

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
97th ANNUAL CONVENTION
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

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

1	I N D E X	
2		PAGE
3	Call to Order (Susie Tozier)	3
	Invocation (Susan Baker)	3
4	Roll Call (Ruby Kapsalis)	3
	Reading of Convention Rules (Geri Fitzpatrick)	10
5	National Executive Committee Report (Harriet Clendenin)	11
6	Department President Convention Report (Susie Tozier)	12
7	Department Vice President Convention Report (Wendy O'Brien)	14
8	Department Secretary/Treasurer Convention Report (Ruby Kapsalis)	14
9	Department Chaplain Convention Report (Susan Baker)	22
	Parliamentarian Convention Report (Diane DeLashmit)	27
10	Musician Convention Report (Kathy Smith)	29
	Past Presidents Parley Convention Report (Terry Mikesell)	33
11	Convention Chairman Convention Report (Gloria Sinopoli)	35
12	Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal Convention Report (Tracy Varnell and Elizabeth Doidge)	36
13	Distinguished Guest Chairman Convention Report (LuAnn Capazzi)	37
14	Girls State Chairman Convention Report (Elissa Kirkland)	38
15	Girls State Director Convention Report (Rhodona Enright)	47
16	Community Service Convention Report (Gloria Williams)	48
17	Afternoon Session	54
18	Nominations for Department Officers 2016-2017	54
19	Nominations for Delegates and Alternates to National Convention	60
20	Constitution & Bylaws Convention Report (Donna Scott)	75
21	San Francisco/Sanger Presentation	83
22	Adjournment (Susie Tozier)	105
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		

1
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3
4
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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
97th ANNUAL CONVENTION
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016; 8:52 A.M.
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

CALL TO ORDER

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We are going to resume. We will have the invocation of the Department Chaplain Susan Baker.

INVOCATION

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Dear Lord, we thank you for America, our government leaders, and our veterans who have given so much. Thank you for the members of the American Legion Auxiliary. Help us to always remember that we are here to serve God and country. Thank you for our many women serving in the military. Please keep them in your prayer. Further, be with us for this meeting and watch over us in our work today and every day. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Amen.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: In memory of Barb Shane, Past Department President, with a moment of silence.

We will have the roll call by Secretary Ruby Kapsalis.

ROLL CALL

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm not Ruby Ann and I won't tell you what my middle name is because I hate it. It begins with a J though. I'm not going to tell you.

Madam Department President.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Present.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That's worse. Department Vice President Wendy O'Brien.

DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning, Ruby.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Secretary/Treasurer is here. NEC Woman Harriet Clendenin.

NEC WOMAN CLENDENIN: Good morning, Ruby.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chaplain Susan Baker.

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Good morning, Ruby.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Historian Susan Morgan.

1 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN MORGAN: Good morning, Ruby.
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
3 morning. Let me tell you. Parliamentarian Diane
4 DeLashmit.
5 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I'm here with the
6 almanac.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You've
8 got to be kidding. Musician Kathy Smith.
9 MUSICIAN SMITH: Rocking and a rolling, Ruby.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
11 Sergeant-at-Arms Teresa -- Tracy Varnell.
12 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Scarecrow in the
13 house.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Marshal
15 Elizabeth Doidge.
16 MARSHAL DOIDGE: Here.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I will
18 tell you that that burlap doesn't smell very good.
19 Finance Committee Chairman Kathie Martinez.
20 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good
21 morning, Ruby.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
23 morning, Kathie. Finance Committee Senior Member Terry
24 Mikesell.
25 FINANCE COMMITTEE SENIOR MEMBER MIKESELL:
26 Present.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance
28 Committee Junior Member Linda Hayes.
29 FINANCE COMMITTEE JUNIOR MEMBER HAYES: Good
30 morning, Ruby.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
32 morning, Linda. Advisory Chairman Anita Biggs.
33 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good morning.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
35 Advisory Committee Pilar Reyes.
36 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER REYES: Present.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
38 Advisory Committee Terry Mikesell.
39 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL: Present.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past
41 National President Nancy Brown-Park. She flew the coup.
42 Americanism Kim Vincent.
43 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Good morning. I'm
44 here.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I think
46 you had a delayed reaction there, Kim. Is it the
47 feedback? Auxiliary Emergency Fund Sharon Moore.
48 AEF CHAIRMAN MOORE: I'm here all the way in the
49 back.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Next

1 year you better do better on membership. Children & Youth
2 Joan Cannon.
3 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN CANNON: I'm here.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
5 Community Service Gloria Williams.
6 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Back here.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
8 Constitution & Bylaws Donna Scott.
9 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Good
10 morning.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
12 morning, Donna. Convention Chairman Gloria Sinopoli.
13 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN SINOPOLI: Good morning,
14 Ruby.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh,
16 she's still in the house. Convention Commission Chairman
17 Melanie Taylor.
18 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Good
19 morning, Ruby.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Credentials Joy
21 Saunders.
22 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN SAUNDERS: Here.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
24 Distinguished Guest Chairman LuAnn Capazzi.
25 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN CAPAZZI: Howdy.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Howdy.
27 Editor Estella Avina.
28 EDITOR CHAIRMAN AVINA: Here.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
30 Education Tami Bell.
31 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN BELL: Good morning.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
33 Elections June Coatney.
34 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN COATNEY: Present.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
36 morning. \$5. \$5. Okay. Give it up, five bucks
37 whoever's phone it is to the Finance Committee. You can
38 give it to the Department President's Special Project.
39 All right. Girls State Chairman Elissa Kirkland.
40 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Another delegate
41 bites the dust.
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Girls
43 State Director Donna Enright.
44 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Are you from Girls
45 State?
46 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah, yeah.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior
48 Activities Robin Falkenberg.
49 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES FALKENBERG: Here.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior

1 Conference Director Jackie Cleveland.
2 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: I'm here.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
4 Leadership Committee Chairman Kathie Martinez.
5 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good
6 morning.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
8 morning. Legislative Harriet Clendenin.
9 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN CLENDENIN: I'm still here.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
11 Membership Committee Wendy O'Brien.
12 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN O'BRIEN: Good
13 morning.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
15 morning. National Security Dee Ann Graham.
16 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Good morning.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
18 morning. Past Presidents Parley Terry Mikesell.
19 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: She's still here. She's
20 not paying attention.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Poppy
22 Committee Chairman Ellen McClurg. I know she's here. I
23 was up in the office with her. Public Relations Jean
24 Cooley-Desmeules.
25 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Good
26 morning, Ruby.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
28 morning, Jean. Resolutions Linda Fercho.
29 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Here.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules
31 Geri Fitzpatrick.
32 RULES CHAIRMAN FITZPATRICK: I'm here.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And
34 VA&R Loretta Marsh.
35 VA&R CHAIRMAN MARSH: Moo.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Moo.
37 Wait a minute now. Ways & Means Karen Munch.
38 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN MUNCH: I'm here.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's
40 back there making money. District Presidents. District 1
41 Marialice Canclini.
42 DISTRICT 1: Yay.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
44 District 2, Judy Henderson.
45 DISTRICT 2: The turnips are here.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
47 District 3 Lola Ramey.
48 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: Good morning, Ruby.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
50 morning. District 4 Barbara LaDoucer. Jean Edson is

1 sitting in for her.
2 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT EDSON: Here.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Is she
4 here? She's here.
5 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT EDSON: Here.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
7 Thank you. District 5. Ramona Tafoya is sitting in for
8 Sandra Paxton.
9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No, that's 6.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That's
11 6. Sorry.
12 DISTRICT 5: Good morning, Madam President. The
13 sack of tomatoes are in the hot house.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
15 District 6 Maria Lopez.
16 DISTRICT 6: That's us.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
18 District 7 Bonnie Chavoya. Someone is sitting in for
19 Bonnie.
20 DISTRICT 7: Linda Harmon.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Linda
22 Harmon. Okay.
23 DISTRICT 7: Hee-haw.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
25 District 8 Tammy Manini. Someone is sitting in for Tammy
26 Manini. Kathleen Sullivan.
27 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT SULLIVAN: I'm Kathy
28 Sullivan standing in for Tammy Manini.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
30 District 9 Helaine Rios, Dolly.
31 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
33 District 10 Gwen Woody.
34 DISTRICT 10: Good morning, Madam President. We
35 are your stars from District 10.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
37 District 11 Beverly Villines.
38 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: I'm here.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
40 District 12 Ann Kelley.
41 DISTRICT 12: Good morning. Fruits and nuts from
42 the valley are here.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It's
44 always good to have a few of those. District 13 Jennifer
45 Fanucchi.
46 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: Our vegetables
47 are growing, Madam President. We're here.
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
49 District 14 Ellen McClurg.
50 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Good morning.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
2 District 15 Dee Ann Graham.
3 DISTRICT 15 PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Good morning.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
5 morning. District 16 Tracy Varnell.
6 DISTRICT 16: District 16 is here today.
7 E-I-E-I-O.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
9 District 17 Rachel Wang-Yee.
10 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT WANG-YEE: Good morning.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
12 morning. District 18 Mindy Sinclair.
13 DISTRICT 18: District 18 our farm's here, good
14 morning Madam President. With a crack crack here and a
15 crack crack there. Here a crack, there a crack,
16 everywhere a crack crack. District 18 farm girls are
17 here, good morning, Madam President.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Now I
19 want you to know that is the Elegant 18.
20 DISTRICT 18: Please don't try to make fun of us.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
22 District 19 Diana Livas.
23 DISTRICT 19: We're betting the farm you'll have
24 a great convention. Good morning, Madam President.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
26 District 20 Roberta Estes.
27 DISTRICT 20: We are the Cuties of District 20
28 and we have worked our program to help veterans of many.
29 Good morning, Madam President.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
31 District 21 Judy Bendzala.
32 DISTRICT 21: Good morning, Master Gardener.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
34 District 22 April Kochur.
35 DISTRICT 22: Farmer Susie raised a good crop.
36 E-I-E-I-O.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
38 District 23 Phyllis Meyi.
39 DISTRICT 23: Rocking in the 23rd District you'll
40 never miss a beat. Good morning, Madam President.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
42 District 24 Ruth Hackney.
43 DISTRICT 24: Good morning to you, good morning
44 to you, good morning, Dear Susie, how soon are we through?
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It's
46 just getting started. District 25 Tamra Duron.
47 DISTRICT 25: The 25th District Cactus Roses are
48 here. Good morning, Madam President Susie.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
50 District 26. Linda Workman, are you staying --

1 NATIONAL WESTERN VICE PRESIDENT WORKMAN: I think
2 they're here, yeah.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Who's
4 standing over there?
5 NATIONAL WESTERN VICE PRESIDENT WORKMAN: All two
6 of them are over there.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
8 District 26.
9 DISTRICT 26: The small but mighty 26th District
10 is in the house.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
12 District 27 Victoria Goodchild.
13 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: Good morning.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
15 District 28 Susan Baker.
16 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT BAKER: Good morning, Madam
17 President. The strawberry farmers are in the house.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
19 District 29 Cindy Mayfield standing in for Cheryl Neiffer.
20 DISTRICT 29: Good morning from the sweet beets,
21 Madam President.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
23 District 30 Kim Vincent.
24 DISTRICT 30: Good morning to you. Good morning
25 to you. We're all in our places with smiles on our faces.
26 Good morning, good morning, good morning to you.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
28 Hospital reps. Lorraine Sullivan.
29 HOSPITAL REP SULLIVAN: Here.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
31 Northern California/Sacramento Wendy O'Brien.
32 HOSPITAL REP O'BRIEN: Good morning again.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Central
34 California/Fresno Sandra Dowell. I know she was here.
35 HOSPITAL REP DOWELL: Good morning.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: There
37 she is. Palo Alto Connie Raya.
38 HOSPITAL REP RAYA: I'm looking for that car. I
39 think I almost found it.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's
41 looking for some car. I don't know which one. Livermore
42 Ruth Briggs.
43 HOSPITAL REP BRIGGS: Here. Good morning.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: There
45 you go. San Diego Susie Tozier.
46 HOSPITAL REP TOZIER: I think I'm here.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Loma
48 Linda Mavis Kanka.
49 HOSPITAL REP KANKA: Here.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Long

1 Beach Pat Alvarez.
2 HOSPITAL REP ALVAREZ: Here.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Greater
4 LA Earlean Paige.
5 HOSPITAL REP PAIGE: I'm here.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Barstow
7 Evangeline Acosta.
8 HOSPITAL REP ACOSTA: Good morning, Ruby.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
10 morning. Chula Vista Lois Cornish.
11 HOSPITAL REP CORNISH: I'm here.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno
13 Vets Home Rosalie Taylor.
14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I can't
16 hear or you can't hear?
17 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: We can't hear you. That's
18 rare.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
20 All right. Fresno Vets Home Rosalie Taylor. Can you hear
21 me now? Okay. Redding Terry Mikesell.
22 HOSPITAL REP MIKESELL: She's still here.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
24 Lancaster Linda Hayes.
25 HOSPITAL REP HAYES: I'm still over here.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ventura
27 Madeline Lee.
28 HOSPITAL REP LEE: Here.
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: West LA
30 Ruth Hackney.
31 HOSPITAL REP HACKNEY: Here.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And
33 Yountville Peggy Grabski. That concludes roll call, Madam
34 President.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Is somebody having
36 a hard time taking notes? If they are, it's because they
37 lost their coffee and their notepad. It's up here.
38 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Geri Fitzpatrick.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Geri, it's
40 right behind you. We found them.
41 RULES CHAIRMAN FITZPATRICK: Okay. Hang on a
42 minute and I'll get it.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Be sure to speak
44 directly into the mic.
45
46 READING OF THE CONVENTION RULES
47
48 RULES CHAIRMAN FITZPATRICK: Yesterday the
49 convention rules were read. Madam President designated
50 the doors there for entering and leaving. You can find

1 the rules on page 10 in your book. At this time I make a
2 motion that we accept the rules.

3 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:
4 Second.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: It's moved and
6 seconded -- they're on page 15. Page 15.

7 RULES CHAIRMAN FITZPATRICK: Excuse me. Page 15.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you, ladies.
13 Okay. The door is the one in the corner back there. That
14 is the door that you can come in and out of. I would like
15 to welcome Judy Lloyd, Past Department President. She
16 wasn't here yesterday. Hello, Judy.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We're going to have
19 a report of the National Executive Committee Woman Harriet
20 Clendenin.

21

22 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT

23

24 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Good morning, Madam
25 President, Distinguished Guests, Delegates. It was quite
26 an honor for me to be your National Executive Committee
27 Member this year. It goes without saying the highlight of
28 the year was attending the Washington D.C. conference in
29 February. There were several resolutions that we took
30 care of at that time. Most had to do with finance and
31 confidentiality which were passed. These issues don't
32 directly affect the departments, but there were three I
33 would like to share with you today.

34 One -- sorry. One is titled renew priority and
35 intensify efforts with the American Legion to obtain
36 American Legion Auxiliary federal charter. Many of us,
37 including myself, had thought we were already
38 congressionally chartered, and I am sorry to say that is
39 not the case. While it is true what we do matters and
40 does get reported to Congress, these reports go through
41 the American Legion.

42 The other significant resolution is in regards to
43 our strategic plan. The original wording of goal number
44 one is to achieve one million members. That has been
45 reworded to enhance membership strength. That seems
46 easier to achieve and not nearly as scary.

47 The third is to intensify efforts with the
48 American Legion to resolve IRS issues that negatively
49 impact posts and units. While we have great support in
50 California, Ruby, that isn't always the case.

1 While in Washington D.C. I had the opportunity to
 2 go to three offices of California congressmen who are on
 3 the VA subcommittee. While all three of the VA reps were
 4 in meetings, I have been able to communicate with them
 5 personally since returning about issues that directly
 6 affect our veterans. Also I was able to meet with my own
 7 congressman's staff members and have built quite a
 8 relationship with them.

9 I had been asked by National President Sharon to
 10 make sure the California congressmen on the VA
 11 subcommittee of which there were five were visited while
 12 in D.C. And thankfully Past National President Nancy
 13 Brown-Park lives in one congressman's district and Western
 14 Divisional Vice President Linda Workman lives in the
 15 district of another. Thank you to Nancy and Linda for
 16 helping me touch base with these members.

17 I look forward to going to National Convention in
 18 August and to see the new friends I have made and to
 19 finish out my year as NEC. Thank you again for allowing
 20 me to represent you all on the national level as NEC.

21 And I'll share with you one more thing. If you
 22 ever go to Washington D.C., contact your senator or
 23 congressman and set up a tour. Very worthwhile and more
 24 one on one. Also take more than three days to see the
 25 city.

26 Thank you again and, Madam President, that
 27 concludes my report.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you. It's
 29 kind of nice. This is the President's report.

30

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT

32

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Growing the
 34 American Legion Family for Veterans was my theme this
 35 year. This theme was to encourage growth in the family
 36 for the veterans and their families. Working together
 37 allows units and districts to increase their resources,
 38 time, money, of course I put time in again, and
 39 volunteers. With teamwork we could reach more veterans
 40 and communities providing them support. Being a volunteer
 41 is the heart of the organization. Each member provides a
 42 valuable skill. Each skill makes the organization great.

