patch  
15 report forms from the Master Sewers to submit for patches,  
16 leaving the Stitches earning zero Red Level, 27 Gold  
17 Level, and eight Blue Level, for a total of only 35  
18 patches. These girls work extremely hard throughout the  
19 year to earn these patches, so it's very important that  
20 you go back to your units and districts and you print  
21 those forms out. The District Chairmen need to initial or  
22 sign them that these girls have completed and earned these  
23 patches. And you can get them to me. I have got to send  
24 these forms to the Department, and I will do it by August  
25 1st. So please in 30 days get those forms to me so I can

1 forward them to National for those girls' patches.

2 With the Million Member goal in mind, I am  
3 extremely pleased to say that one Junior group is actively  
4 recruiting new Junior members, adding seven new members  
5 this year alone with five more in process.

6 With a goal of attending Junior Conference,  
7 Junior members sought donations for Junior Conference  
8 opportunity tickets, held bake sales, sold jewelry items,  
9 assisted with unit fundraisers and district meetings. And  
10 one Junior group revitalized, bringing together old and  
11 new faces, elected officers, and planned fundraisers. A  
12 Junior Leadership workshop was held in one district by the  
13 Department of California Leadership Chairman, while a  
14 reorganization took place in another district. There was  
15 also a unit expansion of Junior members working together  
16 with SAL members.

17 Various service projects that Junior members  
18 participated in included creating and donating gifts to  
19 women veterans at the Barstow Veterans Home, the Naomi  
20 House, and the West Los Angeles VA. As others hosted  
21 veterans from Saticoy Veterans Home for dinner.

22 For the homeless and needy, Junior members baked  
23 goodies and collected and donated clothing and food, also  
24 giving food baskets. Additionally, Junior members adopted  
25 a veteran's family, donated school supplies to veterans'

1 children and other children in need, made thank you cards  
2 and baked goods that were given to first responders, sent  
3 care packages monthly to hurricane survivors in Haiti,  
4 distributed scholarships to schools, donated Box Tops,  
5 soup labels, and collected tabs, assisted others with  
6 technology, and one junior member participated in the  
7 Americanism essay contest.

8 Junior members participated in Veterans Day,  
9 Memorial Day, and POW and MIA ceremonies, parades, a USO  
10 show, placed flags in cemeteries and throughout their  
11 communities, held a flag etiquette class, made poppy  
12 posters and projects, participated in the pocket flag  
13 program, and shared in Honor Guard detail for Department  
14 President Harriet's official visits.

15 Furthermore, Junior members led the Pledge of  
16 Allegiance at the National President's Southern California  
17 visit, served dinner during Department President Harriet  
18 Clendenin's visit, topping it all off with two junior  
19 members walking in a 5K to benefit the Wounded Heros Fund.

20 The total amount of Junior Conference tickets  
21 sales was \$4,474.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: The unit  
24 that sold the most Junior Conference tickets was District  
25 25, Richard O. Reed, Unit 777.

1 (Applause.)

2 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: A huge thank  
3 you for all the monetary donations, as well as all the  
4 items for the Junior Conference store. The Stitchers  
5 loved the variety of items.

6 I had the unique opportunity to attend the Junior  
7 Conference in April. What an enlightening experience to  
8 room with six 11- and 12-year-olds. And two of them are  
9 here today as pages. And I thank all of the juniors that  
10 attended today and are participating with this year's  
11 convention.

12 (Applause.)

13 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: There was  
14 lots of giggling and face painting going on. The Junior  
15 Conference Director Diana Livas tasked all teams to create  
16 a skit based on one of the programs of the Auxiliary.  
17 Juniors put a lot of thought and effort into their skits  
18 and put on an excellent show to assist others in learning  
19 by hands-on doing.

20 Following the skits, Team Americanism passed out  
21 pledge cards to stop bullying. Junior members and  
22 counselors signed and returned their pledges.

23 Okay. For my first place awards. Thank you. My  
24 best junior -- the best Junior Community Service Project  
25 goes to District 23, Unit 252, Jackie Robinson, Anita

1 Biggs.

2 (Applause.)

3 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: The Best  
4 Unit Supplemental, Unit 741, Camarillo, District 16,  
5 Chairman Linda Fercho.

6 (Applause.)

7 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: The Best  
8 District Supplemental was District 29, Chairman Elizabeth  
9 Tomlin.

10 (Applause.)

11 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Three  
12 supplementals were forwarded or submitted for National  
13 recognition. And I just wanted to -- oh, okay. Let me go  
14 here. During the Junior Conference I was proud to conduct  
15 the flag retirement ceremony with the assistance of the  
16 many Stitches that attended. In appreciation for this  
17 year's hard work, Honorary Department Junior President  
18 Maya Novicki, please join me.

19 (Applause.)

20 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Please  
21 accept this flag in memory of your Junior Conference.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: When we hold  
24 these flag retirements in my community, we always present  
25 a school in appreciation for them hosting us, and I just

1 felt it was very important to honor our Honorary Past --  
2 our Honorary Department Junior President, our Department  
3 President Harriet, and our Conference Director with those  
4 flags.

5 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Got mine.

6 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: I have a  
7 gift for the Junior Conference Director.

8 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Oh, you do?  
9 (Applause.)

10 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: And also  
11 permission to approach the podium.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Me? Sure, sure.

13 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR VINCENT: Okay. Okay.  
14 So if any of you've noticed, today I've been switching  
15 around my scarf. This is the infinity scarf, and you can  
16 wear it a number of ways. So I've been showing all these  
17 ladies who receive these gifts today all the many ways  
18 that they can wear their scarves. So wear it with pride,  
19 ladies. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21

22 JUNIOR CONFERENCE CONVENTION REPORT

23

24 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Good  
25 afternoon, ladies. Let's hope I don't fumble this up.

1 I'm very nervous about being up here. The American Legion  
2 Auxiliary has the motto of Service, Not Self. This year  
3 using this motto as our base, this committee dedicated  
4 itself to teaching our Juniors about our organization.

5 First was the plan. What direction was this  
6 committee going to take? After much discussion with the  
7 Junior Conference Committee and Madam President Harriet, a  
8 final plan was formed. Assign each room a theme or a  
9 program, i.e., AEF, Americanism, Education, and so on.

10 Each room would be called by the program name,  
11 i.e., Team AEF, Team Americanism, Team Education, and so  
12 on. Each team leader would be responsible for writing a  
13 skit based upon the program assigned to that room.

14 With the plan set, our next item was the team  
15 attire. The team discussed giving T-shirts with this  
16 year's C.R.A.F.T.S. logo printed on the shirts, but it was  
17 suggested that the Juniors would wear the T-shirts more if  
18 the T-shirts did not have the year on it. So once again  
19 using the ALA motto of "Service, Not Self," it was  
20 suggested that T-shirts should be linked to our  
21 organization instead of the year.

22 With mixed emotions and much discussion between  
23 this director, the committee, and Madam President Harriet,  
24 the group decided that the T-shirts should be standardized  
25 so it can be used for years. At midyear there was a

1 contest to see what should be on the T-shirts and the  
2 caps. The winner of the T-shirt was "Special Forces,"  
3 representing all Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marines and  
4 Color Guard and so on. Coast Guard. I told you I was  
5 going to mess up. And the cap, it was "California" on the  
6 side of the cap, so everyone would know that the Juniors  
7 Special Forces are from California. Rock on, girls.

8 (Applause.)

9 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: At midyear  
10 this director discussed the importance of our Juniors and  
11 their education about our programs. Excuse me. About our  
12 organization. The Juniors are our future and if we  
13 don't -- if we do not educate them now, we will lose our  
14 base. This Chairman put out the call for support to the  
15 Junior Conference -- of the Junior Conference, and as  
16 always when a call goes out, service, not self comes to  
17 the forefront of our membership and they stepped up. With  
18 the help of our membership, the cost to cover all T-shirts  
19 and caps was covered as well as funds to supply the junior  
20 store. If you look around today, you will see the end  
21 result.

22 This director is so thankful for the continued  
23 support of our Junior Conference. Thank you, ladies.  
24 Truly, thank you.

25 At midyear this director had a chance to talk our

1 National First Vice President during her visit to  
2 California regarding the Junior Program and the Junior  
3 Conference. She was very supportive of the direction that  
4 California is going with our juniors.

5 The date was set and the invitations were sent  
6 out. Sadly due to scheduling conflicts, we missed seeing  
7 some of you at junior conference. With the date set, the  
8 counselor's packets and Junior's application forms began  
9 coming in fast. So fast. Prepping for the big day began.  
10 Nerves.