43 In the fall along with our VA&R Chairman Loretta
 44 Marsh, we traveled to hospitals and homes. The work that
 45 the Auxiliary does is very valuable. The Reps and Deps
 46 are our ears to the needs of the patients. The bingos,
 47 parties, gifts show that we are there to show -- to make
 48 their lives better. Even with a smile.

49 My first visit to the districts was District 16.
 50 My last visit was to the Redwoods of District 1. Because

1 of the meeting schedules, I attended a Law & Order
2 function in District 3, which was absolutely wonderful.
3 It was great to see how important this community valued
4 this recognition.

5 I attended a family picnic in District 12, and my
6 two-and-a-half-year-old partner and I did quite well in
7 the water balloon toss contest. It brought me back
8 memories of when post and Unit 6 used to go to Admiral
9 Baker Field for our family picture -- picnic. I'm sorry.

10 I attended a Girls State tea in District 30.
11 Seeing the young women of the future from District 30 was
12 very thrilling.

13 At the visitations the common theme was how to
14 make National goals. In California we need to stop the
15 slide. We are losing more members than gaining new
16 members. It is very hard in some areas. The weather and
17 the distance in locations makes it hard for members.
18 People are too busy to think they can volunteer. It is
19 time to think outside the box. How can we incorporated
20 technology into our meetings. Why not use the telephone
21 conference, teleconference, or Skype.

22 The veteran families have busy lives. How can we
23 get them interested? How can we reach them? District 12
24 participated in the butterfly festival. They had free
25 prizes for those who completed raffle entries. From these
26 entries they obtained names of potential members. Some
27 use the Unit 1,000 members to move them back into the
28 units. Some contacted joint members to renew their
29 membership.

30 I found the hardest place for membership is in
31 the northern units. The districts are down to only two
32 units. Somehow we have to figure out how we can help them
33 increase their membership. They work really hard.

34 Don't forget the branding. Wear clothing showing
35 the Auxiliary emblem. Make out business cards with the
36 unit point of contact information. Participate in local
37 events by having information booths. Slowly but surely
38 you will make contact. But not doing anything you will
39 not succeed. Getting new volunteers is not just the
40 American Legion Auxiliary problem. All other
41 organizations are having the same problem. Don't be
42 afraid to try something new.

43 This year has been fun and an adventure. Loretta
44 Marsh and I were asked to be audience participants on the
45 James Codern show. Learning how to navigate the highways
46 of Los Angeles was a challenge. I watched 200 motorcycles
47 on their Christmas toy run in Marysville. And last, but
48 not least, bringing five pounds of apricots on an
49 airplane. It was the gorgeous clock that was stopped at
50 the checkpoint.

1 The members I met were wonderful. I learned so
2 much from you. I found different ways to do goals. I
3 want to thank you for the opportunity to be your
4 department president. You make a difference. Each member
5 is important. Keep up the goodwill. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Now we'll
8 have Wendy O'Brien.

9

10 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT

11

12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning,
13 Madam President. It's been an honor this year serving
14 under you as your vice president. This feedback is crazy.
15 I feel like I'm talking to myself.

16 I didn't have to do a lot of things this year
17 because Madam President was able to accomplish all the
18 things that I set up for her. However, she did send me on
19 a couple of errands. One was I went to Junior Conference
20 which was in Wonder Valley. I got there at 8:00 o'clock
21 at night and I had to get up at 4:00 o'clock in the
22 morning, go all the way to where they were holding the
23 department ALR meeting to bring greetings from the
24 president. So I did that with the president sleeping in
25 the bed that I walked out of. So needless to say, I was
26 thrilled to do that. I really enjoyed it.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: I want you to know,
28 being the short person I got the bunkbed with this much
29 room and Wendy and Anita got the doubles.

30 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She had to
31 suffer. She had to suffer for making me do that.

32 Anyway, it was a great honor to do that for her
33 and also to be able to go to the capitol for the
34 Legislative Day and represent the Department. And I thank
35 you for this opportunity and I wish you a great
36 convention. And I hope you have a good time this evening.
37 Thank you so much.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Secretary/Treasurer
40 Ruby.

41

42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER CONVENTION REPORT

43

44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam
45 Department President, it's great to be standing before the
46 California delegates and giving my report because that
47 means most of my work in preparation for convention is
48 almost done and I have over 500 volunteers available if I
49 need help. It can't get any better than that.

50 First order of business, I would like to

1 introduce Karen -- Karen, I'm sorry if I crucify your last
2 name, but Karen Aufdermaur who will be serving as our
3 convention reporter. Please give her a warm Auxiliary
4 welcome.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We were
7 fortunate to obtain her services through Roberta Ehlers
8 Court Reporting & Videography, the same company that did
9 our reporting last year.

10 Secondly would be to bring greetings to all of
11 our members from the office staff. Janeen Thomas, Imelda
12 Cruz and myself want to thank the members for all the
13 courtesies and cooperation you've extended and given to us
14 throughout the year. It's hard to believe that in January
15 both have been working for you and the Department three
16 years and in September will be three years that I have
17 served as the Department Secretary/Treasurer.

18 There are two other volunteer employees that have
19 done a tremendous job for the past three years, and they
20 are Terry Mikesell and Pilar Reyes.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Terry
23 and Pilar, please stand. Where are you?

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
26 you for always being there and doing what you can whenever
27 called. I view both of you as Tony the Tigers. You're
28 great. Thanks to the help of these ladies, the Department
29 hasn't paid any overtime nor had to hire any additional
30 help during peak workloads for the past three years.

31 (Applause.)

32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: They
33 have saved this Department a tremendous amount of time and
34 money. Thank you, Terry and Pilar. You are truly great.

35 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER REYES: You're very
36 welcome.

37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: There
38 have been other volunteers that help. Lorraine Sullivan,
39 Tammy Manini, Robin Falkenberg, and Diane DeLashmit even
40 drove all the way to San Francisco and stayed four to five
41 days to help. Thank you, ladies.

42 There are 30 additional Tony the Tigers that
43 deserve recognition and appreciation, and they are the
44 district presidents. I have relied on them throughout the
45 year for many things and they followed through like
46 champions. Thank you for all your help and an outstanding
47 job. It has been a pleasure working with each of you.

48 There is one above all others that has gone above
49 and beyond for this organization, and that is my husband,
50 Art.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: A great
3 big debt, deep gratitude and loads of love for all his
4 support and always being there.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: The
7 Department now has 161 units, 15 districts, and six units
8 with two logons that are signed up as live units or units
9 that have signed up to have access to their unit
10 membership information on the National ALA Management
11 Information System. From all the feedback that I have
12 received, all love it and feel it is a very valuable
13 membership tool. All live units are asked to go into the
14 unit leaders tab and list all the newly elected officers
15 and chairmen for your units.

16 It is also -- it is also a great time saver and
17 benefit for the Department of California if all live units
18 enter all new members into the ALA MIS system. Please
19 print a receipt and send in with your membership. This
20 saves the Department a lot of time posting dues into the
21 system. If any unit or district is not signed up, it is
22 very simple to sign up. Simply send an email to the
23 Department Secretary/Treasurer requesting your unit be
24 signed up, giving the name and good email of the member
25 who will be serving as the point of contact, and then you
26 pay \$10 fee per logon annually in September. And, oh, by
27 the way, this fee has been added to the bottom of the
28 Department donation form to make it easy to send in fees
29 when you send your donations to Department.

30 Paying dues online was initiated this year and as
31 of this writing, 624 members from 174 out of 258 units
32 paid their dues online. A list of all the dues paid
33 online is posted and updated weekly on the website under
34 membership and is sorted by unit numbers. Live units can
35 obtain a list of all their members that have paid online
36 any time they want just by logging into the ALA MIS system
37 and going to unit reports and clicking on paid dues
38 online, and it will give you a complete listing of
39 everybody in your unit that has paid online.

40 As far as the Department is concerned, getting
41 the unit portion of their dues to them for members paying
42 online hasn't been a tremendous burden and sending credit
43 memos to those units whose portion is less than \$10 is
44 working out real well and more cost effective than cutting
45 checks. I do hope it is working well for the units, and
46 if anyone is having any problems, please don't hesitate to
47 contact me.

48 Next year of the 2016-'17 membership year,
49 members will no longer have to pay dues to the old unit if
50 they are delinquent in their dues before they can

1 transfer. This is going to be a change in the new
2 handbook that's coming out. So a member that wants to
3 transfer can pay any unit they want to. They do not have
4 to pay the one that they belong to because they're not
5 going there. And the reason for this is a lot of members
6 don't want to pay the old unit, but we're losing members
7 so the national organization decided this. It was redone,
8 and so henceforth a member can pay whatever unit they
9 want.

10 Renewals for 2016-'17 can be sent to Department
11 starting in July, however, new members for the 2016-'17
12 membership year will not be accepted until September 1st.
13 If you do not want a new member processed for 2016, this
14 is new members only, do not send them to Department until
15 or after September 1st. And the reason for this is
16 National -- as long as we post members in before two
17 thousand -- I mean before September 2016, they are still
18 working on their membership year through the end of
19 August. And if we at the Department level post your
20 members dues before September 1st, a new member, they will
21 be counted for 2016, not 2017.

22 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL: Ruby,
23 that includes adding them into ALA MIS before September
24 1st. So if they add them in before September 1st --

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Right.
26 And if you're an ALA MIS unit, live unit, don't even add
27 them into the system until after September 1st. Because
28 when you add them into the MIS system, it puts those
29 members over there in pending and you don't want to do
30 that. So renewals you can start sending in July, no
31 problem at all. New members, remember September 1st. Do
32 nothing before September 1st.

33 Okay. District Presidents can pick up their
34 2016-'17 membership cards for all units in their district
35 in the Department convention office. Please make sure
36 that it's distributed to all units. And we're going to
37 designate the time because Terry Mikesell is going to
38 volunteer to help me get these cards distributed, so you
39 can see me at lunch.

40 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL: Lunch
41 tomorrow.

42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
43 Starting at lunch tomorrow. If you don't know -- does
44 everybody know where the office is? No? Okay. It's
45 upstairs on the second floor. Get out of the elevator,
46 turn left, meander around, and it's right around there.
47 It's easy to find.

48 After elections on Saturday, national delegates
49 and alternates can pick up their packets in the convention
50 department office. Please note that there is time

1 sensitive information in these packets. Deadline for
2 reservations is July 22nd, 2016. Reservations for the
3 States Dinner must be in no later than July 29th or the
4 price increases. Hotel reservations and checks for the
5 commander's banquet tickets are to be sent directly to the
6 Legion in Sanger, and all other reservations for States
7 Dinner, guest badges, and alternate badges and checks are
8 to be sent to the Department office in San Francisco.

9 So that's a Legion -- if you're going to National
10 and you want -- normally the housing is reserved by the
11 American Legion. You would put your housing reservation
12 directly to the Legion giving them the credit card and
13 then you pay for your Commander's Banquet to the Legion.
14 Those are the only two things that go to Sanger.
15 Everything else comes to San Francisco and made payable to
16 the ALA Department of California.

17 In working with the Department Chaplain Susan
18 Baker this year and the Chaplain's death list with the
19 list of deceased members from the National ALA management
20 information system, it was discovered that approximately
21 90 members who passed on are still in the national
22 membership database. A membership database is only as
23 good as the information in it and it's vital that
24 information be kept up-to-date and current.

25 The only way to get these members removed from
26 the database is by sending a member data form to
27 Department. Sending in two forms, the death notice to the
28 District and the Department Chaplain and a member data
29 form to Department has for many years been very confusing
30 for units, and I am very pleased that Department Chaplain
31 introduced a code change in her committee meeting reducing
32 death notification to one form, eliminating the chaplain's
33 death notice and sending in only the member data form. We
34 hope that you will support this change.

35 The Department Chaplain will work with the
36 department office to provide whatever copy is needed by
37 the Department Chaplain so that she can fulfill the
38 requirements of her job to provide her at the district
39 level, whatever information you need for your memorial
40 ceremony.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Ruby, I need to
42 leave to go to the Legion. Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and
43 Marshal go with me? Would you please come to the stage
44 and escort me. Wendy, I need you to come. I get to
45 runaway.

46 (Processional.)

47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: For the
48 past couple of years the cost of charms for the
49 President's Club has increased to \$10. And finding a
50 company to make the President's Club charms has been a

1 challenge, to say the least. Because the Department
2 President's pin is so detailed, when it is reduced to fit
3 the size of a charm, it is so small it's hard to see what
4 it is.

5 This year we had to make a change with little
6 time to do it, so an administrative decision was made to
7 order a key chain because we couldn't get a charm. In the
8 future the Department President is going to have to look
9 at what is available and choose the gift of her choice to
10 be given to all the members of the President's Club. The
11 key chain is absolutely beautiful and think everyone will
12 like it. It has little places for little charms.

13 For all of you who normally sign up for the
14 President's Club and have forgotten or haven't had a
15 chance to do so, I do -- Karen Munch at Ways & Means has
16 the forms and I do have the cards here which will be
17 presented later on at Madam President's luncheon. So you
18 do have time to sign up. See Karen Munch and she also --
19 if you want to look at the charm, Karen has that available
20 so that you can look at them.

21 As we've gotten more and more into the electronic
22 world, more and more questions arise as to electronic
23 voting. As quoted from an email from the ALA National
24 Secretary, "The ALA Department of California's and Unit's
25 bylaws or business practices need to conform to the
26 e-voting requirements/permissions as provided in state law
27 governing organizations incorporated in the State of
28 California. Most states have laws regarding how annual
29 meetings, notice requirements, and business must be
30 conducted by corporations headquartered in that state.
31 Usually that government office is the Secretary of State
32 or whatever state office oversees state corporation
33 filings."

34 If the State of California has no applicable laws
35 re e-voting for state corporation, then the subject of
36 electronic voting would be governed by Robert's Rules.

37 Now you know California has laws. In California
38 we've got a lot of -- a law for everything. California of
39 course does have laws. Under Section 5211(b) of the
40 Nonprofit Corporation Law, a board can take action outside
41 of a duly held meeting only if all directors consent to
42 the action in writing. I'm not going into that. It's
43 a -- but I just wanted to make you aware it exists because
44 there are questions out there by units. This applies to
45 nonprofit public benefit, mutual benefit, and even
46 religious corporations.

47 There's only one exception to the unanimity
48 requirement for written consent: When a board is
49 approving a transaction involving a conflict of interest
50 or a transaction where it shares one or more directors

1 with the counterparty, for public benefit corporation,
2 Section 5233 and 5234 respectfully, the interested or
3 common directors do not need to be counted and the consent
4 can be unanimous without their input. That's only a
5 conflict of interest.

6 Anyway, there have been a lot of questions and
7 you need to know that these laws -- we are a corporation
8 and we are required as a nonprofit to operate under
9 California's corporate laws. And the Secretary of State,
10 there's a lot of it on the Internet. If you need more
11 information on it, dig into it. And I'm sure that the
12 direction of the Department will change in the future
13 about how this is handled, but that's all I'm going to
14 highlight at this point.

15 The Department annual audit was completed and
16 distributed by email to all Department Executive Committee
17 members. The 2015 Convention Book of Proceedings is
18 finally done and will be distributed or in some cases has
19 already been distributed to those who ordered or are
20 designated to receive them. I'd like to thank Terry
21 Mikesell for getting the copies made and bringing them
22 with her to convention.

23 Taxes. I believe the majority of our units and
24 districts are doing really well, but there are still a few
25 with lots of problems. Units do not need -- units do need
26 to make sure they have their own Employer Identification
27 Number. Do not use the post EIN. This will get you in
28 more trouble than you'll ever know. IRS has been
29 attaching Auxiliary unit's bank accounts or billing them
30 to the tune of four, \$5,000 because the unit or post are
31 using the same EIN. In some cases the post is using the
32 Auxiliary's EIN. So be careful. Make sure your unit is
33 separate from that post.

34 And I will tell you another thing that's really
35 scary. If that post closed and your unit stays alive,
36 they're coming after you for whatever bills that post
37 owed. A grieving widow. So anyway, they're serious.
38 They're not going to let up. They don't want us
39 unincorporated units. We're nonprofit. We're a headache.
40 Too many of them to the IRS, so they're not going to make
41 it easy for us. So you just make sure -- and make sure
42 that your officers -- find out where your minutes are,
43 your tax records are kept and passed on. Because don't
44 put it in the hands of somebody who's going to get mad,
45 quit the Auxiliary, and take them with her. Because
46 you're going to have a mess on your hands trying to
47 recreate all those records. It can be done. It is not
48 going to be easy. So anyway, guard safe your unit.

49 Units are going to be hearing more and more about
50 the Auxiliary's strategic plan that all the departments

1 are working, and one goal that I would like to see adopted
2 by members in the units is goal number two, enhancing a
3 culture of goodwill.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I truly
6 believe that once this goal is achieved, all other goals
7 of the strategic plan will fall into place. You will hear
8 more about these plans and how they will work when the
9 committee gives their report, but the reason for my
10 comments is I wanted to share with each of you that the
11 one part of this job that bothered me most and very
12 disheartening were the numerous calls received from either
13 units or members in our department experiencing
14 personality conflicts or unkind treatment.

15 I challenge each of you to pledge and make a
16 commitment of creating a culture of goodwill with everyone
17 you come in contact with, and especially with our members
18 and in our units and our district. Let's be the best that
19 we can be and step up to the challenge of making our
20 units, districts, and Department a place every member is
21 proud to say they belong.

22 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Bravo.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: One
25 last reminder. For all donations to National, please fill
26 out -- please, National -- there is a National donation
27 form, and any time you send money to National you must
28 fill out that form. And send the money with that form
29 directly to National. Do not send your checks payable to
30 ALA Department of California when it's for AEF because we
31 don't have a department AEF account. Those are all
32 donations directed to National. But even on the National
33 donation form there are two ways that you have to make
34 those checks. Some of those donations are going to the
35 foundation and some are going to ALA National
36 headquarters.

37 Treasurers, you have to be careful. You have to
38 look at the form, put your -- the amount of money you're
39 donating and send the form directly to National
40 headquarters. If you would like to send the department a
41 copy of the form, that's fine, but we really don't need a
42 copy and I think I'm going to remove that on the National
43 form because we can always get the information directly
44 from National if we need to know how much has been donated
45 in different areas. So it may be less confusing, believe
46 me.

47 I've got checks made out to ALA Department of
48 California, and then I have to turn around and either
49 deposit them and rewrite a check to the Department of
50 California or endorse them on the back to say payable to

1 ALA National headquarters or the foundation depending on
2 what the donation is for.

3 But if you could do that, that will save the
4 bookkeeper a lot of headaches. Because she can't endorse
5 them. I can endorse them, but I don't work in the office
6 every day. I usually go up like every two weeks.

7 With that, Madam President, it has been a
8 challenging year, but always a pleasure serving this great
9 department. Have a super convention.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so
12 much, Ruby. Okay. And now we're going to have the
13 Chaplain Susan Baker give her report.

14

15 CHAPLAIN CONVENTION REPORT

16

17 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Okay. Madam Vice
18 President, Madam President, the convention committee on
19 chaplains met on June 23rd, 2016 in Room 2008 of the
20 Fresno Convention Center, Fresno, California.

21 The statistical report of this chairman appears
22 on page 23 in the Book of Reports. Carol Fuqua, District
23 25, Unit 777 was appointed secretary; Geri Johnston,
24 District -- I'm sorry. District 21, Unit 53 offered
25 prayer; and Connie Raya, District 28, Unit 694 was
26 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 26 district
27 delegates answered roll call. There were eight visitors
28 present.

29 The committee agreed upon the following report.
30 The code was read and the following change to code number
31 2 was approved by the committee. The present code reads:
32 "The chaplain will forward each month a listing of
33 deceased members. Copies to be forwarded to the
34 Department Office, Editor, and a courtesy copy to the
35 Department President."

36 The committee voted to amend code 2 to read as
37 follows: "The chaplain will request a list of deceased
38 members from the Department Office each month for posting
39 to the Department website. A courtesy copy will be shared
40 with the Department President."

41 The rationale for this is currently two forms
42 must be filled out by units -- okay. Let me start again.
43 Currently two forms must be filled out by units for
44 deceased members: the member data form and the death
45 notice. Since this is not only confusing for units and
46 the same objective can be accomplished by eliminating the
47 chaplain's death notice and filling out only one form,
48 which must be filled out anyway, the member data form, and
49 submitting it to the department office. The department
50 office already makes these changes to get deceased members

1 off the mailing list and into the ALA management intranet
2 system, which has the capability of outputting a report in
3 whatever format is needed, and that report will show all
4 deceased members for whatever date you want.

5 By adopting this change there will be less
6 confusion, less work, less paper, and less posting all
7 around by units and the Department Chaplain. It's a
8 win-win situation for everyone.

9 Is there any -- I move -- I lost my place. I'm
10 sorry. By direction of the committee, I move this code
11 change be adopted.

12 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:
13 Second.

14 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excuse me.
15 There is a motion on the floor and a second to change code
16 2 of the Chaplains code which currently reads: "The
17 chaplain will forward each month a list of deceased
18 members. Copies to be forwarded to the Department Office,
19 Editor, and a courtesy copy to the Department President."

20 The change will be: "The chaplain will request a
21 list of deceased members from the Department Office each
22 month posting to the Department website. A courtesy copy
23 will be shared with the Department President."

24 All those in favor?

25 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

26 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excuse me.
27 Any discussion?

28 (No response.)

29 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
30 favor?

31 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

32 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?

33 (No response.)

34 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion
35 carries.

36 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Thank you.
37 Certificates for 100 percent reporting were awarded to 16
38 District Chaplains. A total of 24 districts reported.
39 Certificates of appreciation were presented to each
40 District Chaplain for their service throughout the year as
41 well as a personal gift from this Chaplain. Second and
42 third place awards were presented in committee. A
43 complete listing of awards will be posted in the
44 department office following this report.

45 This completes the report of the Chaplains
46 committee meeting. By direction of the committee I move
47 the adoption of this report.

48 (Applause.)

49 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: With your permission,
50 Madam President, may I continue with the first place

1 awards and a short supplemental report?
2 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may.
3 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Where are my people?
4 Okay. Why don't you come up close? The first award is
5 the Chapel of Four Chaplains Largest District Donation,
6 and the award goes to District No. 22, District Chaplain
7 Jean Howard.
8 (Applause.)
9 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Second award Chapel
10 of Four Chaplains Largest Donation for a Unit goes to
11 District 18, East Pasadena Unit 280, Rodica Andreescu.
12 (Applause.)
13 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Next award is the In
14 Loving Tribute Largest District Donation, and this one
15 goes to District 22, Jean Howard, chaplain.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Let me just tell you
18 the largest district donation for Four Chaplains was \$410
19 and the largest for unit was \$200. In Loving Tribute
20 largest district donation was \$426.
21 Now we have In Loving Tribute Largest Unit
22 Donation. This one goes to Bombay Beach Unit 801,
23 District 30, Pat Sinibaldi.
24 (Applause.)
25 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: And our next one --
26 it's cut out. I think Ruby used all of it. Can I borrow
27 your mic? It's not working.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I wore
29 it out.
30 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Okay. Can you hear
31 me? The next award is First Place In Loving Tribute Unit
32 Donation, and it goes to Monterey Cypress Unit 694,
33 District 28. They had a \$200 donation.
34 (Applause.)
35 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: And then we have --
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Gloria?
37 Gloria, we're broken.
38 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The sound
39 system is broken.
40 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Okay. Let's see.
41 Most cards for various occasions with a total of 4,339
42 cards sent by District No. 22, Jean Howard, Chaplain.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: First place greeting
45 cards, most cards sent by a unit, 2,944 cards, District
46 22, Alpine Unit 258.
47 (Applause.)
48 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: You should just stay
49 up here. Next award is the Best District Supplemental
50 Report, and it goes to District 21, Alma Jarquin,

1 Chaplain.

2 (Applause.)

3 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: The next one is First
4 Place Best Unit Supplemental Report goes to District 28,
5 Monterey Cypress Unit 694, Michelle Soares, Chaplain.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Now we're down to the
8 big stuff. This one is First Place Best District Prayer
9 Book. District 25, Carol Fuqua.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: First Place Best Unit
12 Prayer Book goes to District 27, Unit 684, Francis
13 Fortneg, Chaplain.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: And finally we had
16 juniors enter the prayer book competition this year. Very
17 exciting. So First Place Best Unit Prayer Book By Junior
18 Members goes to District 11, McFall-Grisham Unit No. 249.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Congratulations to
21 each of the units, district, and especially our
22 hardworking chaplains. Shall I just keep shouting?

23 Madam President, the Auxiliary Chaplains
24 throughout California have joined this Chaplain to
25 continue our work as spiritual advisors for our veterans,
26 communities, and the California Farm Team, offering among
27 other things prayers of encouragement and comfort, kind
28 words and deeds and spiritual uplifting throughout the
29 2015-'16 years.

30 Many of our unit chaplains reported encouraging
31 their junior members to participate in and be part of the
32 draping of the charter and memorial services and assist
33 with invocations, benedictions, and grace at unit and post
34 events.

35 We began the year at the Clovis workshop where we
36 became acquainted with the Chaplain program and learned
37 about the ever so many ways in which a chaplain can be of
38 service. In January at the Department DEC meeting in Long
39 Beach, I was blessed to personally meet and speak with
40 several chaplains. There I learned about some of the
41 concerns that unit and district chaplains have been
42 experiencing with the flow of information and the process
43 for reporting member deaths. Hopefully member approval of
44 the code change mentioned earlier will simplify the
45 reporting process for both units and chaplains this coming
46 here.

47 This ALA Department of California Chaplain
48 attended the Clovis workshop, the Roseville workshop, the
49 Department Executive Committee Meeting, the Chapel of Four
50 Chaplains at Fort Ord and through my unit donated -- sorry

1 to use that word "donated," to the In Loving Tribute fund.
2 Additionally this Chaplain sent a total of 154 greeting
3 cards for various occasions. And finally we just
4 concluded the annual memorial service for deceased
5 members.

6 The Department of California Sunshine Girls have
7 worked diligently to provide comfort and caring words and
8 do good deeds for Auxiliary members, their families, and
9 veterans. One unit chaplain assumed responsibility for
10 handling the cremation arrangements and funeral services
11 for another member who the deceased family refused to come
12 forth and take charge. Another unit chaplain and members
13 created a Wall of Honor at their post home, complete with
14 pictures of all deceased members.

15 Another district chaplain implemented a project
16 called Grace With Meals. Prayers for various occasions
17 were gathered, some were modified to suit different
18 occasions. The prayers were then printed on table tent
19 cards and used for all major holidays and POW/MIA day.
20 The cards were sold for \$1 each and the money is deposited
21 into a district In Loving Tribute Fund which allows the
22 chaplain -- the chaplain is being tested. Are you live?
23 Are you live?

24 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER BIGGS: We have juice.

25 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's the
26 torch runner.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Another unit chaplain
29 and members created a Wall of Honor at their post home
30 complete with pictures of all deceased members. A
31 district chaplain implemented a project entitled Grace
32 With Meals. Prayers for various occasions were gathered,
33 some were modified to suit different occasions. The
34 prayers were then printed on table tent cards and used for
35 all major holidays and POW/MIA Day. The cards are sold
36 for \$1 each and the money is deposited into a district In
37 Loving Tribute Fund which allows the chaplain to make In
38 Loving Tribute donations on behalf of the district.

39 And yet another district chaplain honored the
40 memory of the 14 lives lost in the San Bernardino
41 California massacre last December at her district meeting.
42 A single white candle was lighted and the chaplain shared
43 with members a prayer that had recently been printed in
44 her local newspaper to honor the victims and those who
45 were wounded that day. As you can see we chaplains serve
46 in very diverse ways.

47 Our chaplains have spent hundreds of hours
48 visiting with the homebound, elderly members and veterans.
49 We've made uncountable visits to VA hospitals, Fisher
50 House facilities, and nursing homes that house veterans.

1 We've sung carols at hospitals and senior centers and
2 presided at memorial service and Draping the Charter
3 ceremonies for deceased members. Many of us have attended
4 funeral services, spent countless hours with grieving
5 families, offered prayers and provided caring words,
6 thoughts, and hugs to those in need.

7 We have visited hospitalized members, sat with
8 families in hospital waiting rooms while a loved one
9 underwent a surgery and we have witnessed firsthand the
10 pain of suffering and the finality of death. We have
11 attended vigils, viewings at funeral homes and we've
12 shared joyous laughter on happier occasions and cried with
13 grieving families. And yet, we chaplains still manage to
14 go carry on wherever and whenever needed. Our abiding
15 faith in God and community somehow sees us through.

16 Madam President, thank you for this appointment.
17 It has been my honor to serve as your Chaplain this year.
18 This concludes my report.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you,
21 Susan.

22 (Processional.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We woke up the
24 Legion. Do you have any idea what it is like to walk in
25 with the scarecrows? I have been threatened by two straw
26 people with that thing.

27 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: Madam President, may
28 I approach your station --

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

30 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: -- to present your
31 prayer book? This is from me and all of the chaplains in
32 the Department of California.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you very
34 much.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN BAKER: You missed all the
37 fun.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Parliamentarian
39 Diane DeLashmit. Followed by the Musician.

40

41 PARLIAMENTARIAN CONVENTION REPORT

42

43 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Good morning, Madam
44 President Susie. Another year has come and gone and the
45 pages of the Farmers' Almanac are tattered and torn for
46 being used so much. Even though California is in a
47 drought, there has been no shortage of weeds in our
48 garden. In fact, I think we have had a bumper crop of
49 requests for advice and solutions to numerous situations.
50 Each year seems to get worse for problems within our units

1 and districts. Many are common problems from previous
2 years and others seem to be quite unique.

3 A major concern is a lack of leadership and
4 knowledge of our relationship with the American Legion.
5 We need to provide more education on who we are and what
6 we do. New members don't automatically become well versed
7 in the Auxiliary when they sign an application. It takes
8 years of attending conventions, workshops, unit and
9 district meetings as you take in a little information at a
10 time.

11 More seasoned members need to mentor newer
12 members or there will be no one to take over when the
13 older members or more seasoned members are no longer with
14 us. Holding the same positions for years on end is not
15 helping your unit or your district.

16 (Applause.)

17 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: There were many
18 requests concerning a lack of officers and how to proceed.
19 Do we offer to them help and really mean it? So many
20 times I get, oh, I'm available, and when they have a
21 question, no one is there to help. Invite them to attend
22 workshops. And I know this is a daunting task. Getting
23 them there is not easy. The ones that need it the most
24 don't avail themselves of the opportunity. Often we are
25 preaching to the choir. A lot of the answers are found in
26 the unit bylaws. I recommend that the bylaws be studied
27 perhaps one article at each meeting.

28 It was suggested that a Parliamentarian Corner be
29 added to our website. I received many remarks in favor
30 and many shared how they were using it. There were five
31 articles submitted, and I confess I sort of fizzled out
32 the last few months. I will continue to do this next
33 year, however, I need your questions that are of interest
34 to you so please submit those inquiries.

35 Kudos to 5th Area Commander Ed Grimsley for his
36 remarks at his last meeting of June 12th. He began by
37 holding an Auxiliary charter and stating that during his
38 travels he encountered many problems with relationships
39 between the two organizations. He told his assembly that
40 the Auxiliary has their own charter and programs that
41 enhance the Legion's. Some posts feel the Auxiliary does
42 nothing for them, however the Auxiliary's many hours of
43 service are recorded and that reflects on the Legion. He
44 emphasized that the Auxiliary volunteers receive no pay
45 and many of the Legionnaires receive a stipend for what
46 they do. It was great to have a Legionnaire speak to his
47 members on our behalf.

48 Madam President, this concludes my report.

49 (Applause.)

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you, Diane.

1 The Parliamentarian Corner on the website is really a
2 great tool. She gives us really some good advice and it's
3 there for everybody to reach everybody.

4 Kathy, and then followed by Sergeant-at-Arms and
5 Marshal who are not talking to me.

6 Can we have the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal up
7 here with the Musician, and then the Convention Chairman
8 Gloria Sinopoli.

9

10 MUSICIAN CONVENTION REPORT

11

12 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Good morning. Can you
13 hear me? Good morning, Madam President.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You need to speak
15 directly into the microphone.

16 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Good morning, Madam
17 President. First of all, I want to say that this system
18 was plan B, so we're doing the best we can to solve a
19 problem, which is what we do every day; right?

20 The Musician committee met June 23rd, 2016 in
21 Room 2009 of the Fresno Convention Center. Brenda Sheriff
22 was appointed sergeant-at-arms, Pilar Reyes served as
23 chaplain, and Jean Cooley-Desmeules was appointed
24 secretary. Fourteen districts answered roll call and we
25 had three guests.

26 The Old McDonald song contest for Madam
27 Department President's theme brought four entries for
28 consideration. The names and locations of the song
29 writers were announced. We had an informal discussion
30 related to ideas that the music lovers in the room would
31 like to suggest for future music programs for the American
32 Legion Auxiliary.

33 Here are a few of the ideas. Put the words to
34 patriotic songs on the ALA website. Bring back unit,
35 district, and department choirs, including competitions
36 and combined choirs at department meetings. Develop song
37 books by unit and district. Create children's song books.
38 Encourage ALA members to take advantage of providing
39 music/singing at assisted living and nursing homes
40 occupied by veterans.

41 Madam Department President Susie, that concludes
42 my report. May I continue with my supplemental and the
43 first place winner?

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

45 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Did you send out
47 notes?

48 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: I did.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Will people please
50 come forward?

1 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Where's my -- anybody
2 that received a note from the Musician, please come
3 forward.

4 Good Morning Department President Susie, National
5 and Department Officers, Chairmen and ALA members. I'm
6 Cali-Kat and I've been playing music with my Wash Tub Band
7 all over California bringing joy, laughter, and line
8 dancing to the American Legion Family. We can honestly
9 see the abundance of the seeds we planted on the farms
10 around this great state of California.

11 The farmers in the dell reaped the benefits of
12 our rain dancing and the crops are flourishing. Music is
13 a universal language. We use it to express emotions,
14 moods, to celebrate events, drown our broken hearts, and
15 to sing our babies to sleep.

16 Madam President, may I take a personal point?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

18 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you. Let's watch
19 what happens next.

20 (Music playing.)