11 Now for the numbers. We had 72 attendees which  
12 included 22 new Juniors. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: And nine new  
15 counselors. And you guys won't see this, but those who  
16 are here, we've got a picture of all those units.

17 Using the American Legion handbook, a  
18 step-by-step agenda was put together for our Junior  
19 President Maya Novicki. Each room was given an agenda and  
20 a schedule of events. With the day fast approaching,  
21 calls were made to counselors, paperwork was verified, and  
22 the calls were made to the facility for updates on the  
23 weather and accommodations.

24 The Juniors arrived and were checked in and  
25 processed to the team rooms. Counselors were in the rooms

1 assigning beds and reading the agendas and schedules to  
2 our Juniors. In each room was a container holding a U.S.  
3 flag with instructions on how to fold the flag. Our  
4 Junior Activities Chairman Kim Vincent was responsible to  
5 set up the flag retirement ceremony at the bonfire, but  
6 due to the weather the ceremony was not able -- we were  
7 not able to hold them outside. Kim was able to set up the  
8 ceremony in the hall, and each Junior one by one carried a  
9 strip of the flag representing the 13 colonies of our  
10 country. It was a beautiful ceremony and enriched all who  
11 attended.

12 Even with all our planning, the weather was not  
13 in our favor. Several juniors were singing, "Rain, rain  
14 go away. Come back another day," but it did not happen.  
15 With the rain present, all events had to be moved indoors,  
16 which put a slight damper on events. But everyone pulled  
17 together and we continued with our plans.

18 During our free time the room teams were working  
19 on their skits. Ladies, it was very impressive and I was  
20 so very proud of what our juniors did with their themes.  
21 Our juniors had a great time working on their skits while  
22 learning about our programs. For those of you who were  
23 present, you will agree with me that you will never forget  
24 what our programs mean.

25 Everyone participated in the skits and the judges

1 had a hard time deciding who the winners were. To witness  
2 what our program means to our juniors was awesome. And I  
3 mean awesome. Thank you, Juniors. Prizes for the gift  
4 card -- prizes in the form of gift cards that were donated  
5 by various units were given to first, second, and third  
6 place winners.

7 Elections were held and the following juniors  
8 were elected. Honorary Junior President, Paige Solomon,  
9 District 23, Unit 252.

10 (Applause.)

11 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Honorary  
12 Junior Vice President, Joline Freeman, District 22, Unit  
13 282.

14 (Applause.)

15 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Honorary  
16 Secretary, Gabrielle Taylor, District 23, Unit 252.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Would the  
19 Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest  
20 Chairman please bring up to the podium the Junior Officers  
21 from the 2015-2016 year.

22 (Processional.)

23 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Hi. My name  
24 is Paige Solomon.

25 (Applause.)

1 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT SOLOMON: I'm from  
2 District 23.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Oh, sorry.

4 HONORARY JUNIOR PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Unit 252.  
5 And I'm honored to serve as your Junior Department  
6 President for 2015-2016. And I would like to thank all of  
7 the Auxiliary members who have helped me and motivated me  
8 along the way.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Joline.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Joline is  
13 holding the office of -- what are you? Vice President for  
14 the Department of California for the 2015-2016 year. She  
15 happens to hold the Western Division National --

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: -- for  
18 2015-2016.

19 (Applause.)

20 HONORARY JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT FREEMAN: Hi.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: That's it?

22 HONORARY JUNIOR SECRETARY TAYLOR: I'm Gabrielle  
23 Taylor and I am honored to be the Honorary Secretary of  
24 the California Division of the Junior Activities  
25 2015-2016.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Very nice,  
3 ladies. Good job. Are you going to Girls State?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah, yeah.

5 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: When you think  
6 of camping, you need to remember we are at an outdoor  
7 facility that provides a roof over our heads and a simple  
8 basic meal. Nothing fancy, trust me. This camp is  
9 located in the mountains with lots of stairs. So going up  
10 and down the stairs is normal for our campsite. The camp  
11 rooms are clean and the hall was equipped with the basics.

12 It is this director's recommendation that for  
13 future events, we should have the equipment required to  
14 show preapproved movies in the event of bad weather. We  
15 had the equipment, but we were missing the cables.

16 I would like to take this time to introduce the  
17 Junior Conference Committee. Ladies, when I call your  
18 name, please stand. Dorothy Davis.

19 (Applause.)

20 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Jackie  
21 Cleveland.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Kathy  
24 Harris-Richardson.

25 (Applause.)

1 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: And Elizabeth  
2 Tomlin.

3 (Applause.)

4 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Ladies, give  
5 Elizabeth a really special hand. She deserves it.

6 (Applause.)

7 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: I would like  
8 to give a very special thank you to our Juniors Activity  
9 Chairman Kim Vincent --

10 (Applause.)

11 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: -- for all  
12 your help and advice. She was always there at the other  
13 end of the phone to help me in any way she could. And a  
14 very special thank you to the following districts for  
15 their large monetary support. I sent out a list.  
16 District 18.

17 (Applause.)

18 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Thank you.  
19 District 19. Also first time. District 19.

20 (Applause.)

21 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: And District  
22 24.

23 (Applause.)

24 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: And a very  
25 special thank you to Kim Vincent for your recognition and

1 valuable contribution to Junior Conference. Kim.

2 (Applause.)

3 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Madam  
4 President Harriet, I get this now and I didn't get it up  
5 until now. Thank you for this appointment. It was scary  
6 at times and stressful at others, but our Juniors made it  
7 all the worthwhile.

8 Can I have every Junior come to the front?

9 (Applause.)

10 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Ladies, will  
11 you join me -- will you join me in thanking our future  
12 ladies for being here today? Thank you for being a part  
13 of this great organization.

14 (Applause.)

15 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Thank you.  
16 This concludes my report. Madam President, may I approach  
17 your station?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Of course.

19 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Thank you so  
20 much for everything.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.  
22 They're turquoise rocks.

23 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Yeah.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you so  
25 much. Ladies, thank you so much. It was a great

1 privilege.

2 If I could please ask Maya to come here.

3 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR LIVAS: Harriet, I  
4 forgot. This is for the committee book.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: At this time I  
6 would like to give you this. Maya, I would like to give  
7 you a little gift, if I can find it. Here's a little  
8 token. It was a pleasure to work with you this year and I  
9 wish you the best of success.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thanks.

12

13 LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION REPORT

14

15 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good afternoon,  
16 ladies. The Convention Committee on Legislative met on  
17 June 25th, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sycamore Room at the  
18 Ontario Airport Hotel here in Ontario. The statistical  
19 report of this chairman appears on page 30 in the Book of  
20 Reports. Please look at the numbers. They're amazing and  
21 outstanding.

22 Patricia Galatioto from District 25 was appointed  
23 secretary, Pilar Reyes from District 10 was appointed  
24 Chaplain and offered prayer, Wendy O'Brien from District 6  
25 was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms and led the Pledge of

1 Allegiance. A total of seven district delegates answered  
2 roll call. There was one visitor present.

3 The committee agreed upon the following report:  
4 The code was read with two code changes. Code 2 currently  
5 reads: "The Department Chairman may attend the American  
6 Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. conference sponsored by  
7 the National Organization if approved by the Department  
8 President. The Chairman's expenses cannot exceed the  
9 amount budgeted annually to help defray the cost of  
10 attending the American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C.  
11 conference. 2013."

12 If amended will read: "The Department Chairman  
13 shall attend the American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C.  
14 Conference sponsored by the National Organization. The  
15 Chairman's expenses cannot exceed the amount budgeted  
16 annually to help defray the cost of attending the American  
17 Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference."

18 The rationale is that the NEC Woman is  
19 automatically appointed as Legislative Chairman and would  
20 be called to the Washington D.C. by the National  
21 organization. By direction of the Legislative Committee,  
22 I move the acceptance of this code change.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: If amended code  
24 2 will read: "The Department Chairman shall attend the  
25 American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference

1 sponsored by the National Organization. The Chairman's  
2 expenses cannot exceed the amount budgeted annually to  
3 help defray the cost of attending the American Legion  
4 Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference."

5 Is there any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

12 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you. Code 6  
13 currently reads: "Legislative Chairmen on all levels  
14 shall alert the membership with information and requests  
15 of The American Legion as transmitted by The Dispatch and  
16 consider these requests of legislative matters a need for  
17 Chairmen to act immediately. Legislative Chairmen shall  
18 send and urge the membership to respond with cards,  
19 letters, telegrams, and emails when requested. 2004."

20 If amended will read: "Legislative Chairmen on  
21 all levels shall alert the membership with information and  
22 requests of The American Legion as transmitted by The  
23 Dispatch and The American Legion Legislative Action  
24 Alerts. Legislative Chairmen shall consider these  
25 requests of legislative matters a need for Chairmen to act

1 immediately and shall urge the membership to respond with  
2 cards, letters, telephone calls, emails, and social media  
3 communications when requested."

4           The rationale is that The American Legion  
5 Legislative Action Alerts are now used on a consistent  
6 basis. I don't know of anybody who sends telegrams. They  
7 might, but I don't know who they are. And telephone calls  
8 are also -- needed to be added as well as social media.  
9 We'll move up to this century. By the direction of the  
10 Legislative Committee, I move the acceptance of this code  
11 change.

12           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: "Legislative  
13 Chairmen on all levels shall alert the membership with  
14 information and requests of The American Legion as  
15 transmitted by The Dispatch and The American Legion  
16 Legislative Action Alerts. Legislative Chairmen shall  
17 consider these requests of legislative matters a need for  
18 Chairmen to act immediately and shall urge the membership  
19 to respond with cards, letters, telephone calls, emails,  
20 and social media communications when requested."

21           Is there any discussion?

22           (No response.)

23           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

24           AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

25           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

3 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you. There  
4 were no resolutions. This Chairman recommended that all  
5 District and Unit members with email sign up for The  
6 American Legion Legislative Action Alerts. Action Alerts  
7 have been proven to work with recent email blasts to  
8 legislators that have resulted in approved veteran  
9 legislation.

10 Awards were presented to second and third place  
11 Units and Districts with 100 percent reporting citations  
12 to Districts 3, 4, 8, 9, 18, 19, 21, and 24. Districts 6,  
13 12, 13, 18, 19, 21, and 27 received a citation for  
14 submitting a supplemental report and outstanding  
15 participation. Everyone in attendance received a  
16 patriotic corsage and button. There being no further  
17 business, the Chaplain offered prayer and the meeting was  
18 adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

19 Madam President, may I proceed with my  
20 supplemental and my first place awards?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

22 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you. And  
23 before I go on, I received an email from Dana Nichols, who  
24 is our legislative advocate and liaison, and you, ladies,  
25 we received a National Alert and it was sent out right

1 before convention to ask for permanent funding of the  
2 Veterans Services Organizations. And guess what? It  
3 passed.

4 (Applause.)

5 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: The government  
6 signed the \$5.6 million budget to help the local service  
7 officers with direct funding for veterans. So give  
8 yourself a big round of applause. You made that happen.

9 (Applause.)

10 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Madam President,  
11 this has truly been an outstanding year of Legislative  
12 participation. Your C.R.A.F.T.S. theme of Creating  
13 Relationships Assisting Families Through Service to  
14 Veterans was really just perfect. All Legislative  
15 Chairmen were known as Mosaic, each a different beauty and  
16 when crafted together, they make a masterpiece.

17 I want to thank all of the District and Unit  
18 Chairmen for taking time out to report on the activities  
19 for veterans. We have many unit members appointed to the  
20 National Legislative Council who have direct contact with  
21 their state and federal legislators. I sent many emails  
22 to our members who in turn used the American Legion  
23 Legislative Action Center to easily contact all their  
24 representatives. All unit members sent emails, wrote  
25 letters, and made phone calls to state legislators with

1 over 27 bills signed into law that directly affect  
2 veterans and active military.

3 Through our strong support there has been recent  
4 temporary funding, which now has passed; I just got the  
5 email, and that was for the \$5.6 million to serve  
6 veterans. So we needed that to be permanent and you made  
7 it happen.

8 Members also wrote Congress, the Senate, and the  
9 White House. Many unit members report receiving responses  
10 from those contacted, including from the White House. One  
11 district played a major role in obtaining approval of the  
12 National Cemetery in Orange County to accommodate the  
13 approximate 14,000 veterans that unfortunately die each  
14 year in Los Angeles and Orange County.

15 A unit in this district had success with another  
16 key legislation of the SAV Act or S-A-V Act, HR 203, which  
17 was Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans  
18 which passed in both the House and the Senate with  
19 bipartisan support.

20 (Applause.)

21 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: During the  
22 congressional Hill Walk at the Washington D.C. conference,  
23 Legion priority sheets were passed out while visiting U.S.  
24 Senators Feinstein, Boxer, and Congress members. While  
25 meeting with Congressman Ruiz, Past National President

1 Nancy Brown-Park scheduled an appointment to meet with him  
2 back in Palm Desert to plan a new homeless veteran  
3 initiative. She explained that to you yesterday about  
4 what the project says. So we are very proud of our Past  
5 National President Nancy Brown-Park. Please give her a  
6 big round of applause.

7 (Applause.)

8 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Nancy was directly  
9 responsible for writing and getting the Senate Resolution  
10 506 to Senators Boxer and Feinstein that honors  
11 Auxiliaries. This recently passed legislation recognizes  
12 and validates the great service our members provide to the  
13 many veterans of this country. Thank you, Nancy, for your  
14 efforts as National President and bringing attention to  
15 all of us. We really appreciate it.

16 (Applause.)

17 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Senators Boxer and  
18 Feinstein also introduced S223 which recently became law  
19 which provides grants to Veteran Service Organizations to  
20 help homeless veterans transition to permanent housing  
21 with household goods. Just think of our VA&R buddy basket  
22 program. It's the same concept. So we led that; right?  
23 We led the way.

24 This year 95 American Legion family members  
25 attended the American Legion Legislative Day. I was

1 unable to attend and I want to thank District 6 Chairman  
2 Wendy O'Brien -- thank you, Wendy.

3 (Applause.)

4 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: And District 13  
5 Chairman Joyce McLeod for their reports and photos.  
6 Auxiliary members accompanied Legionnaires as they spoke  
7 to Senators and Assemblymen/Women about the progresses in  
8 California legislation. The speakers discussed the new  
9 Sacramento Veterans Village groundbreaking, the new  
10 National Cemetery in Monterey, and how Veteran Service  
11 Organizations handle over \$1.8 billion in veteran claims.  
12 That's an outstanding number, and we've done a great job.

13 Our strong American Legion Family Legislative  
14 presence at the State Capitol has proven quite successful  
15 to address veterans' needs. Our members are always ready  
16 to support, advocate, and lead the charge to get the laws  
17 that will improve the lives of our nation's veterans.

18 Madam President, this concludes my report, and  
19 may I can continue with my first place awards?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You sure may.

21 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you. Thank  
22 you very much. I gave you all notes. The first place  
23 Outstanding Unit Legislative Program goes to Los Alamitos,  
24 Unit 716, Cynthia Mayfield, Chairman.

25 (Applause.)

1           LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you, Cindy.  
2 This -- this report has been forwarded to National for  
3 further competition.

4           (Applause.)

5           LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Outstanding. The  
6 first place Outstanding District Legislative Program goes  
7 to District 29, Stephanie Ganji, chairman.

8           (Applause.)

9           LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: You girls are scared  
10 to come on stage. Who told you not to go on stage? Tall  
11 girls rule. Here you go. Thank you, Stephanie.

12           Thank you, Madam President. It's been a  
13 pleasure.

14           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
15 Anita. I would like to call on VA&R, the Master Bakers,  
16 and then Membership, the Master Puzzlers.

17           VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: I asked for all of the  
18 Chefs to go to the back of the room, please. May I begin?

19           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: (Nods head.)

20

21           VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CONVENTION REPORT

22

23           VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: The Convention Committee  
24 on VA&R, or Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, met on June  
25 25th, 2015 in the Juniper Room of the Ontario Airport

1 Hotel, Ontario, California. The statistical report of  
2 this chairman appears on page 34 of the Book of Reports.  
3 Gloria Sinopoli, Unit 147, District 20 -- excuse me --  
4 District 14 was appointed secretary, Delores Ryan, Unit  
5 26, District 15 offered prayer, and Ruth Hackney, Unit  
6 283, District 24 was appointed Sergeant-At-Arms. A total  
7 of 22 district delegates answered roll call. There were  
8 eight visitors present.

9 The committee agreed upon the following report:  
10 The code was read and the committee voted on the following  
11 changes: Number 1 currently reads: "The Department  
12 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chairman oversees  
13 and is responsible for all aspects of the VA&R program and  
14 serves as the Hospital and Field Service Director as well  
15 as Chairman."