21 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you, Kathleen,
22 for signing. It was very beautiful. Within the first few
23 notes something magical happens. The music brought
24 smiles, remembrance, and the respect for the brave men and
25 women who continue to give their lives for our freedom.
26 Right now at this moment we are united with deep heartfelt
27 pride and love for our great country, proud to be
28 Americans. Music is powerful, and I encourage the use of
29 this great tool as we continue to carry out the mission of
30 our great organization.

31 (Singing) American Legion Auxiliary working for
32 our vets. And where we go we volunteer doing our very
33 best. We work work here, volunteer there, raise money
34 here, serve meals there, you will see us everywhere
35 working for our vets. President Susie is our guide
36 helping us along. She tells us to work very hard and we
37 can't go wrong. Attend meetings here, give reports there,
38 lend helping hands, make more plans. President Susie is
39 our guide, we're working side by side. We are gathered as
40 a team, all to share our stats. And as we share we laugh
41 and sing, it's all about congrats. With membership stats
42 and Girls State plans, sometimes chairmen share too much.
43 Is it happy hour yet?

44 (Applause.)

45 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you. And now I
46 would like to announce the first place winners of the Old
47 McDonald song. District 23, Unit 252, Joyce Patton and
48 Leola Dumas.

49 (Applause.)

50 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: And they're going to

1 sing for us. She got 50 bucks in cash. Thank you. Thank
2 you, Sharon.

3 MS. PATTON: This is the 23rd District's song and
4 it includes the whole 23rd District. So I'd like the 23rd
5 District to kind of join in. Stand up 23rd. There you
6 go. Susie Tozier Had a Farm. Okay. Here we go.

7 DISTRICT 23: Susie Tozier had a farm and what a
8 farm it was. And on her farm she had some beets, 23rd
9 District beets. With a beet beet here and a beet beet
10 there, here a beet, there a beet, everywhere a beet beet.
11 Susie Tozier had a farm, and what a farm it was. And on
12 her farm was 46, and, oh, how hard they worked. There was
13 Americanism here, Americanism there, here Americanism,
14 there Americanism, everywhere Americanism. Susie Tozier
15 had a farm and what a farm it was. And on her farm worked
16 228, oh, how hard they worked. There was Education here,
17 Education there, here Education, there Education,
18 everywhere Education. Susie Tozier had a farm and what a
19 farm it was. And on her farm were 252, and, oh, how hard
20 they worked. They had AEF here, AEF there, here AEF,
21 there AEF, everywhere AEF. Susie Tozier had a farm, and
22 what a farm it was. And on her farm worked 335, and, oh,
23 how hard they worked. They worked Community Service here,
24 Community Service there, here Community Service, there
25 Community Service, Community Service everywhere, Susie
26 Tozier had a farm, and what a farm it was. And on her
27 farm worked 369 --

28 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Who is 369?

29 MS. PATTON: 369.

30 DISTRICT 23: And, oh, how hard they worked.
31 They worked Children & Youth here and Children & Youth
32 there, here Children & Youth, there Children & Youth,
33 everywhere Children & Youth. Susie Tozier had a farm, and
34 what a farm it was. And on her farm worked 378, and, oh,
35 how hard they worked. They worked Girls State here and
36 Girls State there, here Girls State, there Girls State,
37 everywhere Girls State. Susie Tozier had a farm, and what
38 a farm it was. And on her farm worked 784, and, oh, how
39 hard they worked. They worked Poppies here and Poppies
40 there, here a poppy, there a poppy, everywhere a poppy.
41 Susie Tozier had a farm, and what a farm it was. And now
42 the farm is ready to plow, Girls State, Poppy home. They
43 plowed Americanism here and Education there, AEF there.
44 Susie Tozier had a farm, and what a farm it was.

45 (Applause.)

46 MUSICIAN CHAIRMAN SMITH: One of the things they
47 got extra points for was for collaboration. Madam
48 President, that concludes my report. Thank you for this
49 appointment. It's been a pleasure and let's keep rocking
50 it out.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you. Will
3 the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please escort our
4 distinguished guest from the American Legion Riders.

5 (Processional.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We have Mick
7 Sobczak and he's from Post 139 in San Diego or Escondido.

8 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Hello, ladies. How are
9 you today? Great. I've got to say you're a lot more fun
10 than over across the way.

11 (Applause.)

12 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I'm going to join your
13 party. This is fun. You've got it down. I also have got
14 to say thank you. When you sang that song, I stood back
15 there and cried. I truly did. Only because I've lost
16 friends in this war. I've lost friends in the efforts,
17 and I have a lot of friends that are amputees from this
18 war. And when you started singing that, it hit home. And
19 I appreciate that. I truly, truly appreciate that.

20 (Applause.)

21 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: My dad was a 33-year
22 unit member and he passed away. My mom is a unit member
23 and -- is this better? I'm sorry. I just have one of
24 those voices that normally bellows. I'm the son of a
25 33-year Legionnaire before he died. My mom's been a unit
26 member for 37 years in New York.

27 (Applause.)

28 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: My four sisters are
29 unit members in Missouri, New Jersey, New York, and
30 Florida, and I have 11 nieces that are unit members and
31 Junior Auxiliary as well.

32 (Applause.)

33 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: And my granddaughter,
34 who is three months old, will now become a Junior
35 Auxiliary at 149.

36 (Applause.)

37 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: So we are a family of
38 Legion Family members. I want to thank -- I know some of
39 the ladies out here are Riders. If I can have you stand
40 real quick.

41 (Applause.)

42 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Please keep standing
43 because this is good to see. I just presented a check on
44 behalf of the American Legion Riders for \$18,817 to the
45 American Legion VA&R.

46 (Applause.)

47 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: And that is from all
48 the Riders. So thank you, ladies, that are riding. We
49 truly appreciate that.

50 I just have a plaque that I would like to give

1 Susie. I'm going to yell. It's easier. This says,
2 "Thank you for your support of the American Legion Riders.
3 The American Legion Riders Department of California, June
4 24th, 2016."

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you. Legion
7 Riders is a program of the American Legion, and it's
8 really a great program. They do so much. They have their
9 little bike runs and they do it all for the kids. But I
10 watched one in Marysville with 200 motorcycles that was
11 doing a toy drive for the community. So it's really
12 great. They get together, they organize these events and
13 they do so much for us. And we thank them. And that's
14 another resource that we all have.

15 I present to you my pin. It's Growing the Legion
16 Family For Veterans, and I have included the Legion Riders
17 emblem on there.

18 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: And because we've
21 been growing as a family, this is the fruit of our labor.
22 Go home and enjoy it.

23 RIDER PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I will. Thank you,
24 ladies.

25 (Processional.)

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We will now have
27 the Past Presidents Parley. We're going to delay you a
28 little bit. Anybody who had an award with Terry, please
29 come forward.

30

31 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CONVENTION REPORT

32

33 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Good morning, ladies.
34 The convention committee on the program of Past Presidents
35 Parley met on June 23, 2016 in Room 2007 of the Fresno
36 Convention Center, Fresno, California. The statistical
37 report of this chairman appears on page 30 of the Book of
38 Reports.

39 Kathy Smith, District 12, was appointed
40 secretary. Emily Magwili from District 10 offered prayer.
41 A total of 19 district delegates answered roll call and
42 there was one visitor present. And at the threat of
43 death, the code was read with no changes because I had to
44 get into the finance committee.

45 The units have been very busy this year
46 recognizing and assisting active duty servicewomen, taking
47 advantage of the opportunity provided by National and
48 Department waiving their per capita for new members who
49 are women veterans, reviewing their unit rosters to seek
50 out that very special unit member of the year and

1 promoting the nurses scholarship through donations and
 2 providing schools with applications. Thank you for
 3 increasing your donations this year. There were several
 4 very deserving submissions. Four scholarships were
 5 awarded.

6 The units sought out homeless women veterans
 7 living on the street and provided them with food,
 8 clothing, and personal items. Units recruited volunteers
 9 to seek out veterans in parks, on the streets, and under
 10 bridges, provided help and referrals to service. The
 11 units were very generous providing women -- or providing
 12 numerous items for Naomi House, which is a transition home
 13 for homeless women on the West LA Hospital grounds.

14 One unit and district participates in the Vet
 15 Hunter Project in their area. The units assisted women
 16 veterans at stand downs with personal care items,
 17 referrals to services, closing, sleeping bags, blankets
 18 and gift cards. Baby showers were hosted for those
 19 pregnant veterans. Hospitals were visited with special
 20 gifts and cards for women veterans.

21 One unit hosted a day spa for women veterans with
 22 personal care take home gifts, along with a special
 23 luncheon. Certificates, lunches, dinners and tea were
 24 hosted for women veterans.

25 Speaking of signing up new women veterans as
 26 members, one unit signed up 28 women veterans.

27 (Applause.)

28 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: It's more at this point
 29 in time, but at that time it was 28. The Sun Bonnets have
 30 done an excellent job this year promoting women veterans
 31 and the recognition of their service.

32 May I continue with my first place awards and may
 33 I present the Unit Member of the Year, Salute to Active
 34 Duty Servicewoman, and the \$4,000 scholarship winner to
 35 the delegation?

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes. Where are
 37 they?

38 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: I've got one. Laura,
 39 District 16, you want to come forward, please. While
 40 she's coming up here, First Place Best Unit Supplemental
 41 goes to Esther Ouellette, Unit 132, District 29.

42 (Applause.)

43 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: First Place Best District
 44 Supplemental goes to Rebecca Stewart-Wilson, District 24,
 45 Past Presidents Parley Chairman.

46 (Applause.)

47 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: I'm not going to be able
 48 to present the \$4,000 nurses scholarship winner because
 49 she's not here. Her name is Trina Tully. She's in her
 50 final semester of a four semester nursing program at the

1 Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing. You will hear
2 more about her at the luncheon.

3 The Unit Member of the Year award is Amy Floyd.
4 She will be at the luncheon. She's nominated by Unit 280,
5 District 18. The current president Susie will tell you
6 more about her at the luncheon.

7 What we do have, it is with extreme pleasure to
8 present to you our Salute to Active Duty Servicewoman
9 Chief Petty Officer Laura Friedlander who is currently
10 serving in the Navy Reserve. She was nominated by
11 Madeline Lee, District 16. Laura will introduce her
12 husband and her mother to you at the luncheon.

13 (Processional.)

14 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Thank you for coming,
15 Laura. I will have Zana please hook her corsage on.
16 Laura will have the opportunity to speak at the luncheon
17 and she will do introductions for her family at that point
18 in time.

19 (Applause.)

20 PPP CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Thank you and I hope to
21 see all of you at the luncheon.

22 Madam President, this concludes my report and
23 thank you so very much for giving me this opportunity to
24 read all about all of the wonderful things our women are
25 doing for women veterans. Thank you. The luncheon will
26 be at the Sequoia Room at the Double Tree. Thank you.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: I'll give the
29 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal time to get back up here.
30 Gloria Sinopoli?

31 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: She's going
32 to say something.

33 PETTY OFFICER FRIEDLANDER: Good morning, ladies.
34 Good morning. I just want to say thank you to my
35 Auxiliary family. This is such a huge, huge thing for me.
36 My post has been just a rock for me especially when I was
37 gone. They are in my heart and prayers. Thank you,
38 ladies, from 741.

39 (Applause.)

40 (Processional.)

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: After Gloria
42 Sinopoli is Girls State. So please come up over here and
43 there's some chairs for you. You're after Gloria.

44

45 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN CONVENTION REPORT

46

47 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN SINOPOLI: Good morning,
48 Madam President. Good morning, delegates and alternates,
49 and welcome to Fresno. First of all, I'd like to thank my
50 own district hard workers. And these ladies are very

1 creative. District 14, please stand up.

2 (Applause.)

3 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN SINOPOLI: I would also thank
4 District 12. They're the ones that made poppy fans that
5 are in your bags. They did a great job. Thank you,
6 District 12.

7 I would also like to thank Ruby Kapsalis for all
8 of her help this past year. She's answered texts, emails,
9 telephone calls. I bugged her constantly and she's been a
10 tremendous help to me. So thank you, Ruby.

11 (Applause.)

12 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN SINOPOLI: Madam President,
13 thank you for this appointment. It has been interesting
14 and some days very challenging, but overall I got to talk
15 to a lot of people I hadn't met before and I enjoyed that.
16 So thank you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you, Gloria.
18 Girls State, Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, come on up.
19 They're our substitution. They're being nice to me now.
20 Before they were not.

21 MARSHAL DOIDGE: My costume not going to last me
22 through lunch.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Actually we were very
24 hot walking across the street.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Across the traffic.

26 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: And we never thought
27 in all our years that Liz and I would be walking around
28 Fresno in scarecrow costumes.

29 MARSHAL DOIDGE: It's not on our bucket list. We
30 got over to the Legion and it's like they never saw a
31 scarecrow before. I mean, seriously, you've never seen a
32 scarecrow? And they're like taking our pictures and we're
33 like, dude, get out of our way; we're trying to do a job
34 here, so --

35 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Thank you. It was
36 fun. It's actually a good memory we're going to have.

37

38 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS AND MARSHAL CONVENTION REPORT

39

40 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Good morning, Madam
41 President Susie and all of the wonderful ladies of the
42 Department of California. It has been such an honor for
43 myself and Liz to be your Department Sergeant-at-Arms and
44 Marshal for 2015-2016. When Liz and I got together to
45 write our report, we decided to use a poem that we had
46 found that hit our hearts, so I'm going to let Liz go
47 ahead and read our poem.

48 MARSHAL DOIDGE: The people of today -- My
49 American Flag. The people of today just rant and rave.
50 They burn my symbol of freedom. I just want to grab and

1 shake them. They have no sense of pride for your beauty
 2 you never denied. Like my brothers before me, I have
 3 fought to keep your colors free. With every battle that
 4 we have won you were there to show us who was number one.
 5 When our brothers had died, you caressed their bodies with
 6 pride. We have our leaders to thank for allowing these
 7 people their prank. To them it may be a cloth of colors.
 8 To me it stands for freedom and honor. We must ask our
 9 leaders to debate and change our flag's fate. My American
 10 flag this promise I give, to hold you high and let you
 11 live. My words to you are profound. I'll keep your
 12 colors off the ground. I will guard and protect your
 13 stars and stripes with all my power, might and life.

14 This was written by Dan Solodon. He's a disabled
 15 American vet.

16 (Applause.)

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: So since we're going
 18 to keep it really short today, in closing, always remember
 19 that someone has given the ultimate sacrifice to protect
 20 our flag, our nation, and our freedoms.

21 Once again, thank you very much, Susie, for
 22 allowing Liz and I to be a part of this amazing team. May
 23 I approach?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You have a
 25 challenge in that Liz is breaking out of her --

26 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Yeah, Liz is having
 27 issues. May we approach?

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes. And LuAnn is
 29 going to say a few words.

30 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: We know you don't
 31 drink, but after this convention you might want to start.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you very
 33 much. Oh, and I have a new huggy. I have -- I put them
 34 on my water bottles at home so they don't make marks on
 35 the table. Thank you very much.

36

37 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN CONVENTION REPORT

38

39 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN CAPAZZI: Thank you,
 40 Madam President, for this appointment. It has been very
 41 interesting and sometimes a challenge. Being able to be
 42 with our National president at the DEC was fun and she was
 43 a trip, even though we almost got sideswiped by a car on
 44 the way back from the airport. Crazy as it is, you're a
 45 joy to work with and they take pride in their escorts.
 46 They are a great team.

47 This week I've had the honor to take care of and
 48 be with my sister. As I told you at DEC, hats I have.
 49 Four-inch heels are not in my closet. It's been fun being
 50 Minnie Pearl and carrying out your theme.

1 Madam President, I leave you with this thought.
2 The early bird always gets the worm, but it's the second
3 mouse who gets the cheese. Thank you, Madam President.
4 (Applause.)

5
6 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN CONVENTION REPORT

7
8 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Okay. This is
9 for Girls State. The convention committee for Girls State
10 met on June the 23rd, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
11 in Room 2013 of the Fresno Convention Center in Fresno,
12 California. The statistical report of this chairman
13 appears on page 26 of the Book of Reports.

14 Karen Herrera, District 15, Unit 20 was appointed
15 secretary. Silvia Hillyer, District 6, Unit 777, offered
16 prayer, and Jeri Adams, District 16, Unit 741 was
17 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 26 district
18 delegates answered roll call. There were 13 visitors
19 present.

20 The committee agreed upon the following report.
21 For code changes, the committee read the department code
22 and had 13 proposed code changes. Five of these code
23 changes are classified as housekeeping changes and the
24 committee approved all of the proposed code changes.

25 A listing of all awards have been given to the
26 Department President and those seated upon the stage. A
27 copy of the list has already been posted in the department
28 convention office.

29 Madam President, may I now present the
30 committee's proposed department code changes?

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

32 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Okay. The first
33 page is just housekeeping. I'm not going to read those.
34 All right. So current code change. Code 6: "Every
35 effort is to be made by the Director and Chairman to have
36 all receipts filed in the department office so that bills
37 can be paid prior to the annual audit. All expenses for
38 the current year shall be submitted within 45 days
39 following the close of the current session. Inventory
40 must be submitted at this time."