16 If amended will read: "The Department Veterans  
17 and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chairman oversees and is  
18 responsible for all aspects of the VA&R Program and serves  
19 as the Hospital and Service to Veterans Director as well  
20 as Chairman."

21 At the direction of the committee I move to  
22 accept this change.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: "The Department  
24 Veterans and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chairman oversees and  
25 is responsible for all aspects of the VA&R Program and

1 serves as the Hospital and Service to Veterans Director as  
2 well as Chairman."

3 Is there any discussion?

4 (No response.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Hearing none,  
6 all in favor?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

11 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you. Number 7  
12 currently reads: "The Department Chairman shall contact  
13 Representatives early in the year for sewing needs at  
14 their particular center. Information shall be issued in  
15 bulletin form regarding these needs and the Units through  
16 their District Chairmen are encouraged to provide items to  
17 a specific center by contacting the Representative for  
18 instructions, directions, and quantity desired. All  
19 completed sewing sent to representatives by April 15th  
20 should be included in her annual report to reach the  
21 Department Chairman by May 1st."

22 If amended will read: "The Department Chairman  
23 shall contact Representatives early in the year for a  
24 needs list at their particular center. Information shall  
25 be issued in bulletin form regarding these needs and the

1 Units through their District Chairmen are encouraged to  
2 provide items to a specific center by contacting the  
3 Representative for instructions, directions, and quantity  
4 desired. All needs that are sent to the representatives  
5 by April 15th should be included in her annual report to  
6 reach the Department Chairman by May 1st."

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

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: "The Department  
10 Chairman shall contact Representatives early in the year  
11 for a needs list at their particular center. Information  
12 shall be issued in bulletin form regarding these needs and  
13 the Units through their District Chairmen are encouraged  
14 to provide items to a specific center by contacting the  
15 Representative for instructions, directions, and quantity  
16 desired. All needs that are sent to the representatives  
17 by April 15th should be included in her annual report to  
18 reach the Department Chairman by May 1st."

19 Is there any discussion?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

1 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you. Under Medical  
2 Center Gift Shop/Patient Remembrance, number 1 currently  
3 reads: "Christmas Gift Shops and Patient Remembrance  
4 under the Department direction shall be -- shall provide  
5 for only mental, pulmonary, nursing home, orthopedic, and  
6 other long-term patients in VA Medical Centers.

7 Assignment of where gifts are to be sent will be made by  
8 the Department Chairman who will evaluate the reports of  
9 the Representatives and the needs of the centers."

10 If amended it will read: "Christmas Gift Shop  
11 and Patient Remembrance under the Department direction  
12 shall be provided for patients VA" -- "in the VA Medical  
13 Center." Excuse me. There was a typo there.

14 "Assignments of where gifts are to be sent will be made by  
15 the Department Chairman who will evaluate the reports of  
16 the representatives and the needs of the Centers."

17 At the direction of the committee I move to  
18 accept these changes.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay. If  
20 amended will read: "Christmas Gift Shop and Patient  
21 Remembrance under the Department direction shall be  
22 provided for patients in the VA Medical Center.  
23 Assignments of where gifts are to be sent will be made by  
24 the Department Chairman who will evaluate the reports of  
25 the representatives and the needs of the Centers."

1 Is there any discussion?

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

8 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you. Under the  
9 Field Service Code it needs to be changed to "Service" to  
10 "Veterans Code." That is just a housekeeping thing I am  
11 assuming.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: (Nods head.)

13 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Okay. Then under that  
14 code, the Field Service Code No. 3 currently reads: "The  
15 Department shall give non-compensated veterans at Veterans  
16 Homes of California a monetary gift at Christmas; the  
17 amount to conform to Department Chairman's  
18 recommendations."

19 The committee recommends that we delete No. 3.  
20 And I'm real sure if -- so you'll have to tell me if I'm  
21 not correct. We would like to change it to a totally  
22 different No. 3 that will read: "Christmas Gift Shop and  
23 Patient Remembrance funds under the Department direction  
24 shall provide to the residents at California Veterans  
25 Homes a gift at Christmas. Assignment of where gifts are

1 to be sent will be made by the Department Chairman, who  
2 will evaluate the reports of the representatives and the  
3 needs of the center."

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

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The new No. 3  
7 will read: "Christmas Gift Shop and Patient Remembrance  
8 funds under the Department direction shall provide to the  
9 residents at California Veterans Homes a gift at  
10 Christmas. Assignment of where gifts are to be sent will  
11 be made by the Department Chairman, who will evaluate the  
12 reports of the representatives and the needs of the  
13 center."

14 Is there any discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

21 Motion carried.

22 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you very much.  
23 Certificates for 100 percent reporting, second and third  
24 place, and participation awards were handed out in  
25 committee. I will post the awards in the office after

1 first place is presented. With no further business the  
2 meeting was adjourned at 10:02.

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

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, you may.

7 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: The Master Bakers along  
8 with the rest of the American Legion Family have been  
9 baking up a storm this year to promote our mission of  
10 enhancing the lives of veterans, military, and their  
11 families. I'm excited to report that we have had 100  
12 percent in district reporting.

13 (Applause.)

14 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: With 17 districts having  
15 100 percent as well. Looks like combining the Home and  
16 Field Service hours together into Service to Veterans has  
17 helped with making filling out reports easier than ever.

18 Our Classy Cookies as well as the rest of the  
19 Auxiliary Members are doing heartwarming work at the VA  
20 Hospitals and outpatient clinics. They along with other  
21 volunteers have worked at sponsoring and supporting many  
22 different kinds of activities and entertainment for the  
23 veterans during the year. Activities such as homeless  
24 veterans outreach, Stand Downs, welcome home celebrations,  
25 and salute to hospitalized veterans.

1           One unit donated a blanket warmer at a cost of  
2 over \$2500 to the oncology department at the VA.  
3 Sometimes when the veterans are having treatment they  
4 become very cold and this machine warms the blankets  
5 before the nurses hand them to the patients. Some of the  
6 patients have said it is kind of like getting a big hug.

7           There was also lots of entertainment in the VA  
8 hospitals and CLC for the veterans such as bingo games,  
9 birthday parties, and luncheons. We even had a group  
10 provide fishing supplies and licenses so the veterans  
11 could enjoy fishing. They have sponsored baby showers,  
12 job fairs, and Military Appreciation Days.

13           There were many parties during the holiday season  
14 starting with the 4th of July BBQ, reverse trick or treat  
15 for Halloween where our Junior members go to the different  
16 facilities and offer treats to the patients and residents.  
17 There were parties on Valentine's Day and the "Salute to  
18 Hospitalized Veterans." Thanksgiving and Christmas  
19 parties were held at all the different facilities,  
20 donations of turkeys, hams, and all the goodies that go  
21 along them with.

22           The VA has a program to help homeless veterans  
23 into transitional housing. Our members have provided  
24 household items such as furniture and bedding to make  
25 these houses a home. They have also been happy to assist

1 with buddy baskets. These baskets are filled with many of  
2 the household needs of the veterans and/or family members  
3 such as bedding, towels, dishes, cleaning supplies, and  
4 gift cards.

5 Units have adopted the Defenders Lodge at Palo  
6 Alto as well as many Fisher Houses in the state, donating  
7 money as well as comfort items that are needed for the  
8 family members of veterans in the hospital for treatment  
9 that live far away from the facility.

10 Some of our units are not located by a VAMC or  
11 military base and have found working with the local County  
12 Veterans Service Officers, Veterans Assistance League and  
13 Family Readiness Groups is a great way to find out what  
14 some of the needs or wishes of our vets are.

15 Many units throughout the state also assist with  
16 bingo, which is the preferred entertainment of many of the  
17 veterans in convalescent and state homes as well as at the  
18 VA. Our members have worked in the games, providing  
19 refreshments, monetary donations, and lots of game prizes.

20 Local communities have Stand Downs, which is a  
21 one- to three-day program to help some homeless veterans  
22 get the needed services they have earned. Things like VA  
23 benefits, seeing a doctor or a dentist for no cost  
24 treatment, employment opportunities, counseling and court  
25 services.

1           Auxiliary members have donated clothing, coats,  
2 shoes, socks, and many personal hygiene items. They have  
3 spent hundreds of hours setting up camp and cooking meals  
4 and other jobs that need to be done to keep the veterans  
5 they are working with comfortable for the duration of  
6 their stay.

7           One unit has a special program that is unique to  
8 their community. They have a training program for  
9 veterans from all over the country coming to learn how to  
10 service wind turbines. The unit has helped over 2800 of  
11 these veterans and their families with food and other  
12 items that were totaling \$8,800.

13           Members have supported the Creative Arts Festival  
14 locally and nationally and many Fisher Houses throughout  
15 the state. We also coordinated with many other groups  
16 that support our mission such as the USO, Reins of Hope,  
17 Never Forget Our Fallen, Toys For Tots, and Blue and Gold  
18 Star Mothers just to name a few.

19           Units worked with the Honor Flights and Afghans  
20 for Veterans programs which send World War II and Korean  
21 War veterans to Washington DC to see the memorials. Then  
22 when they returned home the veteran receives a homemade  
23 afghan to thank them for their service. 289 veterans, at  
24 no cost to them, have enjoyed this program, and in the  
25 month of May almost 100 Vietnam veterans are going to have

1 the same privilege.

2 (Applause.)

3 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Auxiliary members have  
4 spent hundreds of hours sewing, crocheting and knitting  
5 caps, slippers, scarves, stump covers, wheelchair bags and  
6 lots and lots of lap robes and blankets. They've cooked  
7 and baked goodies to be offered to veterans, whether they  
8 are in the hospital or at home. They have showed their  
9 patriotism by participating in parades and ceremonies for  
10 veterans and Memorial Day. They have decorated cemeteries  
11 with flags, crosses, and flowers. They have visited  
12 veterans at their homes or in convalescent facilities to  
13 let them know they are not forgotten.

14 Many still support the Ride 2 Recovery program  
15 which is a bike ride for Wounded Warriors. They provide  
16 food and entertainment at luncheons, dinners, rest stops,  
17 and line the streets with flags and banners to cheer on  
18 the riders and their escorts.

19 Many units have worked with organizations like  
20 The Blue Star Moms to pack boxes for the troops, filling  
21 with them all kinds of goodies to give our deployed  
22 service member a little taste of home. Members attended  
23 and participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremonies.  
24 This ceremony is held in the national VA cemeteries at the  
25 same time all over the United States. This is a wonderful

1 way of remembering our fallen heroes.

2 They have given out hundreds of backpacks filled  
3 with all kinds of goodies as well as gift cards. Dinners  
4 were provided to active military and families and lots of  
5 baby showers with lots of blankets and goodies for  
6 newborns of veterans and active military families. We  
7 have a member who offers haircuts once a month to our  
8 veterans. Some Juniors that needed a project for school  
9 were recruited to help veterans at their homes with  
10 gardening and upkeep.

11 Many participate in a POW/MIA remembrance  
12 ceremony, a service to honor POW and MIA and their  
13 families. Thousands of dollars in cash and in-kind have  
14 been collected for our veterans and families, things to  
15 keep them from becoming homeless, like rent, utilities,  
16 food, helping get their transportation fixed so they don't  
17 lose their jobs. These are just a few of the ways we are  
18 supporting veterans. With the large amount of people  
19 coming out of the military and so few jobs, we find that  
20 this need for assistance is growing.

21 The Department has received requests to assist 15  
22 veterans so far this year for almost \$13,000. We have had  
23 an increase of 52 new regularly scheduled volunteers  
24 between April 1st, 2014 and May 31st, 2015. I could go on  
25 forever talking about all the wonderful events and

1 thousands of dollars our members have collected and  
2 supplied to complete our mission of enhancing the lives of  
3 veterans, military, and their families which I think we  
4 are doing a beautiful job. Don't you?

5 (Applause.)

6 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Madam President, this  
7 concludes my supplement. May I present my first place  
8 awards?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Absolutely.

10 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: And may I right after  
11 that have you -- thank you. Okay.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I knew what she  
13 meant.

14 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: And by the way, the  
15 awards will be in the office, but -- I think I put them in  
16 there already. So I know that for the district  
17 supplemental, the Best District Supplemental goes to, and  
18 please forgive me because I do not have it with me, but it  
19 goes to Tami Bell from District 29.

20 (Applause.)

21 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: And you'll have to  
22 forgive me because I do have a winner for unit  
23 supplemental and that award was sent also off to National.  
24 And her name was Mary Risner, but forgive me -- District  
25 21.

1 (Applause.)

2 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Okay. And for our award  
3 for 500 hours plus for the senior volunteer at the VA  
4 hospital goes to District 30, Kim Vincent.

5 (Applause.)

6 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: And I have a junior that  
7 is over 50 hours -- 50 hours at the VA hospital, and her  
8 name is Lala Dooley. Lala, Lala from District 24.

9 (Applause.)

10 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Okay. If you could --

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes, I'll be  
12 very proud to. Will the Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal,  
13 along with the Distinguished Guest Chairman, please escort  
14 to the stage our Classy Cookies, the Department of  
15 California reps and depts.

16 (Processional.)

17 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Palo Alto Representative  
18 Pat Klang. Deputies Connie Raya, Agnes Lopes, Sandy  
19 Lopes, Arlene Muller, and Lucille Dilling.

20 VA Livermore Representative Ruth Briggs.

21 Deputies June Souza and Susan Peters.

22 VA San Francisco Representative Lorraine  
23 Sullivan. Deputies Kathleen Sullivan, June Jackson, Tammy  
24 Manini, and Honorary Representative Veronica Spence.

25 Auburn Outpatient Clinic, Deputy Bonnie Chavoya.

1 Northern California Mather Representative Wendy  
2 O'Brien. Deputy Glenda Schultz.

3 Redding, Barbara Daily, deputy.

4 Fairfield, Deputy Sherry -- I mean Kelli  
5 Gemeraad.

6 Martinez, Carnina Fritag I believe is how to  
7 pronounce it. Okay. Excuse me.

8 VA Fresno, Toni Lopez, Gloria Sinopoli, and  
9 Marjorie Boyer.

10 Oh, the photographer wants you to all look right.  
11 Don't look wrong, look right.

12 San Diego is Cindy Simmons, Irma Manthei.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Manthei.

14 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Manthei, Barbara Love,  
15 and Phyllis Holmberg is the representative -- honorary  
16 representative.

17 Lois Cornish is from the WAVE Clinic.

18 Loma Linda, we have a lot of these ladies, don't  
19 we? Mavis Kanka. Deputy is Shirley Brown and Elaine  
20 Gallagher. And by the way, ladies, if -- Elaine has taken  
21 ill. If you could contact the Department for her email or  
22 her home address and send your cards, I'm sure she will  
23 appreciate them. Arlene Barton is deputy also at Loma  
24 Linda.

25 Pat Alvarez at Long Beach.

1 (Applause.)

2 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: And Tami Bell is her  
3 deputy and so is Becky Bullard.

4 (Applause.)

5 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Greater LA is -- Earlean  
6 Paige is the representative, Susie Johansen and Vi  
7 Walquist are her deputies.

8 Downtown East LA. Okay. Deputy is Patricia  
9 Jackson-Kelly, Pamela Hicks, Mary Chaba, and Dorothy  
10 Chavez.

11 And then in Santa Barbara is Hermine Fosmark.  
12 She's an honorary representative. Then the deputy is  
13 Julie Stranges.

14 Bakersfield is Dee Ann Graham.

15 Santa Maria is Dorothy Davis.

16 And the veterans homes. We're almost done,  
17 ladies. The veterans homes. Barstow is Evangeline  
18 Acosta.

19 (Applause.)

20 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Chula Vista is Lois  
21 Cornish.

22 (Applause.)

23 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Fresno is Rosalie Taylor.  
24 Lancaster is Linda Hayes. Redding is Terry Mikesell.  
25 Saticoy is Madeline Lee. West LA is Ruth Hackney.

1 (Applause.)

2 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Yountville is Peggy  
3 Grabski, and her deputies are Melanie Taylor and Geri  
4 Fitzpatrick. These are your reps, deps, and hospitals  
5 reps, your Classy Cookies.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Classy Cookies.

7 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: This has been an honor to  
8 do this chore and I really truly believe it should be a  
9 two-year term because you're just getting the grasp of it  
10 and then the year's over. But it has been an honor doing  
11 this for you and for our veterans and I thank you very  
12 much for this appointment.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you,  
14 Wendy.

15 (Applause.)

16 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Kathy Harris-Richardson  
17 is for downtown.

18 HOSPITAL REP: Wendy, from your reps and deps I  
19 would like to present you with a gift.

20 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Thank you.

21 HOSPITAL REP: Do you want to open it now?

22 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Okay. Yeah, I see that.  
23 It's the rubber band. Thank you so much and I love you  
24 too. It's a motorcycle.

25 (Applause.)

1 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: They know me. I collect  
2 salt and pepper shakers. I love these. Thank you so  
3 much. They're little piggies. Thank you so much. Thank  
4 you all very, very much.