41 Our proposed code change will read: "Every
42 effort is to be made by the Director and Chairman to have
43 all receipts filed in the department office so that bills
44 can be paid prior to the annual audit. All expenses for
45 the current year shall be submitted within 45 days
46 following the close of the current session. Store
47 inventory and office supply inventory must be submitted at
48 this time."

49 By the direction of this committee I move to
50 adopt the change in the code. It's page 6.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Is there a second?

2 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Second.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: It's been -- we
4 have a motion on the floor to accept the proposed change.
5 The current code reads: "Authorization for purchases
6 shall be requested by the Girls State Director through the
7 use" --

8 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Code section 6.
9 So turn the page to the back of that first page.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: "Every effort is to
11 be made by the Director and Chairman to have all receipts
12 filed in the department office so that bills can be paid
13 prior to the annual audit. All expenses for the current
14 year shall be submitted within 45 days following the close
15 of the current session. Store inventory and office supply
16 inventory must be submitted at this time."

17 Is there any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

20 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.

24 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Next code, code
25 12: "Reservation forms for Girls State will be made
26 available on the department website and mailed by the
27 department office by September 1st. Units shall file a
28 reservation with the Department Chairman annually, naming
29 the school or schools they desire to sponsor for the next
30 session of Girls State. Deadline date for reservations to
31 the department chairman is October 1st. Failure to file a
32 reservation form by the deadline date will indicate the
33 school is being dropped and thus creating a numerical
34 vacancy. The Department Chairman shall fill such
35 vacancies by advising Units who have letters on file
36 requesting an opening in their area. The application
37 packet shall be made available on the Department website
38 by the department office or chairman the first week of
39 November."

40 The proposed code change will read: "Reservation
41 forms for Girls State will be made available on the
42 department website and mailed by the department office by
43 September 1st. Units shall file a reservation with the
44 Department Chairman annually, naming the school or schools
45 they desire to sponsor for the next session of Girls
46 State. Deadline date for reservations to the department
47 chairman is October 1st. Failure to file a reservation
48 form by the deadline date will indicate the school is
49 being dropped and thus creating a numerical vacancy. The
50 Department Chairman shall fill such vacancies by advising

1 Units who have reservations on file. The application
2 packet shall be made available on the Department website
3 by the department office or chairman the first week of
4 November."

5 By the direction of the committee I move to
6 accept the code change as read.

7 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL:
8 Second.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Do you understand
10 what the change is? Where it is -- instead of a letter,
11 it's a reservation.

12 Okay. "Reservation forms for Girls State will be
13 made available on the department website and mailed by the
14 department office by September 1st. Units shall file a
15 reservation with the Department Chairman annually, naming
16 the school or schools they desire to sponsor for the next
17 session of Girls State. Deadline date for reservations to
18 the department chairman is October 1st. Failure to file a
19 reservation form by the deadline date will indicate the
20 school is being dropped and thus creating a numerical
21 vacancy. The Department Chairman shall fill such
22 vacancies by advising Units who have reservations on file.
23 The application packet shall be made available on the
24 Department website by the department office or chairman
25 the first week of November."

26 Is there any discussion?
27 (No response.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

29 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?

31 (No response.)

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.

33 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Code 13: "Copies
34 of bulletins, instructions, and all other material
35 forwarded to units and candidates shall be sent to the
36 director, members of the committee, department, and
37 district chairmen with a complete set forwarded to the
38 department office."

39 The proposed change will read: "Copies of
40 correspondence and all other materials forwarded to units
41 and candidates shall be sent to the director and members
42 of the committee, department, and district chairmen with a
43 complete set forwarded to the department office."

44 By the direction of the committee I move to
45 accept the code change as read.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The code change
47 will read: "Copies of correspondence and all other
48 materials forwarded to units and candidates shall be sent
49 to the director and members of the committee, department,
50 and district chairmen with a complete set forwarded to the

1 department office."
2 Is there any discussion?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?
5 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?
7 (No response.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.
9 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Next code, 15:
10 "Faculty guidelines: As a guide to the faculty the
11 following information shall be provided for use in
12 selecting the most qualified candidate."
13 The proposed change will read: "School faculty
14 guidelines: As a guide to the school faculty, the
15 following information shall be provided for use in
16 selecting the most qualified candidate."
17 By the direction of the committee, I move to
18 accept the code change as read.
19 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REYES: Second.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Proposed change
21 reads: "School faculty guidelines: As a guide to the
22 school faculty, the following information shall be
23 provided for the use in selecting the most qualified
24 candidate."
25 Is there any discussion?
26 (No response.)
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?
28 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.
30 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Code 18: "The
31 signature page must be signed by the candidate, the unit
32 chairman, and the school representative. When two or more
33 units sponsor one candidate, only one signature shall be
34 forwarded. The unit responsible for processing the
35 signature page shall sign the form and the co-sponsoring
36 unit or student shall attach their name, number, and
37 signature on a separate sheet so that proper recognition
38 may be given."
39 The proposed change: "The signature page must be
40 signed by the candidate and the unit chairman. When two
41 or more units sponsor one candidate, only one signature
42 shall be forwarded. The unit responsible for processing
43 the signature page shall sign the form and the
44 co-sponsoring unit or student shall attach their name,
45 number, and signature on a separate sheet so that proper
46 recognition may be given."
47 By the direction of the committee I move to
48 accept the code change as read.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The code change
50 reads: "The signature page must be signed by the

1 candidate and the unit chairman. When two or more units
2 sponsor one candidate, only one signature shall be
3 forwarded. The unit responsible for processing the
4 signature page shall sign the form and the co-sponsoring
5 unit or student shall attach their name, number, and
6 signature on a separate sheet so that proper recognition
7 may be given."

8 Is there any discussion?

9 (No response.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

11 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.

13 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Code 20(a): "All
14 required forms and fees must be returned as provided in
15 the instructions."

16 The proposed code change will read: 20(a). "All
17 required forms and fees must be returned as provided in
18 the instructions. Failure to pay all fees by June 15 will
19 result in the unit not being seated at convention."

20 By the direction of the committee I move to adopt
21 the code change as read.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The code change
23 reads: "All required forms and fees must be returned as
24 provided in the instructions. Failure to pay all fees by
25 June 15 will result in the unit not being seated at
26 convention."

27 Is there any discussion?

28 (No response.)

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

30 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.

32 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: 20(b): "Shall
33 not engage in political discussion with the delegate upon
34 departure to Girls State."

35 The proposed code change will read: "20(b).
36 Shall not engage in political discussion with the
37 delegate."

38 By the direction of the committee, I move to
39 accept this code change.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The code change
41 will read: "Shall not engage in political discussion with
42 the delegate."

43 Is there any discussion?

44 (No response.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

46 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?

48 (No response.)

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.

50 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Last one. 20(e):

1 "Has the responsibility of carefully checking the
2 signature page to ensure that all the required signatures
3 have been obtained by receiving the signature page from
4 the candidate before forwarding the signature page to the
5 department chairman and the fee to department office."

6 The proposed change will read: "Has the
7 responsibility of carefully checking the signature page to
8 ensure that all the required signatures have been obtained
9 by receiving the signature page from the candidate before
10 forwarding the signature page to the department chairman."

11 By the direction of the committee I move to
12 accept the code change as read.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The code change
14 reads: "Has the responsibility of carefully checking the
15 signature page to ensure that all the required signatures
16 have been obtained by receiving the signature page from
17 the candidate before forwarding the signature page to the
18 department chairman."

19 Is there any discussion?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?

22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Pass.

26 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: So by the
27 direction of the committee I move the adoption of the new
28 Girls State code.

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You did. Thank
30 you.

31 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Okay. I didn't
32 know if I needed to -- Madam President, may I continue
33 with my report?

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

35 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: I would like to
36 start by introducing myself. My name is Elissa Kirkland
37 and I'm your 2015-2016 Department Girls State Chairman. I
38 have been involved with the Girls State program since 1999
39 when I was selected as a delegate to represent Bloomington
40 High School by W.D. Buck Owen Unit 497, District 25.

41 (Applause.)

42 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Immediately we
43 decided to rejoin the American Legion Auxiliary as we once
44 had been members when I was a young child. I have
45 annually attended Girls State as a city, county, and
46 assistant chief counselor since 2003.

47 My first order of business was to attend the
48 workshop that was held in August. I attended the Clovis
49 workshop to talk about the changes that we would be having
50 for the 2015-2016 year. In September I started out by

1 attending the District 21 workshop. I presented the same
2 information that I had at the Clovis workshop. I was
3 unable to attend the 2015 ALA Girls State directors
4 conference. I want to thank the alumni foundation for
5 offering to pay for my flight and hotel stay while at the
6 conference.

7 I also attended a planning meeting up in the
8 Sacramento area for the counseling staff. In October we
9 had our deadline for reservations. When they were
10 received, I would email or call the unit chairman and cc
11 the district chairman to confirm that I had received the
12 reservation and to confirm the number of spots reserved
13 for. We ended up having over 550 reservations sent in
14 this year.

15 I also implemented a new Google sheet called the
16 reservation sheet where one can check up on their status
17 by viewing it online. We also held our Girls State
18 committee meeting at my house in Grand Terrace. I updated
19 the committee and district chairmen regarding our
20 recommendations for the budget, code changes, and packet
21 changes.

22 November and December was spent trying to verify
23 our location for the 2016 session. I kept in touch with
24 the district chairmen via email, updating them when I
25 could. Many district chairmen would send emails to their
26 unit chairmen and cc me on the correspondence. I really
27 appreciated the hard work that they did during this time.
28 Session dates and location was confirmed at the end of
29 December.

30 In January I released all the forms required for
31 the 2016 session. This included the online application,
32 signature packet, and unit information packet. I
33 participated with my mom's unit to inform potential
34 candidates at the high school I teach at about the
35 program. I began receiving online applications
36 mid-January from girls. I sent my required midyear report
37 to Western Division Chairman. I attended DEC and met with
38 the Girls State committee prior to DEC starting.

39 Upon agreement from the committee, director, and
40 chief counselors, we decided to increase the Girls State
41 size to accommodate 540 delegates by having two meal
42 times. I updated everyone on this during the DEC
43 conference. I was excited to only have 14 schools left on
44 the waiting list.

45 February, unit and district end of year forms
46 were updated and sent in the February mail out. I quickly
47 began to realize that the girls would hit "submit"
48 multiple times on their online application and I would
49 need to fix the multiple entries.

50 In March our deadline was fast approaching. I

1 continued to log information into the reservation sheet as
2 quickly as I could. I received hundreds of online
3 applications, signature packets, transmittals, and photos
4 both via email and snail mail. By mid-March we no longer
5 had schools on the waiting list. The deadline for
6 submission of online applications was March 15th.
7 Transmittals and signature packets were due to me March
8 31st and fees due to the department on March 31st.

9 In April I sent out a PowerPoint presentation
10 that the district chairmen could use at their teas. We
11 also had a working weekend in La Quinta for our planning
12 session as the counseling staff. I was also invited to
13 attend four district teas. I was able to attend two of
14 those from District 21 and 25. End of the year reports
15 started coming in and I was working on finishing up the
16 current reservation list with all delegate information
17 received.

18 In May end of the year forms continued to arrive.
19 I sent out Samsung information to the delegates that were
20 eligible to apply. I was invited to another three teas
21 this month and was able to attend two of them in District
22 22 and District 18. Mid month I submitted an annual
23 report to the Western Division Chairman. I also submitted
24 my report for convention. I worked on the financial
25 spreadsheet to make sure all units had paid their
26 appropriate fees. At the end of the month I scored my
27 first online Samsung scholarship.

28 This June I sent out legislation information to
29 the girls on how to submit legislation. I began to
30 prepare for the convention and make any changes from
31 delegates dropping out.

32 Overall we currently have 523 delegates -- 522
33 now -- attending this session. It's an increase of 34
34 girls from last year.

35 (Applause.)

36 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: We received
37 \$4,807 in donations from units. I have had 69
38 reservations dropped from the list with two already --
39 actually it's three now -- with three already paying for
40 delegates and not having any alternates to attend. We
41 have had 18 delegates drop out and counting. Ten matching
42 grants were awarded by the Girls State Alumni Foundation
43 for a total of \$2,000.

44 Madam President, at this point I would like to
45 present three special awards. And a list of all awards
46 given at committee meeting has been provided. My first
47 award goes to the unit that sponsored the most delegates.
48 I want to thank Unit 161 in District 9 and their chairman,
49 Vicky Bean, for continuing to support the Girls State
50 program. This year they are sending 17 delegates under

1 the chairmanship.

2 (Applause.)

3 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: In each gift they
4 receive -- I'll say that at the end. My next award goes
5 to the district chairman with the best district
6 supplemental. This year I have chosen Ann McCauley from
7 District 12. Her district supplemental included
8 information regarding their honor nights, orientation
9 luncheon, and fundraiser luncheon.

10 (Applause.)

11 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: And my final
12 award goes to the unit chairman with an outstanding unit
13 supplemental. This unit chairman not only consistently
14 updates with me emails, but continues to go over and
15 beyond by organizing a bus for girls to attend the
16 session. Ann Kelley, unit chairman for Unit 83 in
17 District 12.

18 (Applause.)

19 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: She also provided
20 tons of newspaper clippings in her report. Thank you.
21 And each of them receive a pot with morning glories that
22 they can grow. Thank you for helping our girls bloom.

23 (Applause.)

24 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: The last thing
25 I'm going to do is introduce my committee. Our three-year
26 member is Donna Smith.

27 (Applause.)

28 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our two-year
29 member is Kathy Smith.

30 (Applause.)

31 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our first-year
32 member Elizabeth Tomlin couldn't be here with us, but our
33 president alternate is Zana Chaney.

34 (Applause.)

35 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: And our vice
36 president alternate is Gloria Sinopoli.

37 (Applause.)

38 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: The last two on
39 the committee is director Rhodona Enright and assistant
40 director Karen Herrera.

41 (Applause.)

42 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: And, Madam
43 President, thank you for this amazing and exciting
44 appointment. It was my first and I was pretty nervous.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You did a great
46 job. And thank you very much.

47 (Applause.)

48 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Madam President,
49 this concludes the Girls State Chairman's report.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you.

1 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR CONVENTION REPORT

2

3 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: The 2016 Girls
4 State session will occur in just a few days with 523
5 delegates -- 522 delegates slated to attend and I will be
6 departing early to prepare.

7 However, before we talk about this year, let's go
8 back in time so I can tell you a little bit about the 2015
9 session. 490 girls from all over the state attended.
10 They were a patchwork of races, religions, shapes, and
11 sizes. They were a diverse group of young women leaders
12 who somehow became a cohesive group and worked to create a
13 fantastic Girls State.

14 If I botch the name, I'm sorry. Taylor Goethe
15 from District 20, Unit 311 was elected our 2015 governor.

16 (Applause.)

17 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: The outstanding
18 citizen of Girls State was Aria Schwartz from District 5,
19 Unit 179.

20 (Applause.)

21 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Emily Demsetz from
22 District 16, Unit 741 and Emma Farr from District 9, Unit
23 161 were selected to represent California as senators at
24 Girls Nation in Washington D.C.

25 (Applause.)

26 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: And they both made
27 us proud. And also Emma will be attending the Naval
28 Academy and leaves in a few weeks. In addition, our own
29 Kendall Madsen served on staff.

30 As many of you know, online registration was
31 implemented for alternates and delegates. This year we
32 were able to place more documents within the online
33 application process and cut the paper handling down to two
34 signature pages. We still have a few kinks to work out
35 and they will be handled. Keeping in contact with
36 delegates was made simple because we had immediate direct
37 access to them and their parents through email. Hopefully
38 we can further streamline the process even more in the
39 years to come and work to make the paperwork side of Girls
40 State less cumbersome for everybody.

41 Thank you to all the unit and district Girls
42 State chairmen who were very conscientious and read and
43 followed the directions made available to them. We really
44 appreciate all your hard work in helping this program be a
45 success. Please continue to keep in touch with your
46 delegates and invite them to be part of your activities.
47 Invite them to your unit meetings at Girls State so all of
48 your members become aware of the impression our program
49 and our organization has made on them. Use Girls State as
50 a tool to gain new, young members. We will be working at

1 this session to encourage the 291 delegates with
2 eligibility to consider joining our ranks.

3 This year we are short three City Moms. As of
4 Wednesday it's down to two. This is your program and we
5 need to step up so this program will be available to
6 everyone for years to come to help guide them to becoming
7 young women leaders. So I ask that each of you look
8 around your unit and district for members to become a City
9 Mom. It is an amazing experience to meet these young
10 women, our nation's future leaders. They are amazing
11 young women who make you enjoy every minute you're around
12 them. It's a sad day when we have to go outside this
13 organization to find individuals willing to share their
14 time with our youth for our program.

15 I want to thank all past Girls State directors
16 for their hard work and many, many hours of dedication. I
17 have only had the privilege of working with three, but I
18 know every one of them gave their all to make Girls State
19 the best.

20 Now I want to say a special thank you to Elissa
21 and our chief counselor Becky Grace without whose help I
22 would not have been able to accomplish so much. Also to
23 Val for a great procedure book which helped guide me along
24 the way.

25 And last thank you, Madam Department President
26 Susie, for this appointment. I had forgotten what it was
27 like to work a full-time job. And to all of you out
28 there, are you from Girls State?

29 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah, yeah.

30 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: I am and I hope
31 that more of you are willing to join our ranks.

32 (Applause.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you.
34 Community Service followed by Constitution & Bylaws
35 followed by Leadership.

36

37 COMMUNITY SERVICE CONVENTION REPORT

38

39 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good
40 morning, Madam President.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Make sure you speak
42 directly into the mic now.

43 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Can you
44 hear me now? How's that?

45 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Much better.

46 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Okay. The
47 preconvention committee for Community Service, they met on
48 June 23rd, 2016 in the Fresno Convention Center, Second
49 Floor, Room 2017 -- that's wrong. It was changed. 2002
50 at 10:00 a.m. The statistical report of this chairman

1 appears on page 25 of the Book of Reports.

2 Upon consent of the delegates the following were
3 appointed. Norma Duvall Douglas, Secretary, from District
4 18, Villa Meyers served as Chaplain from District 27, and
5 Debra Richardson, Sergeant-at-Arms, District 22. A total
6 of 23 delegates answered roll call. There were six
7 visitors. The code was read and there were no changes.

8 Awards for citation for 100 percent reporting
9 were handed out to the districts. Those districts were 1,
10 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25,
11 28, 29, 30. Following that we did hand out awards. For
12 Second Place District Supplemental went to District 25.
13 Third Place District Supplemental went to District 21.
14 Unit awards. Second Place Unit Supplemental went to Unit
15 252. Third Place Unit Supplemental went to Unit 589,
16 District 28.

17 There was an open discussion. There were no
18 changes to the code, as I stated previously. I thank the
19 committee for a wonderful meeting. It was very
20 informative. The meeting adjourned in prayer at 11:00
21 a.m.

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

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

25 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Community
26 Service. Our Department President Susie Tozier's theme is
27 Growing the Legion Family. Cultivating Community Service
28 programs among our districts were successful. Auxiliary
29 members have galvanized their post families with the
30 importance of working collectively within its communities
31 for the betterment of all. I have received annual reports
32 from 21 districts. National and department bulletins and
33 department workshops have helped our members stay abreast
34 about the strategic goals of the American Legion Auxiliary
35 and the different ways Community Service interacts with
36 all the American Legion programs.

37 Now on the National emphasis, the number of units
38 that participated in National days of service, 30. For
39 homeless veterans activities, 35. Job/career fairs, 22.
40 Veterans, military, and family members served, 2,541.
41 Volunteer hours, 1,091. Total number of hours, 28,295.
42 Cost to units, 8,829. The value of in kind donations,
43 \$16,877. And of course the walk, run, roll number, there
44 was seven reported.

45 Units across California are providing money for
46 military children and veterans. Several units have
47 participated in bringing awareness about all cancers by
48 partnering up with other organizations or holding relays
49 to support awareness and donations from their communities.

50 Units across California are providing money, food

1 for military children and veterans. One small district in
2 Northern California helped bring the Wall That Heals to
3 their community. Two Auxiliary women volunteered over 25
4 hours getting things ready for the deliverance of the
5 wall. The units served three meals a day to their
6 volunteers.

7 One small district in Northern California helped
8 bring the wall -- excuse me. The Auxiliary women
9 volunteered over 25 hours getting ready for this.

10 Unit 252 in District 23 has dedicated a group of
11 ladies who take time to go downtown to skid row every week
12 to visit the VA clinic and serve coffee and donated
13 pastries. This activity spills over to the community of
14 the many displaced and homeless people who live in that
15 area. During Christmas season their Past Presidents
16 Parley joined in a caravan to visit sick and shut-in unit
17 Past Presidents. One of the Past Presidents found a group
18 of homeless women residing under a freeway pass near Los
19 Angeles USC University. Their members provided food,
20 clothing, hats, scarves, shoes, and a multitude of donated
21 items. Total money donated by California to Community
22 Service individualized projects this year is \$400,870.

23 It has been a pleasure to serve as the Community
24 Service Chairman for the Department of California. I
25 thank you for this appointment, Madam President. May I
26 continue with my first place awards?

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

28 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: I don't see
29 a soul.

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Are the recipients
31 up here? Please come forward those of you who got notes.

32 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: No souls.
33 I did send out some notes. Community Service First Place
34 Supplemental was awarded to Deloris Ryan, District 15.

35 (Applause.)

36 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Community
37 Service First Place Unit Supplemental is awarded to
38 Richard O. Reed, Unit 777, Terri Rivera.

39 (Applause.)

40 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Okay. We
41 had five applications for Volunteer of the Year. I chose
42 one to send onto National. And the Senior Volunteer of
43 the Year was awarded to Shirley Dean, Unit 247, Arcadia
44 unit. This is a young lady at the age of 91, 92, and she
45 started as a junior and it's keeping us going.

46 (Applause.)

47 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Madam
48 President, that's my report and awards.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you. We're
50 getting close to having to recess so we have some words of

1 wisdom. Donna, I'll call you this afternoon. Okay?
2 Go ahead, Ruby.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Diane
4 says she loves you all, but when you send her a note put
5 your name on it because she doesn't recognize your
6 handwriting. Before I start with the words of wisdom, I
7 have to share with you there's a very special lady in this
8 house who has been a mentor to many of us coming up
9 through the Auxiliary for many, many, many years. Her
10 name is Odette.
11 (Applause.)
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I would
13 like to share a story that happened just last night and
14 that you are going to love. We had the Past Department
15 Presidents' dinner last night and I shared some of the
16 wealth that all of you kind members have given as gifts.
17 Fireball. But I want you to know that, oh, about a half
18 hour after, Odette was two seats down from me. She says,
19 "Ruby, this is so good. It goes down so smooth."
20 Odette, I want to give you another gift. You
21 don't have to come up. I will bring it to you.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
24 I should have mentioned earlier that anyone needing to
25 turn in money for anything at all to the department, if
26 I'm not in the office upstairs, would you make sure you
27 turn it in to the Finance Committee. They will give you a
28 receipt. Because not all -- the office isn't manned at
29 all times. So turn the money in to the Finance Committee
30 rather than the office.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Where's the Finance
32 Committee? It's right over here to the right.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ruby,
34 ask if someone has an extra ticket for the -- please ask
35 if anyone has an extra ticket for PPP luncheon. Have them
36 contact District 18.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: They got it
38 already.
39 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
40 They got it. District 7 has two PPP luncheon tickets
41 available. Anybody want two, see District 7.
42 Okay. District 12 would like to purchase one
43 banquet ticket. See Ann Kelley. District 18 no longer
44 has an extra banquet ticket.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Ann Kelley, see
46 Wendy.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
48 Is this taken care of? District 18 one ticket for PPP.
49 That's done. You still need a PPP, you need to see
50 District 7. They have two.

1 Help, everyone. I would like to purchase a
2 luncheon ticket for today. Christine Williams, District
3 19.

4 Thank you more than I can say. Thank you for all
5 your cards, prayers, and all your love as I continue my
6 road to recovery. Alzora Carter from District 17.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
9 Melanie's Balloon Pilots, LuAnn's Ship Captains, Margie's
10 Magic Chefs will meet for breakfast Saturday morning at
11 7:00 a.m. in the Double Tree Hotel restaurant.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Ruby, they can't
13 hear you over here.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
15 Melanie's Balloon Pilots, LuAnn's Ship Captains, Margie's
16 Magic Chefs will meet for breakfast Saturday morning 7:00
17 a.m. in the Double Tree Hotel restaurant. That scares me.
18 All right.

19 Please announce that tomorrow, Saturday, at close
20 of session will be a short practice for installation for
21 Sunday. Please meet Linda Fercho in the back of the room
22 if you are planning to be in honor guard or are an
23 honorary officer or are a 2016-'17 officer elected or
24 appointed. If you're not sure this applies to you,
25 contact Linda Fercho.

26 Ruby, please announce that Bonnie's Prom
27 Princesses and Sandy's Colonels will meet in Room 326
28 after we break for lunch on Saturday.

29 Bev's Stars, Madeline's Princesses and Linda's
30 Racers will meet for lunch Saturday during noon break in
31 the Atrium Cafe.

32 Odette's Peachy Performers and Gwen's Penguins
33 will meet at the Saturday noon recess in the Double Tree
34 Room 609.

35 The 2013-'14 Dream Team Captains will meet
36 Saturday morning June 24th at 7:00 a.m. in the Double Tree
37 Hotel restaurant. Please send me a note to let me know if
38 you can or cannot attend.

39 Harriet's Crafters will meet at 6:00 a.m. --
40 Harriet's Crafters will meet at 7:00 a.m. Saturday, Room
41 215 Double Tree.

42 Goldie's Golden Links, Geri's Cards, Margaret's
43 Dream Catchers, Ruby's All Stars, Pilar's Musicians will
44 meet at the Saturday lunch break in Double Tree, Room 214.

45 District 6 needs three PPP lunch tickets. I
46 don't know where I'm at anymore. Did you get rid of them?
47 Seven has no more. You might talk to the PPP luncheon
48 chairman. She might be able to squeeze a few.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: District 15 has one
50 left? District 15 has one. And District 6 is right in

1 front of 15. District 18 needs the one.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Meet in
3 the Double Tree Hotel, Suite No. 244, June 24th, 6:00 to
4 8:00 p.m. Patricia Patrick, 23rd District President,
5 Rachel Trimble, First Vice President, Valerie Hill, Second
6 Vice President.

7 I think that concludes. She's next door to me.
8 214. No, I'm 214. You're 215. Yes, that's what I said.
9 I don't want you in my room.

10 Norma's Caribbean Queens, Linda's Rodeo Queens
11 will meet in the Doubletree Hotel close of session today,
12 Friday approximately 5:00 p.m.

13 Okay. Norma, since we are driving to Bill
14 Siler's dinner and cocktails are there at 6:00, I think we
15 will have time tomorrow after session. I'm having a dry
16 run for this -- forget it.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. We're going
18 to adjourn for lunch. Recess for lunch. And those that
19 are the candidates, it's at 2:00 p.m. Please be on the
20 stage. Don't forget this afternoon we're having the slide
21 show. Thank you.

22 (Lunch recess taken: 11:47 a.m.)

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AFTERNOON SESSION - 2:04 P.M.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Here we go. We're now going to have the nominations for officers for 2016-2017. Please, ladies, you have to be quiet if everyone is going to hear. We'll have the nomination for department president.

NOMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2016-2017

DISTRICT 6 DELEGATE SCHULTZ: District 6 --
DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You have to get closer to the mic.

DISTRICT 6 DELEGATE SCHULTZ: Is this it? Glenda Schultz, Unit 521. District 6 is extremely proud to endorse Wendy O'Brien, President Department of California. (Applause.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You need to nominate. When you get done, you need to nominate.

DISTRICT 6 DELEGATE SCHULTZ: Wendy O'Brien is currently the Department Vice President. She has been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 13 years. She qualifies for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary under her husband of 38 years John O'Brien, a Vietnam veteran who served in the Navy. Both of her brothers also served in Vietnam, both receiving Purple Hearts. Her stepchildren and grandchildren all belong to the Legion Family. She is a charter member of the American Legion Riders Chapter 521. She is a lifetime member of the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 4647. Wendy has chaired most programs at the unit and district levels. She became District 6 President in 2011-2012. She has served as Hospital Representative at Northern California VA Hospital for six years. She served as Area 1 Membership Chairman for two years, Department Education Chairman, Department Leadership Chairman, Department Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman, and is currently Department Membership Chairman. Haggin-Grant Unit 521 and District 6 along with her family are happy to endorse Wendy O'Brien --

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Nominate.

DISTRICT 6 DELEGATE SCHULTZ: Excuse me. Nominate Wendy O'Brien for President Department of California. Thank you.

(Applause.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Are there any other nominations for Department President?

(No response.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We'll now hear the nomination for Vice President.

1 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Good afternoon,
2 ladies. Excuse my attire. If I only had a brain I
3 wouldn't be standing up in here in front of you today.
4 Okay. Now I've got to be serious.

5 It is my honor and my privilege to nominate
6 Loretta Marsh out of District 16 for the office of Vice
7 President.

8 (Applause.)

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Okay. Sit back. This
10 is kind of lengthy. Loretta is an overachiever.

11 Loretta's eligibility is from her husband,
12 Harold, a World War II veteran and Korean War. They have
13 three children, seven grandchildren, two great
14 grandchildren to contribute to the Legion Family, some who
15 are serving in the military services. During her 28-year
16 membership she has done multiple terms as president of her
17 unit as well as all other unit officer and chairmen
18 positions. She has served as District President, all
19 chairmanships at the district level, and several terms of
20 District Treasurer.

21 Now that I have an issue with. Because Loretta
22 is going to leave us, we need a new treasurer. Ladies,
23 are you listening?

24 Loretta has served her community as a Sunday
25 school teacher for 20 years. She's also a member of the
26 Elks Lodge and Moose Lodge. She is also a member and past
27 officer of the VFW. She was a community hospital
28 volunteer for several years. She volunteers occasionally
29 at the local VA outpatient clinic.

30 Her experience in the business world includes
31 several years in the accounting industry before devoting
32 her time to marriage and raising a family. Then she owned
33 her own business in the ceramic and plaster industry which
34 she worked for 20 years before returning to the accounting
35 industry.

36 She retired in December of 2010 and devoted her
37 time and energy to her family and to the Ladies Auxiliary.
38 She is deeply devoted, loyal, and loved and dedicated to
39 the veterans and the families and members. She is
40 currently serving as our VA&R Chairman.

41 And on a personal note, Loretta is an amazing,
42 amazing woman. She has mentored me through the chairs.
43 She always has that quick wit, so it's going to be fun.
44 We don't know what she's ever going to come up with. So
45 it is my honor and my privilege to nominate Loretta Marsh
46 as Vice President.

47 (Applause.)

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Are there any other
49 nominations?

50 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Is there a
2 nomination for a Junior Member of Finance?

3 DISTRICT 15 DELEGATE: Madam President, Unit 26,
4 District 15 would like to nominate Brenda Preston for
5 candidate for the Department Junior Member of Finance.
6 Brenda's eligibility is through her husband, Ron, a
7 Vietnam vet and retired U.S. Navy. She also a six-year
8 U.S. Navy Reservist, which she didn't mention in her bio
9 on the website. Her father was a World War II veteran
10 serving in the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7th,
11 1941. That's where her love and respect for the military
12 began.

13 She joined the Auxiliary in 2003. For the past
14 two years she has stepped up to fulfill the Treasurer's
15 position at our unit, the Treasurer position -- did I lose
16 you? No. And our Treasurer position for the District.
17 She has been a fearless volunteer collecting blankets for
18 our veterans coming home from Washington D.C.

19 Her education is a two-year degree from
20 Bakersfield Community College majoring in business and
21 accounting. She retired from the Kern County Human
22 Services after 33 years. Her duties were involved with
23 filing reports which went to the state and federal
24 governments.

25 She has been active in her community for many
26 years and in many ways. She is a member of the VFW
27 serving as President and Treasurer. She has been active
28 in her church for over 30 years. She does volunteer work
29 in our community at the Guild House. She also volunteers
30 at the volunteer center at Kern County Board and she
31 belongs to the Sigma Alpha Sorority. It is my pleasure to
32 nominate Brenda Preston for Junior Member of Finance.

33 (Applause.)

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Are there any other
35 nominations?

36 (No response.)

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Would the
38 three candidates please come to the stage? I am closing
39 nominations. Now nominations are closed.

40 (Applause.)

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Brenda is not here
42 right now, but we have Loretta Marsh, Vice President,
43 Wendy O'Brien, President.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: If you want
46 photographs we can have them go down by the flags. Okay.
47 Brenda is currently on a cruise that she had planned for
48 several months. That's why -- that is why she -- she
49 didn't plan -- she had the cruise planned before the
50 convention.

1 Would the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please
2 escort to the stage Scott C. Stump who is the President
3 and CEO of the National Desert Storm War Memorial
4 Association. Can we --

5 (ProceSSIONAL.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Hi, Scott. We
7 finally get to meet after several phone calls.

8 MR. STUMP: Absolutely. Madam President,
9 officers, ladies, what a welcome. I always love to come
10 to the Auxiliary because there's a little bit of a
11 difference in the energy level. Have you noticed that,
12 anybody?

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. STUMP: I mean, you've got music, you've got
15 costumes. I mean, you guys are having fun. My name is
16 Scott Stump. I'm from Waynesville, South Carolina, and
17 I'm the president and CEO of the National Desert Storm War
18 Memorial Association.

19 And I want to start off real briefly, I have to
20 ask for forgiveness for something real quickly. Every
21 time I go across the country and do presentations, I
22 always have a suit, coat, and a tie. And I've managed in
23 the two days I've been in California, I've managed to have
24 a wardrobe malfunction and my trousers are in San
25 Clemente. I'm here and I didn't find out about it until
26 Pismo Beach when it was too late. So my apologies. I'm a
27 little more casual than I like to be. Thank you. Thank
28 you for understanding.

29 (Applause.)