5 HOSPITAL REP: Read your card.

6 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Oh, money. Love money.  
7 Thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: We have a little  
10 bit of business we need to take care, and one of them --  
11 will you help me with this, Ruby. Okay. Come here,  
12 Susie. We've got a charter, Larry Holmberg, Unit 731.  
13 Please come forward, ladies.

14 Will the Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal please  
15 escort the president and her family and anybody you want  
16 from the new Unit 731. And they can come in the back.

17 (Processional.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I'm sorry. It's  
19 very nice to meet you. Thank you very much. This is  
20 Lauree Camarato. She's going to be the new president for  
21 Unit 731 San Diego, District 22. And I am very, very  
22 proud to present you with your charter.

23 (Applause.)

24 NAT'L W. DIVISION GIRLS' STATE CHAIRMAN FERCHO:  
25 What is the name of the charter?

1 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT TOZIER: Larry E.  
2 Holmberg.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I've been asked  
4 to announce that -- oops. I've been asked to cite the  
5 name of the unit, and it's the Larry E. Holmberg.  
6 Phyllis' husband.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You're  
9 the First Vice. Get in here for a photo op. You should  
10 introduce your entourage.

11 UNIT 731 PRESIDENT CAMARATO: I'd like to  
12 introduce first my First Vice Michelle Flores.

13 (Applause.)

14 UNIT 731 PRESIDENT CAMARATO: And I would like to  
15 introduce the Post Commander Sam Flores.

16 (Applause.)

17 UNIT 731 PRESIDENT CAMARATO: There's a  
18 relationship there. And then I would like to introduce my  
19 husband who is the Junior Past Commander Chuck Camarato.

20 (Applause.)

21 UNIT 731 PRESIDENT CAMARATO: And we could never  
22 have done it -- we had to start from scratch because our  
23 chapter had lapsed for so long, and without Sam and Chuck  
24 cheering us on, it never would have happened. 731 has a  
25 very unique family. We have -- we're very active in the

1 community. It's a very tight-knit community, kind of  
2 scary tight-knit community. And we have people who are  
3 begging to join the Auxiliary who aren't eligible, but  
4 they continue to support us. And these guys made it  
5 happen for us.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I just  
8 want to -- I just wanted to let everyone know -- there it  
9 is. Oh, yeah. Madam President, I just have to tell you a  
10 little story because I talked to Lauree, what was it,  
11 about two weeks ago? And I had to explain to her Lauree,  
12 you know, if we submit this to National this year, that  
13 means this is going to go in for the 2015 membership year.  
14 And I said then your members will be required to pay 2016  
15 dues. Because the new unit doesn't understand our fiscal  
16 year is July to June. So I asked her, I told her I wanted  
17 to make her aware of this and then let her make the  
18 decision. And she said all she wanted to do was receive  
19 their charter at convention and they paid their dues and  
20 they're going to pay it again next year, she said.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
23 much. I wish you the best of success. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 (Processional.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Before we do the  
2 recessional, I understand that there are a couple of  
3 people that want to come up and make presentations. And  
4 who am I to say no; right? I don't know. Who was it?  
5 Was it Norma. Norma. Oh, I see. It says here, "Call  
6 Norma DuVall for presentation. Have Susie take podium."

7 You have to stand here, and I'm going to go over  
8 here. See, I follow instructions pretty well.

9 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: Who's the tall one  
10 up here? Wendy.

11 Madam President, when I had the privilege with  
12 Past Department President LuAnn Capazzi to do your  
13 District Presidents training in September, I think it was  
14 in Clovis, they were so excited about your theme and also  
15 that you were a quilter, so they decided and voted amongst  
16 themselves to do a special gift to you.

17 And if I could have all of the District  
18 Presidents that I called please stand. These are the  
19 District Presidents that contributed to your gift.  
20 District 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23,  
21 24, 26, 27, 28, 30.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Bingo.

23 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: And it was very nice  
24 that Susan Baker, District 28, took on the responsibility  
25 of coordinating with the District Presidents to assemble

1 all of the quilt squares. And Geri Fitzpatrick was kind  
2 enough to know someone in her district, Vivian Johnson,  
3 Unit 807, District 4 who is also a quilter, and she  
4 assembled this quilt. So they would like to present this  
5 to you, Madam President.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay.

7 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN DUVALL: And I know that  
8 every district wants to get a picture of their square.  
9 Each of the squares has the district theme on it.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you very  
11 much.

12 District and Unit Color Bearers, please retire to  
13 the back of the room so that the Sergeant-At-Arms and  
14 Marshal can prepare for the recessional.

15 Just a second, ladies. Just a second, ladies.  
16 Before we leave, we have one more report, and it is rather  
17 important. So will the Constitution & Bylaws Chairman  
18 please come to the podium.

19 Please be seated, ladies. We're not going to do  
20 the recessional today. Ladies, please take your seats. I  
21 stand corrected. We will do the recessional tomorrow. We  
22 do have to get through this next program. It's very, very  
23 important. It's our Constitution & Bylaws, so --

24 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Madam  
25 President, at this time I would actually like to ask if

1 most or all of you did receive a copy of the proposed  
2 Constitution & Bylaws changes when you checked in. For  
3 those of you that did not, may I please ask the  
4 Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal to pass out -- or maybe the  
5 junior pages, the extra copies that we have.

6 Raise your hand very high so that they can see  
7 you. Okay. They're coming around. They're coming  
8 around, ladies. So just give me one minute.

9 And if Madam President does not mind, I will go  
10 ahead and read my report and give my awards while that's  
11 happening, if that's okay.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

13

14 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CONVENTION REPORT

15

16 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: The  
17 Convention Committee on Constitution & Bylaws met on June  
18 25th, 2015 in the Sycamore Room of the Ontario Airport  
19 Hotel in Ontario, California. The statistical report of  
20 this chairman appears on page 27 of the Book of Reports.

21 Carol Fuqua from District 25 was appointed  
22 secretary, Anita Biggs from District 23 offered prayer,  
23 and Linda Diebel, District 19, was appointed  
24 Sergeant-At-Arms. A total of 19 district delegates  
25 answered roll call and there were three visitors present.

1           The committee agreed upon the following report.  
2     The code was read and there were no recommended code  
3     changes at this time. We then discussed the proposed  
4     Departmental Constitution & Bylaws changes and the  
5     addition of two new Standing Rules. With the housekeeping  
6     of some spelling errors and removal of words that did not  
7     pertain to California, because this was taken from a  
8     National text law and it did not change for content or  
9     meaning, all were approved by the committee.

10           We then opened the floor for Q and A and everyone  
11     was satisfied with their answers and we adjourned at  
12     approximately 10:15 a.m.

13           Madam President, may I continue with a short  
14     supplemental and my awards?

15           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

16           CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Madam  
17     Department President, this year, as you are well aware, we  
18     had 25 units rewrite their bylaws and 20 amended their  
19     bylaws. Actually, that number has grown because I had to  
20     bring five sets of bylaws with me to convention including  
21     731's. And we had a couple more units that needed them.  
22     And we had one district that also amended their bylaws.

23           All I can say is the women of California are very  
24     crafty indeed. I think I went through every little  
25     emoticon on my computer or phone. The happy face, the sad

1 face, the confused face, and then there were just those  
2 moments. You know, the ones that make you say, oh, yay,  
3 everything is good. Or, oh, no, this doesn't look good.  
4 And then there are those that just make you lean back and  
5 say what? Really? OMG. WTH. And then there's the never  
6 to be forgotten, "What are they doing?" "Hello, Diane?  
7 Can I run something by you?"

8 I would really like to thank Diane for her work  
9 with the proposed changes and for doing all the heavy  
10 lifting. And many thanks also to Ruby for revising the  
11 Standing Rules.

12 However, all is not lost. We have some very  
13 great women here who do the heavy lifting every day,  
14 helping lift new members by making them aware of their  
15 Unit Constitution & Bylaws, Standing Rules, and learning  
16 the preamble to the American Legion Auxiliary.

17 Hollywood Unit 43 has a unique and successful  
18 program to help people learn the preamble. They print the  
19 preamble on various colors of paper and let the members  
20 choose their favorite color. What they have found is by  
21 doing this, their members are more likely to look at it at  
22 home and bring it back to unit meetings. Their numbers  
23 are increasing on memorization because of this technique.

24 Other units have buddy programs and welcoming  
25 packets with all information inside. All in all they are

1 all on the ball.