30 MR. STUMP: I want to start out real briefly, if
31 you all just think back real quickly to about almost 26
32 years ago. And if anybody does not have a 26-year long
33 memory, I apologize, but I'm also really jealous. But
34 think back to when a gentleman invaded the country that
35 both of us had never heard of that gentleman. We couldn't
36 find the country on the map. Of course we're talking
37 about Saddam Hussein back in 1990, August of 1990. And of
38 course that led to the events that unfolded that we now
39 know as Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

40 And a lot of people forget what a big deal that
41 was back then. They forget that there were tens of
42 thousands of body bags that left unfilled by the grace of
43 God that we didn't have to use, compared to how many there
44 were. There were many people around the world too that
45 were saying that America was washed up. Remember how we
46 couldn't do it and this was an Army and they were just
47 going to slaughter us; we were done.

48 And I was in the Marine Corp at that point and
49 served over the country as a crewman. Thank you. But a
50 lot of people have forgotten and Desert Storm has been

1 relegated to a footnote in history. And this effort has
2 been started, it's in its sixth year now, to create a war
3 memorial. And there's many reasons why this memorial is
4 needed, and I just want to highlight the top three very
5 briefly.

6 First and foremost, we have 380 Americans, 383
7 Americans that made the ultimate sacrifice, 15 of them
8 being woman. I don't know if anybody was aware of that,
9 but 15 ladies passed away in Operation Desert Storm.
10 Their memory cannot be forgotten, their sacrifice cannot
11 be forgotten. We need to remember them.

12 We also need to remember the service of the over
13 600,000 who were deployed. Twenty years from now, 50
14 years from now Americans need to member that sacrifice of
15 Americans from the very beginning of our country and its
16 founding.

17 Secondly, we liberated the country Kuwait. And I
18 know what some of you are thinking. I used to think it
19 myself. Well, that's kind of neat, it's kind of quaint,
20 it's kind of nice, but it really was a big deal. And if
21 anybody doesn't think it was important and a big deal,
22 I'll refer you to a young friend of mine from the Kuwaiti
23 embassy in Washington, Guy named Silvan Ohad. Silvan has
24 the sensation of having two births certificates from two
25 different countries. Ever heard of anything like that?
26 He was born in August of 1990 -- I'm sorry. It was
27 actually September of 1990, so he has an Iraqi birth
28 certificate and a Kuwaiti birth certificate.

29 But liberating Kuwait was really a big deal and
30 changed or altered not just our history, but world
31 history. It really was very important. And I will add
32 also that we added the coalition of 34 countries. Anybody
33 remember that? Thirty-four countries came together and
34 really at its core did the right thing. We can't even get
35 34 states to agree and we had 34 countries who came
36 together that did something remarkable.

37 (Applause.)

38 MR. STUMP: And last, but in no way least,
39 Operation Desert Storm was a turning point in our
40 country's history, a very big turning point. You see our
41 citizens finally realized what a terrible mistake it was
42 the way we had treated our Vietnam veterans. It was
43 despicable. I served with some of those folks.

44 (Applause.)

45 MR. STUMP: I served with some of those folks,
46 and some of the stories that they had were just
47 incredible. You know, I just can't even imagine. I hope
48 that none of your loved ones or hopefully none of you
49 experienced that firsthand, but it was a very big turning
50 point. And I really believe that if we would not have

1 learned that lesson back in 1991, I don't think our folks
2 who had been deployed on the War on Terror since 2001, I
3 don't think they would be treated with the level of
4 dignity and respect that they absolute deserve for
5 learning those lessons back in 1991.

6 And I'll say one other thing about the Vietnam
7 connection, and there are many, but the other thing people
8 will say is sometimes they'll say, Scott, you know, the
9 reason why Desert Storm was such a resounding and rapid
10 success is because the Iraqis were so bad. Anybody heard
11 of ISIS? They weren't that bad. I believe that we were
12 that good. We were that good because all of our leaders
13 were Vietnam veterans and they were not going to let what
14 happened the first time around happen to us.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STUMP: And I just want to give them the
17 credit publicly that they deserve as I always do. I'm
18 able to speak to you today because of that leadership and
19 the guidance that I get from the Vietnam veterans.

20 So where are we in the process now. Well, as I
21 mentioned, this started in December of 2010, so almost six
22 years ago. We've made a lot of progress. We actually are
23 down to the top two locations for the memorial in
24 Washington D.C. Some people say why in Washington D.C.
25 Well, 20 million people a year go there. It's very
26 important. It's a focal point of all of our past wars and
27 this fits in with everything else that has happened. It
28 helps to tell that story. It's very important.

29 We have those two locations. We have just been
30 granted the area one designation, which means they will be
31 right there among everything else. So we're very happy
32 with that. I just wanted to humbly and sincerely -- was
33 that me? Okay. I was going to start marching.

34 But here's where you all come into play. I would
35 like to humbly and sincerely ask you, we need your help
36 and we need your help because in order to continue this
37 process with the site, engineering costs, everything in
38 Washington D.C. including salaries of our congressmen and
39 women which are overinflated -- you ever notice that? But
40 we won't go over that road, but everything is expensive.
41 But we are in the need to raise \$800,000 by the end of the
42 year to continue this process with the site selection and
43 engineering so we can make this happen.

44 This is not a long-run process. In fact, our
45 goal, what we're shooting for is to have this memorial up
46 and dedicated, done within two years, three years at the
47 most. And I would just like to humbly ask your help.
48 Maybe it's at a post level. Maybe it's at a district
49 level. Maybe it's at a department level. However you
50 want to help us, we would sincerely appreciate to ask the

1 posts to deliberate. We need to build this memorial and
2 to get this done and move on. Because it's already been
3 25 years. The time is now. This is the right time and
4 I'd just like to ask you for your help in making this
5 happen.

6 I'm going to be around. I'm spending the night
7 here in Fresno. I've never been here. I've never been in
8 this area. I'm going to be here. I do have some
9 information with me. If anybody sees me, I'll have that
10 with me. I've got business cards, points of contact. We
11 have a website, www.nationaldesertstormwarmemorial.org or
12 you can just do the acronym ndswm.org. If you see me,
13 feel free to stop me. I've got cards and information and
14 we can see how we can involve you and get you all involved
15 anyway you see fit.

16 I just want to first and foremost thank you in
17 advance for your consideration and for considering, you
18 know, partnering with us. Thank you very much for your
19 attention. It's really an honor, ladies, it really is.
20 And thank you so much. God bless you.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: My theme -- each
23 year the President picks a theme. My theme is Growing the
24 Legion Family for Veterans. That has the symbols of the
25 American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons
26 of the American Legion, and the Riders of the American
27 Legion. I would like to give you one.

28 MR. STUMP: Thank you.

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: And also here's the
30 fruit of our crops, strawberry jam.

31 MR. STUMP: You know, I can almost guarantee you
32 this is not going to make it back home with me. It's
33 going to be eaten.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you very much
35 for coming.

36 MR. STUMP: Thank you, Madam President. Thank
37 you.

38 (Processional.)

39

40 NOMINATIONS FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO
41 NATIONAL CONVENTION
42

43

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We will now open
45 the nominations for the alternates -- delegates and
46 alternates to National. Before we do that -- all right.

47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Are you
48 ready, Madam President?

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Am I
ready? Do you want me to -- it got dark in here.

1 District 1.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Gloria or Ellen,
3 can we get a little more light? We're in the dark.
4 You'll see headless scarecrows.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
6 This is for National delegate. District 1, pass.
7 District 2, pass. District 3, pass. District -- I move
8 it and then I bang my nose. Okay. District 3, pass.
9 District 4, pass. District 5, Melanie Taylor. District
10 6, Ramona Tafoya. District 7, pass. District --
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Does District 7
12 have somebody?
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
14 Somebody is saying no, no, no.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Can you please come
16 to the mic? Oh, oh, we're talking alternates. Are you
17 talking -- okay. Come up to the mic, please.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
19 District 7 I have pass as a district delegate.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Please state your
21 name and district.
22 DISTRICT 7 VICE PRESIDENT HARMON: Madam
23 President, my name is Linda Harmon. I am the vice
24 president for District 7. District 7 would like to
25 nominate Bonnie Bradbury as delegate.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Bonnie
27 Bradbury, District 7 for National delegate.
28 Have you ever had a microphone tease the heck out
29 of you? I think that's what this one is doing.
30 MARSHAL DOIDGE: It doesn't like you, Ruby. It
31 wants to know your middle name.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
33 luck with that.
34 DISTRICT 7 VICE PRESIDENT HARMON: National
35 delegate for --
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I have
37 you down. District 7 Bonnie Bradbury for National
38 delegate. Thank you.
39 DISTRICT 7 VICE PRESIDENT HARMON: Yes.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
41 District 8, pass. District 9, pass. District 10, pass.
42 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Wait. Nine.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
44 I think that 9 is going to do an alternate, not a
45 delegate; is that correct? Dolly, I thought you were
46 going to nominate as an alternate. We're doing the
47 delegates right now.
48 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Yes. Janet Wilson is
49 here and she says she's going to be a delegate.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She

1 said she was going to be a delegate. Was she elected at
2 your district to be a delegate? Was she elected at your
3 district office?
4 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: No.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Pass.
6 District 10, pass. District 11 --
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Ruby, wait.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
9 District 10.
10 DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE CASTILLO: Dorothy Castillo,
11 District 10, and we would like to nominate Constance
12 Harbour as a delegate to the convention.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
14 Constance Harbour?
15 DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE CASTILLO: Harbour,
16 H-A-R-B-O-U-R.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
18 you.
19 DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE CASTILLO: You're welcome.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
21 District 11, Laura Barghoorn. District 12, pass.
22 District 13, pass.
23 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: We have someone,
24 Madam Secretary.
25 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Do they understand
26 they have to elect people?
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
28 National delegates and alternates need to be --
29 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: We elected her
30 at our district caucus.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It just
32 wasn't sent in?
33 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: It wasn't sent
34 in.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
36 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: This is Jennifer
37 Fanucchi. We nominate Sandy Jacob for National delegate.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sandy
39 Jacob, District 13. District 14, pass. District 15, Dee
40 Ann Graham.
41 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Hold on. Wait.
42 Wait.
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Fourteen is coming.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I see
45 it.
46 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Ellen McClurg,
47 District 14 President. Nomination for Gloria Sinopoli to
48 go to National.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
50 District 14, Gloria Sinopoli. District 15, Dee Ann

1 Graham. District 16, Loretta Marsh. District 17, pass.
2 District 18, pass. District 19, pass.
3 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: No.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Can we please have
5 all the districts after District 19, 19 through 30 please
6 come to the microphone, please. Because we're having a
7 lot of issues and this is taking too much time. All the
8 districts from 19 through 30 please come to the mic and
9 line up numerically.
10 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: I thought you meant
11 1930.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Don't tell your
13 age.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
15 District 19.
16 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: Diana Livas, 19th
17 District. We nominated Jean Cooley-Desmeules. It should
18 have been on the paperwork.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
20 you. District 20, Nancy Heinisch.
21 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT ESTES: Yes.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
23 District 21, pass.
24 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BENDZALA: Pass.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: District 22, pass.
26 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: I nominate Susie
27 Tozier.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Susie
29 is a delegate on her own right.
30 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Oh, she is? Okay.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
32 District -- it's in our Constitution & Bylaws that the
33 Department President, the Department President Elect,
34 National Convention Secretary, and any National Chairmen
35 are automatically made the department delegates, first
36 five delegates. So we already have Susie Tozier, Wendy
37 O'Brien, Diane DeLashmit and we have our National chair.
38 Okay. We're back at District 23.
39 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT MEYI: Okay. We nominate
40 Anita Biggs.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes, I
42 have Anita Biggs. District 24, Deloris Artis. District
43 25, Donna Scott. District 26, pass.
44 NATIONAL WESTERN VICE PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Yes, we
45 passed.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
47 District 27, LuAnn Capazzi.
48 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: That's it.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
50 District 28, pass. District 29, pass. District 30, pass.

1 Madam Department President, we are authorized,
2 based on our membership, five from charter and one for
3 every 1500 members which gives us five plus 15. So 20.
4 And we have 18.
5 Diane, is that the count you got?
6 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: No.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We have
8 18. 18. We need two.
9 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I only have 17. How
10 many do you have?
11 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: I have 16.
12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We only show
13 15 over here.
14 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: That's because you
15 have three.
16 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, yeah.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
18 We have 18. District 22?
19 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Yes. I wanted to
20 nominate, and we did at our meeting nominate, June Coatney
21 to be a delegate at National. I just confirmed with my
22 district.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: June
24 Coatney, District 22. We need one. That's 19.
25 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I have
26 another one.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It goes
28 by delegate strength. You can't just stand up and
29 delegate.
30 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'd like to.
31 I'd like to though.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm not
33 going there. We're going to have a lot to work with this
34 one next year, ladies. Keeping her in tow is going to be
35 something.
36 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: We have
37 our work cut out for us.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
39 All right. So we go into numerical strength. District
40 29. Does District 29 have a delegate? No. Pass.
41 District 22, do you have a delegate? Yes.
42 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Yes. Vergie
43 Goffney.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Vergie
45 Goffney. You see, I know these people. That's 20.
46 Alternates. Yes, Departments, these are your
47 National delegates for National Convention: Department
48 President Susie Tozier; Department President Elect Wendy
49 O'Brien; National Convention Secretary Diane DeLashmit;
50 District 5, Melanie Taylor; District 6, Ramona Tafoya;

1 District 7, Bonnie Bradbury; District 10, Constance
2 Harbour; District 11, Laura Barghoorn; District 13, Sandy
3 Jacob; District 14, Gloria Sinopoli; District 15, Dee Ann
4 Graham; District 16, Loretta Marsh; District 19, Jean
5 Cooley-Desmeules; District 20, Nancy Heinisch; District
6 22, June Coatney; District 23, Anita Biggs; District 24,
7 Deloris Artis; District 25, Donna Scott; District 27,
8 LuAnn Capazzi; and District 22, Vergie Goffney. Is that
9 20?

10 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: That's 20.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I move
12 the ratification of the election of these National
13 delegates to National Convention.

14 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Second.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You've
16 got 20.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We can do them
18 again forward.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
20 This is just the nomination. I'll move to alternates.
21 Okay.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Would the districts
23 please come back to the microphone in order, please, in
24 numerical order.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
26 District 1, pass. District 2, pass. District 3, pass.
27 District 4, pass. District 5, pass. District 6, Glenda
28 Schultz. District 7, pass. District 8, pass. District
29 9, pass. District 10, pass. District 11, pass. District
30 12, pass. District 13, pass. District 14, pass.

31 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: No, we didn't.
32 Ellen McClurg. For alternate to National Convention is
33 Debbie Herboto.

34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
35 Ellen McClurg for alternate for District 14.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: No. Debbie.

37 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Debbie Herboto.

38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Debbie
39 Herboto. Didn't we do this last time?

40 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Yes, ma'am, we
41 did.

42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
43 District 15, Zana Chaney. District 16, Linda Fercho.
44 District 17, pass. District 18, pass. District 19, pass.

45 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: Nope.

46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You
47 know, some of this is not sending in your paperwork,
48 ladies.