2 Madam Department President, thank you for this  
3 appointment. It has truly been a real learning experience  
4 for me. This concludes my report. I said I was going to  
5 make it short because we have a lot to go through. May I  
6 continue with my first place awards?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Please.

8 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: All  
9 awards are posted in the office for 100 percent reporting,  
10 second and third -- second and third places. Excuse me.  
11 My First Place District Supplemental goes to Carol Fuqua  
12 from District 25.

13 (Applause.)

14 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Carol has  
15 officially my stamp of approval. My First Place Unit  
16 Supplemental goes to Hollywood Post 43, Rebecca  
17 Stewart-Wilson, chairman.

18 (Applause.)

19 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: And if  
20 anyone wants to know about the second and third places and  
21 the 100 percent reporting, they are posted in the office.

22 The proposed Constitution & Bylaws changes at the  
23 Department level. The first nine pages pertain to the  
24 separation of duties of the Department  
25 Secretary/Treasurer. It allows us to have the option of

1 separating that position into two separate positions if we  
2 want to or if we can. It's a lot of pages and a lot of  
3 words and it really doesn't change anything except to  
4 define who does what. The Secretary does this, the  
5 Treasurer signs the check.

6 So if I can have the consensus of the delegation,  
7 I would like to forego the actual reading of the first  
8 nine pages of these changes because they do not really  
9 change anything.

10 (Applause.)

11 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: I so  
12 move.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Second.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: It's been moved  
15 and seconded to forego the reading of the first nine pages  
16 of the Constitution & Bylaws changes. Is there any  
17 discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Hearing none,  
20 all in favor?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

25 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Thank

1 you.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

3 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Thank you  
4 very much. It was a lot. Okay. If you would like to  
5 follow along with me, I'm going to start with Article VI,  
6 Subsidiary Organizations. Page 9. It's at the bottom of  
7 page 8. As it now reads: "Section I. Regulated by the  
8 American Legion Auxiliary (Page C-7). Subsidiary  
9 organizations in the Department of California shall be the  
10 County Councils, and all other groups may be organized  
11 under the name and jurisdiction of the Department of  
12 California."

13 Proposed change to read: "Section 1. Regulated  
14 by the American Legion Auxiliary. Subsidiary  
15 organizations in the Department of California shall be the  
16 County Councils, California Girls State Alumnae Foundation  
17 and all other groups as may be organized under the name  
18 and jurisdiction of the Department of California."

19 VA&R CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: This is not what we have.

20 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: What is  
21 different?

22 NAT'L STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER TAYLOR:  
23 Girls State is not on here.

24 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: I am so  
25 sorry. I am on the wrong page. It happens. It happens

1 to us all. I apologize.

2 Okay. As it now reads: "Section 1. Regulated  
3 by the American Legion Auxiliary. Subsidiary  
4 organizations in the Department of California shall be the  
5 County Councils and all of the groups as may be organized  
6 under the name and jurisdiction of the Department of  
7 California."

8 Proposed change to read: "Section 1. Regulated  
9 by the American Legion Auxiliary Subsidiary organizations  
10 in the Department of California shall be the County  
11 Councils and all other groups as may be organized and  
12 listed in the Department Standing Rules under the name and  
13 jurisdiction of the Department of California."

14 I know where the confusion is. The original -- I  
15 already know where the confusion is. The original version  
16 that went out included the page I was reading previously,  
17 and then it was -- it was recommended by National to move  
18 that stuff into the Standing Rules instead, and so that's  
19 where the confusion is. I think that's where the  
20 confusion is.

21 And so the Girls State Alumnae Foundation will  
22 not be in the subsidiary organization anymore. It will  
23 go -- well, it is -- it's going to be listed in the  
24 Standing Rules. Do I need to read the original and then  
25 the change? Are we good?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Yes.

2 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Are we  
3 good? Okay. Do I have to go down each one by one? I so  
4 move the -- this code or this Constitution & Bylaws  
5 change.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Second.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Proposed change  
8 to read: "Section 1. Regulated by the American Legion  
9 Auxiliary Subsidiary organizations in the Department of  
10 California shall be the County Councils and all other  
11 groups as may be organized and listed in the Department  
12 Standing Rules under the name and jurisdiction of the  
13 Department of California."

14 Is there any discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

21 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: As it now  
22 reads: "Article VI, Section 1A Composition (Page C-8)  
23 Subsidiary organization in the Department of California  
24 shall be the County Councils and all other groups as may  
25 be organized under the name and jurisdiction of the

1 Department of California."

2 Proposed change to read: "Article VI, Section 1A  
3 Composition. Subsidiary organization in the Department of  
4 California shall be the County Councils and all other  
5 groups as may be organized and listed in the Department  
6 Standing Rules under the name and jurisdiction of the  
7 Department of California."

8 I so move the adoption of this Constitution &  
9 Bylaws change.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: The proposed  
11 change will read: "Article VI, Section 1A Composition.  
12 Subsidiary organization in the Department of California  
13 shall be the County Councils and all other groups as may  
14 be organized and listed in the Department Standing Rules  
15 under the name and jurisdiction of the Department of  
16 California."

17 Is there any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: All in favor?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

24 Thank you.

25 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES:

1 Originally they were going to have a new Article VI,  
2 Section 3 called the Girls State -- California Girls State  
3 Alumnae Foundation. That's going into the Standing Rules  
4 too. So we're all on the same page, if you can flip to  
5 the Standing Rules. 1 through 6 are already the  
6 Department's Standing Rules.

7 So with the change we would be adding a No. 7:  
8 "All subsidiary organizations must follow the following  
9 rules -- the following rules in keeping with required  
10 uniformity under U.S. trademark law. A, all officers,  
11 directors, trustees, et cetera, must be named by the  
12 department, usually nominated by the subsidiary  
13 organization and confirmed by the governing body" -- oh,  
14 "board. And confirmed by the governing board. I think I  
15 need reading classes. B, all vacancies in the subsidiary  
16 organization must be filled by the department in the same  
17 manner. C, the subsidiary must report to the department  
18 (the parent organization) no less frequently than monthly.  
19 The reporting must included the subsidiary's financial  
20 reports. If the subsidiary did not meet in a particular  
21 month it must still report to the department in writing  
22 that it did not meet, and still must report the month's  
23 financial statements. 7D, the department treasurer must  
24 be a signatory on all accounts of the subsidiary. E, the  
25 articles" -- if you remember when I was reading my report,

1 I said that we took out words that did not pertain to  
2 California. And it might say like "financial board" or  
3 "financial officer," something like that. It doesn't  
4 really -- we kind of made it uniform for our department,  
5 and these copies were all made days before convention.

6 "7E, the" -- now you are going to find some  
7 scratched out words here, but trust me it doesn't change  
8 one iota of what it actually means. "The articles of  
9 incorporation, bylaws, and all amendments of a subsidiary  
10 organization must be approved by the department. If a  
11 subsidiary organization is currently operating and its  
12 articles of incorporation or bylaws have not been approved  
13 by the Department Executive Committee, then the department  
14 should take action immediately to ensure that the  
15 subsidiary's governing documents are received for the  
16 Department Executive Committee's review and approval.  
17 Likewise, the Department Executive Committee must approve  
18 all officers and directors of the subsidiary and any  
19 members serving on a subsidiary committee or committees.  
20 Number 8, California Girls State Alumnae Foundation is a  
21 subsidiary organization of the American Legion Auxiliary,  
22 Department of California."

23 I move the adoption of these two new Standing  
24 Rules.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: "All subsidiary

1 organizations must follow the following rules in keeping  
2 with required uniformity under U.S. trademark law. A, all  
3 officers, directors, trustees, et cetera, must be named by  
4 the department, usually nominated by the subsidiary  
5 organization and confirmed by the governing board. B, all  
6 vacancies in the subsidiary organization must be filled by  
7 the department in the same manner. C, the subsidiary must  
8 report to the department (the parent organization) no less  
9 frequently than monthly. The reporting must included the  
10 subsidiary's financial reports. If the subsidiary did not  
11 meet in a particular month it must still report to the  
12 department in writing that it did not meet, and still must  
13 report the month's financial statements. 7D, the  
14 department treasurer must be a signatory on all accounts  
15 of the subsidiary. E, the articles of incorporation,  
16 bylaws, and all amendments of a subsidiary organization  
17 must be approved by the department. If a subsidiary  
18 organization is currently operating and its articles of  
19 incorporation or bylaws have not been approved by the  
20 Department Executive Committee, then the department should  
21 take action immediately to ensure that the subsidiary's  
22 governing documents are received for the Department  
23 Executive Committee's review and approval. Likewise, the  
24 Department Executive Committee must approve all officers  
25 and directors of the subsidiary and any members serving on

1 a subsidiary committees. Number 8, California Girls State  
2 Alumnae Foundation is a subsidiary organization of the  
3 American Legion Auxiliary, Department of California."

4 Is there any discussion?

5 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRES: I have a question.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Please go to the  
7 microphone. If you can speak up.

8 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRES: Yes, Madam  
9 President. Laloni Squires, Unit 43, District 24. I don't  
10 understand E, and if I am going to vote for something I  
11 need to understand it. So could you explain to me in  
12 laymen's terms what E means?

13 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: What it  
14 means is that we need to have proof of their incorporation  
15 or their governing documents which is like their  
16 Constitution & Bylaws and who is their -- you know, their  
17 -- what am I trying to say? Their officers and things  
18 like that. But we need to have proof of that.

19 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRES: Who is they?

20 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: They is  
21 the Girls State. Well, it's any subsidiary organization,  
22 and right now we only have one which is the Girls State  
23 Alumnae Foundation. In the past it might have been 840,  
24 it might have been, you know, some other group, but right  
25 now we have one subsidiary organization and that is the

1 Girls State Alumnae Foundation.

2 But what this does is it protects the American  
3 Legion Auxiliary so that we don't let them run off and do  
4 willy-nilly whatever they want while they're under our  
5 umbrella.

6 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRES: So it's specifically  
7 Girls State. Is that what you're talking about?

8 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: No. It's  
9 the Girls State Alumnae Foundation, which is a fundraising  
10 organization that helps girls that want to go to Girls  
11 State or -- it helps the Girls State program. It's not  
12 about the program itself. And that is -- it is confusing.  
13 This has nothing to do with the Girls State program. It  
14 has only to do with the foundation that helps us raise  
15 money for Girls State.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:  
17 Basically what this is doing, these are -- our trademark  
18 law Items A through E cover all subsidiary organizations  
19 and what they need to do to meet our guidelines to be a  
20 subsidiary organization under the American Legion  
21 Auxiliary. And we must include their bylaws. We must  
22 include their governing documents. And it just stipulates  
23 -- this is something that should have been done when Girls  
24 State Alumnae was done. It was neglected and now we're  
25 back to doing it again. But Item No. 8 lists the first

1 subsidiary organization, but 7A through E is governing  
2 documents for all subsidiary organizations.

3 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRES: Which would include  
4 any in the future?

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes.

6 DISTRICT 24 MEMBER SQUIRES: Great. Thank you  
7 very much.

8 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Are there  
9 any other questions?

10 District 28 MEMBER TOMLIN: Yes. Elizabeth  
11 Tomlin, District 28, Unit 22. My question is if you move  
12 the Girls State Foundation into this area in the Standing  
13 Rules and then you have all the requirements, have they  
14 met any of these requirements? I just want clarification.  
15 Does the foundation know that they have these  
16 requirements?

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Once  
18 these items are approved by the delegation, the Alumnae  
19 will receive a letter with a copy of these changes and ask  
20 them to provide the documentation that is requested in  
21 this document.

22 District 28 MEMBER TOMLIN: So so far they  
23 haven't?

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well, I  
25 think -- so I think Nancy Brown-Park sits on the board and

1 so yes, indirectly they do know it's coming and they agree  
2 that it should be done. They know that it needs to be  
3 done.

4 District 28 MEMBER TOMLIN: Thank you.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It's  
6 really protecting our trademark and our Auxiliary emblem.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Are there any  
8 other questions? Of course.

9 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Rosalie Taylor,  
10 District 14.

11 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Give me a  
12 break, Rosalie. Go away.

13 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: I just have a very  
14 simple question. When these are written up and presented  
15 on the website, are they going to be presented as read or  
16 as what was given out here on the floor? The wording is  
17 what I'm asking about because the handout that we've got  
18 is so --

19 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: They will  
20 be as I read them.

21 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Okay. So what we've  
22 got here is not --

23 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Right.  
24 We changed a little bit of the wording in committee.

25 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Okay. Thank you.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Is there any  
2 further discussion?

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Hearing none,  
5 let's vote. All in favor?

6 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Motion carried.

10 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SOARES: Thank  
11 you, Madam President. That concludes everything for  
12 Constitution & Bylaws.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I hope to see  
15 you all at the banquet tonight. No host cocktails will be  
16 at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00. This session is in recess  
17 until 4:00 a.m. Oh, there's -- I thought I would just see  
18 if you are still awake.

19 Actually, Ruby has some notices.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: No, I'm  
21 not going to do it. Ways & Means will be selling raffle  
22 tickets and 50/50 tickets until 8:30 a.m. tomorrow.  
23 Ladies, get your tickets. You can't win if you don't buy.

24 All flower orders scheduled for pick up have been  
25 sent to your rooms by the front desk.

1           The Sons forgot to announces that the Sons are  
2   having a party and they are inviting the Juniors. It is  
3   at 6:00 p.m. tonight at the Best Western Hotel on  
4   Vineyard. There will be food, games, and other  
5   entertainment along with chaperones.

6           (Applause.)

7           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I want  
8   to remind you, National Delegates, you need to pick up  
9   your packets in the office by noon tomorrow or you won't  
10   have one.

11           Membership cards. If you haven't gotten them, if  
12   you haven't gone in there and picked them up, pick them up  
13   by noon tomorrow. And if you find you're missing any  
14   cards, you need to let me know if any of the units do not  
15   have cards in the packets that you pick up. Just give me  
16   a note and I will work the details out with National as to  
17   why.

18           District Presidents, their registration is now  
19   closed. Any of your units that did not attend convention,  
20   were not able to attend and you want to take a Book of  
21   Reports home to those units, you can pick those up as long  
22   as they're available in the department office by noon  
23   tomorrow. Anything left over after the District  
24   Presidents take them for the units that are missing,  
25   anyone who wants one can have one. You can check.

1           Outgoing Chairmen and Officers, you need to drop  
2 your procedures books off after you do your report, and  
3 the new officers and chairmen need to pick up the  
4 procedure books by noon tomorrow. The Finance Committee  
5 will be giving you your checks as long as you have a  
6 receipt that you turned in your procedure books after  
7 close of tomorrow, close of session at noon.

8           District Presidents, anyone scheduled to receive  
9 mileage needs to check with the Finance Committee whether  
10 you submitted an expense sheet other not because I did  
11 make up some expense sheets that you will be required to  
12 sign so you can get your check. That concludes --

13           EDITOR CHAIRMAN AVINA: Ruby, Ruby. Oh, Ruby,  
14 Ruby, Ruby. Estella over here. The Juniors that are  
15 invited over to the SAL, they have to find their own  
16 transportation. We do have somebody who's willing to put  
17 their van up if someone wants to drive them all over  
18 there. But right now there is no transportation provided  
19 for them.

20           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: How  
21 about the shuttle? I guess we can check on that. But  
22 anyway, so if anybody has room here, you might want to get  
23 together or we'll check with the shuttles and get the  
24 shuttles involved.

25           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're going to talk to

1 each other. I also have transportation to take Juniors  
2 over there. If anyone needs their child or their Junior  
3 to go, if they would see me I can get them over there.

4 EDITOR CHAIRMAN AVINA: Okay. Maybe we can all  
5 meet out here after.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Any Juniors at a quarter  
7 to 6:00, they can meet in the lobby and we'll get them  
8 where they need to go.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Thank you.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank  
11 you.

12

13

#### ADJOURNMENT

14

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: This session --  
16 this session is now in recess until 8:30 a.m. Hope you  
17 have a great night tonight.

18

19

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(The American Legion Auxiliary Convention  
was adjourned at 4:43 p.m. to be reconvened  
on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
 ) ss.  
2 COUNTY OF STANISLAUS )  
3  
4

5 I, Karen A. Andasola, a Certified Shorthand  
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate  
7 Number 10919, do hereby certify that the American Legion  
8 Auxiliary - Department of California 96th Annual  
9 Convention was taken Saturday, June 27, 2015, at the time  
10 and place set forth on the first page hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the meeting, the words of  
12 the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California  
13 96th Annual Convention members were written down by me in  
14 stenotypy and thereafter transcribed by computer under my  
15 supervision; that the foregoing is a true and correct  
16 transcript of the oratory given by the American Legion  
17 Auxiliary - Department of California 96th Annual  
18 Convention members.

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

22 Dated this 14th day of July, 2015, at Modesto,  
23 California.

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 Karen A. Andasola, CSR No. 10919