49 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: Don't take it out
50 on us at the postal system. I don't know. I have to try

1 something. Diana Livas, 19th District. We nominated and
2 accepted Tami Bell for alternate.
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
4 you. Tami Bell for alternate for District 19. District
5 20, pass. District 21, pass. District 22, pass.
6 District 23, Phyllis Meyi.
7 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT MEYI: I'm here.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
9 District 24, Martha Romano.
10 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT HACKNEY: Correct. If we
11 had procedure books, we wouldn't go through this.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
13 District 25, pass. District 26, pass. District 27,
14 Danielle White.
15 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: Right.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
17 District 28, pass. District 29, pass. District 30, pass.
18 We have a total of one, two, three -- wait a minute. One,
19 two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, and we need 20.
20 We have 12.
21 Okay. Line up, ladies. This is by numerical
22 strength. District 29, you can still pass if you don't
23 have anyone.
24 DISTRICT 29 ACTING PRESIDENT MAYFIELD: Pass.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Bless
26 her heart. Now here this lady is Acting District
27 President. Thank you. She's scared to death.
28 (Applause.)
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You're
30 doing good. You're doing good. Okay. District 22,
31 alternate.
32 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: We nominate Debra
33 Richardson.
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
35 District 22, Debra Richardson. District 25.
36 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT DURON: District 25 passes.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
38 District 21.
39 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BENDZALA: Pass.
40 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Do they
41 pass?
42 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BENDZALA: Pass.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
44 District 19?
45 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: It was the mailman.
46 District 19, Gail Stewart.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
48 District 19, Gail Stewart. District 16.
49 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT VARNELL: District 16, Tina
50 Moore.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Tina
2 Moore. District 16, Tina Moore. District 18?
3 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT SINCLAIR: Pass.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
5 District 28, pass. I mean, she's not here. I had to
6 decide for her. District 11.
7 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: District 11
8 passes.
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
10 you. District 5.
11 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: District
12 5, passes.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
14 you. All right. Madam President Elect, this is your
15 chance. You get an alternate in there. You said you
16 wanted it.
17 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, she's
18 there.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
20 District 6.
21 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT TAFOYA: District 6
22 nominates Dorien Long.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Did I
24 do 23?
25 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT MEYI: Pass. Pass.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Pass.
27 Okay. Okay. Now District 6. I'm sorry.
28 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT TAFOYA: District 6
29 nominates Dorien Long.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Dorien
31 Long. District 27.
32 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: Pass.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Hold
34 on. District 18.
35 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT SINCLAIR: Zana Chaney.
36 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You already
37 have her.
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I
39 thought she was --
40 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We need a
41 different one.
42 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Do you
43 have a second alternate?
44 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT SINCLAIR: Pass.
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Are
46 we -- we're not at 20.
47 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We're at 12. We need
48 20.
49 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All
50 right. We're on 15. Now you said pass 15. Dee Ann, do

1 you want to make Zana -- I know she's the page, but do you
2 want to make her the alternate?
3 DISTRICT 15 PRESIDENT GRAHAM: She is the
4 alternate.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: She's already on
6 there.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: What do
8 you mean? You're the one --
9 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Ruby needs
10 more Fireball down there.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
12 District 14, pass. Going once, going twice. District 14.
13 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Pass.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Pass.
15 District 20.
16 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT ESTES: Hila Estrada,
17 H-I-L-A.
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh,
19 yeah. District 26.
20 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSON: Pass.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
22 District 30, pass. District 12.
23 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT KELLEY: We pass, Ruby.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Pass.
25 District 2.
26 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Pass.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
28 District 4.
29 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT EDSON: Pass.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
31 District 7.
32 DISTRICT 7 VICE PRESIDENT HARMON: Pass.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
34 District 13.
35 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: Pass.
36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
37 District 24. Poor Ruth.
38 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT HACKNEY: I nominate
39 myself.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
42 District 10. District 10.
43 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT WOODY: Pass.
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
45 District 1.
46 DISTRICT 1 PRESIDENT CANCLINI: Pass.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
48 District 9.
49 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Pass.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I

1 thought she wanted to be a -- okay. District 3. District
2 3.
3 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: Pass.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
5 District 8, you pass. Kathleen.
6 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT SULLIVAN: Yes, we pass.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
8 District 17.
9 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT WANG-YEE: Pass.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We need
11 six more. Okay. We're going the third round, Ladies.
12 We've got to have 20 names. Whether they're going or not
13 it doesn't matter.
14 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We have one
15 for District 6.
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I have
17 to do it by voting strength. I just can't ask them to
18 come in.
19 Okay. Can I ask just as a query, is there anyone
20 in the house that's going that hasn't been nominated
21 according to the district number? 16. Okay.
22 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIKESELL: And 6.
23 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT VARNELL: We have District
24 16, Rosemary Weber.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: No,
26 we're not doing that yet. I just want to know so that the
27 other districts know there are -- when it gets down to
28 them that they will be nominating somebody. Right now I
29 understand there's two districts.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Talk in the mic,
31 please.
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
33 So we've got two districts that are going. I don't want
34 the names of anybody right now. I have to go through the
35 districts by numerical strength. When your district is
36 called, you stand up and you nominate that person. Until
37 then I just wanted other District Presidents to know that
38 there are people that are going so they don't have to
39 nominate somebody that's not going.
40 Okay. Back to District 29.
41 DISTRICT 29 ACTING PRESIDENT MAYFIELD: Pat
42 Alvarez.
43 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Pat
44 Alvarez. District 22.
45 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Nominate Donna
46 Smith.
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Donna
48 Smith, District 22. District 25.
49 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT DURON: Pass.
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank

1 you. District 21. I know she's going to tell me pass.
2 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT BENDZALA: No, I'll
3 nominate myself. I nominate Judy Bendzala.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
5 District 19.
6 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: I'm nominating
7 myself, Diana Livas.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You go,
9 President. District 16.
10 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT VARNELL: We nominate
11 Darlene Duncan. We just changed up. Rosemary isn't going
12 to go, but Darlene is going because her husband is feeling
13 better. Darlene Duncan.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You
15 said Rosemary --
16 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT VARNELL: I did.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
18 District 16 is Darlene Duncan. District 18, please send
19 somebody. No, I'm only kidding. Six has another one
20 so --
21 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT SINCLAIR: District 18 is
22 going to pass.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
24 you. Okay. Twenty-eight.
25 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT BAKER: Pass.
26 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Eleven.
27 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT VILLINES: Pass.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Five.
29 CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Pass.
30 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
31 District 23.
32 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT MEYI: Jackie Cleveland.
33 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Jackie
34 Cleveland. Is that 20? That's 20. Do you want to count
35 to make sure. By the time I finish this paper it's got so
36 much chicken scratch on it, it takes an hour just to
37 decipher when I go back to make the final report. What
38 you ladies put me through. We have 20.
39 Okay. Are we ready to go through the district
40 presidents and vice president?
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: (Nods head.)
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
43 Certification of election of District Presidents, First
44 Vice, and Second vice Presidents for 2016-'17.
45 District 1, Marialice Canclini.
46 (Applause.)
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
48 District 2, Judy Henderson. District 3, Lola Ramey.
49 District 4, Geri Fitzpatrick. District 5, Sandy Paxton.
50 District 6, Glenda Schultz. District 7, Linda Harmon.

1 District 8, Tammy Manini. District 9, Helaine Dolly Rios.
2 District 10, Gwen Woody. District 11, Marcia Monroe.
3 District 12, Ann Kelley. District 13, Pat McLeod.
4 District 14, Holly Andrade. District 15, Zana Chaney.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Wait. District 14
6 has a correction.
7 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Debbie Furtado.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She
9 ended up being president?
10 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Oh, I'm sorry.
11 No, we're done with the -- okay. Misunderstood you.
12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
13 District 15, Zana Chaney. District Presidents for
14 2016-'17. Zana Chaney.
15 (Applause.)
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
17 District 16, Terry Oclaray. District 17, Rachel Wang-Yee.
18 Right? Wang. Sorry. District 18, Gail Pouliot.
19 Pouliot.
20 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: District 14 is
21 Gloria Sinopoli as District President, yes. And not Holly
22 Andreade.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I think
24 I have some paperwork upstairs that I think I'll have to
25 show you. Gloria Sinopoli is coming in as District
26 President. Okay. We're back down to -- I already did
27 Gail. District 19, Nancy Rayner.
28 (Applause.)
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
30 District 20, Nancy Heinisch.
31 (Applause.)
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
33 District 21, Susan Romero.
34 (Applause.)
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
36 District 22, Donna Smith.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
39 District 23, Patricia Patrick.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
42 District 24, Deloris Artis.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
45 District 25, Maria T. Granado, Terri for short.
46 (Applause.)
47 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
48 District 26, Louann Johnston. District 27, Vicky
49 Goodchild. District 28, Karol Adams. District 29, Carol
50 Borgman. District 30, Kim Vincent.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
3 Let's go to the First Vice Presidents. District 1, Carol
4 Brown. Yes? District 2, Pat Carey. District 3, Lola --
5 Wendy Jacobs. District 4, Jean Edson. District 5, Norma
6 Harrison. District 6, Ramona Tafoya.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
9 District 7, Joanne Shope. District 8, Kathleen Sullivan.
10 District 9, Rosemarie Moreno. District 10, Dorothy
11 Castillo. District 11, Charlene Manthei. District 12,
12 Susie Q Mihaltan. District 13, Cece Harvey.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
15 District 14, Kathleen Cling.
16 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: No. You just
17 want me to get exercise. I know. Sandy Urban.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: That's only half
19 her name.
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sandy
21 Urban, District First Vice. District 15. Now this lady
22 wants to be a Department President? Harriet Clendenin.
23 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Backtrack.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
25 District 16, Stephanie Reid. District 17, Melinda Seto.
26 Is that right?
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
29 District 18, Betty Ramos. District 19, Becky Bullard.
30 (Applause.)
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
32 District 20, Ann Philcox.
33 (Applause.)
34 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
35 District 21, Cathleen McCoy. District 22, Moe Giacolone.
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
38 District 23, Rachelle Trimble. District 24, Beatriz
39 Huppert. Okay. District 25, Patricia Galatioto.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
42 District 26. District 26, Arlene Mueller. District 27,
43 Norma Billings.
44 (Applause.)
45 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
46 District 28, Robin Falkenberg.
47 (Applause.)
48 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
49 District 29, Carol Goss Holmes.
50 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
2 District 30, Karen Marquardt.
3 Okay. Onto the Second Vice Presidents. District
4 1, Pat Lindley. District 2, Anita Ray. District 3,
5 Beverly Hiles. District 4, Judy Bennett. District 5,
6 Wenonah Angier. District 6, Susan Casto. District 7,
7 Bonnie Bradbury. District 8, Teresa Canonizado. District
8 9, Henrietta Fontes. District 10 is Leonarda Estigoy.
9 (Applause.)
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
11 District 11 is Deborah Straight. District 12, Victoria
12 Ferreira-Allen.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm
15 glad to see that that's a brand-new unit coming up with a
16 District Second Vice President.
17 (Applause.)
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good
19 job. Now although I understand Cheri Whitaker is the
20 Second Vice?
21 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: For District 13,
22 yes.
23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I
24 didn't get it. Okay. Okay.
25 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT FANUCCHI: She is -- I'm
26 sorry. She is District 13's Second Vice, yes.
27 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank
28 you. District 14, Monica Castro. You're batting a
29 thousand.
30 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Geni Lefler.
31 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Excuse
32 me?
33 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Geni Lefler is
34 our Second Vice.
35 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: G-E --
36 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: G-E-N-I.
37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
38 G-E-N-I.
39 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: L-E-F-F-L-E-R.
40 One F. L-E-F-L-E-R.
41 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
42 Geni Lefler.
43 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT McCLURG: Okay. One
44 correction. I forgot Sandy got married. Her name is
45 Sandy Urban-Felix. She had to remind me.
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
47 District 15, Pat Gracey. District 16, Glenda Powell.
48 District 17, Yvonne Saceda. District 18, Patricia
49 Martinez.
50 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
2 District 19, Jean Cooley-Desmeules. District 20, Mahala
3 Beery. Isn't that a neat name, Mahala? District 21,
4 Brenda Wardrip. District 22, Susie Tozier.
5 (Applause.)
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She
7 might even have a seat. She can work her way back up.
8 District 23, Valerie Hill.
9 (Applause.)
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
11 District 24, Heather Risinger. District 25, Cyd Kintzer.
12 District 26, Leslie Tozzini. District 27, Joyce Curwick.
13 (Applause.)
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
15 District 28, Molly Smith. District 29, Jean Sudbeck.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
18 District 30, Pat Sinibaldi.
19 (Applause.)
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That
21 concludes all the certifications of the election of
22 presidents.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you. Could
24 the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please escort Hugh
25 Crooks, our American Legion NEC.
26 (Processional.)
27 NATIONAL NEC MEMBER CROOKS: Good afternoon. Let
28 me step back here. Good afternoon. I have to tell you --
29 well, first, to your president, your officers.
30 First Madam President -- you have a cell phone?
31 Anyway, greetings from our National Commander.
32 Make sure that you realize that he's still concerned about
33 the American Legion in general and remember his motto is
34 honor, courage. But I have to tell you, I'm sitting back
35 there and listening to you -- where's my president?
36 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Right behind
37 you.
38 NATIONAL NEC MEMBER CROOKS: I want you to know
39 you have made one of the biggest confessions of my life.
40 You guys delivered. I don't know if you remember back
41 when I was a Commander and I came over and visited you.
42 Well, I happened to have had a Regional Vice Commander and
43 the Vice Commander with me. They went back to our
44 National Convention, looked at the National Convention and
45 said I have never seen anything it before. I have never
46 seen the Auxiliary that stoked and that happy about your
47 Commander. I know what a rock star feels like.
48 (Applause.)
49 NATIONAL NEC MEMBER CROOKS: Thank you. Nobody
50 realized that, but, you know, I will always realize that.

1 Before I go, I just want to let you know. I'm
2 not sure if you've done it yet, but the Department of
3 California, this is my last three or four months as the
4 NEC. But I have been convinced to be in charge of the
5 hundred-year anniversary. So I will call on the Auxiliary
6 and other folks to help us celebrate rightly and
7 completely. I'm going to be looking to you and for you to
8 influence those men that have a job to do for me. And I
9 know -- listen, I told my new Post Commander today, you
10 were all -- I was sitting there waiting for about two
11 hours, and I said you want something done in the
12 Department of California, you see those ladies. They're
13 the ones who get it done.

14 (Applause.)

15 NATIONAL NEC MEMBER CROOKS: Not the men. They
16 are -- because even though they do it, they control those
17 people who do it. I just tell it like it is. Thank you.
18 I want you to have a great and wonderful convention.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You can tell he's a
21 hugger and a kisser.

22 (ProceSSIONAL.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We have 15 minutes
24 before we go into the Sanger presentation, San
25 Francisco/Sanger, so we're going to have Constitution &
26 Bylaws Donna Scott. You thought I forgot you.

27 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: No, I was
28 patient. Patient.

29

30 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CONVENTION REPORT

31

32 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Madam
33 President and members, the Constitution & Bylaws committee
34 meet -- on Constitution & Bylaws met at 9:00 a.m. June
35 23rd.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Kiss the mic,
37 please.

38 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It sounds
39 like it's loud. June 23rd in Room 2009 in the Fresno
40 Convention Center. The statistical report appears on page
41 23 on the Book of Reports.

42 Anita Biggs, District 23 was appointed secretary,
43 Marge Rye, District 21 offered prayer, and Sandy Kurkoske,
44 District 25, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. Marge
45 offered prayer and the members recited the Pledge of
46 Allegiance. Roll call was answered by 14 delegates and
47 there were five guests.

48 First order of business, Chairman Donna related a
49 problem we found by the committee appointed to review our
50 Department Constitution & Bylaws. Our District Model

1 Bylaws state, in part, in Article IV, Section 2-A reads:
 2 "No member shall hold more than one elected office."

3 Our Department Constitution states in Article
 4 XII, Section I: "The Officers of the District shall be
 5 President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,
 6 Junior Past President, Secretary-Treasurer, Historian,
 7 Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms, and such other officers as the
 8 President or District may deem necessary. The District
 9 Secretary-Treasurer may be elected or be appointed by the
 10 District President. (Note: The office of
 11 Secretary-Treasurer may be divided.)" And here's the one
 12 you want to hear. "No person shall hold more than one
 13 district office at the same time."

14 It doesn't say one. Moved by District 28
 15 Delegate Elizabeth Doidge to make this change to our
 16 District Model Bylaws. Article IV, Section 2-A to read:
 17 "No member shall hold more than one District Office at the
 18 same time."

19 Motion seconded and carried. This went
 20 informally with our Department bylaws.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Are you making a
 22 motion?

23 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: She's not there yet.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You're fine.

25 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: By
 26 direction of the committee, I move this change to District
 27 Model Bylaws.

28 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I second.

29 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: You don't need a
 30 second. This is not Donna's committee's fault. Because
 31 at the time I only was told that there was an error --
 32 there was an error regarding the elective office.
 33 However, even the officers are different. The main thing
 34 is we have to have the model bylaws be consistent with the
 35 constitution. So that -- so it also includes that the --
 36 we have to change the officers that are listed. You want
 37 to read those or do you want me to?

38 "The officers of the Districts shall be
 39 President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,
 40 Junior Past President, Secretary-Treasurer, Historian,
 41 Chaplain. Sergeant-At-Arms, and such other officers as
 42 the president or district may deem necessary. The
 43 District Secretary-Treasurer may be elected or be
 44 appointed by the District President. (Note: The office
 45 of Secretary-Treasurer may be divided.) No person shall
 46 hold more than one District Office at the same time."

47 You will notice there is no Parliamentarian in
 48 the constitution.

49 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: So we do
 50 not need the motion?

1 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Somebody just asked.
2 That means you don't have to have a parliamentarian. No,
3 we do not have to have one. If you wish to have one, you
4 can add it, but we don't have to have it. The thing is we
5 have to be consistent with what the constitution says.

6 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Any
7 questions?

8 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We need to amend the
9 original motion to include all these offices.

10 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: You mean all
11 the offices in the district bylaws.

12 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: That's
13 what I read here.

14 NATIONAL WESTERN VICE PRESIDENT WORKMAN: But the
15 parliamentarian wasn't on here.

16 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: My understanding of
17 your motion was for someone --

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We have a motion
19 for the whole statement.

20 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Madam
21 President, Anita Biggs, District 23. The amendment is not
22 to the constitution, although she referred to the
23 constitution as what needed to be corrected in addition to
24 the bylaws. The district bylaws were stating more
25 officers than the constitution. If we added all the
26 officers or correlated with the constitution, we'd have to
27 take out not only the Parliamentarian, but the Marshal and
28 the Musician as well.

29 So we didn't mess with the officers, the naming
30 of these officers. We only were addressing the fact of no
31 person shall hold more than one district office at the
32 same time to correlate with the constitution. I think
33 that's the clarification.

34 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: But you need to make
35 that motion bigger to make the changes to those offices.

36 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Okay. I'll
37 let you do that, Diane. You can amend the motion.

38 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Okay. I am amending
39 her motion to make the -- to make the constitution
40 bylaws -- I'm sorry. To make the model bylaws be
41 consistent with the constitution bylaws, so therefore it
42 would read: "The officers of the Districts shall be
43 President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,
44 Junior Past President, Secretary-Treasurer, Historian,
45 Chaplain. Sergeant-At-Arms, and such other officers as
46 the president or district may deem necessary. The
47 District Secretary-Treasurer may be elected or be
48 appointed by the District President. (Note: The office
49 of Secretary-Treasurer may be divided.) No person shall
50 hold more than one District Office at the same time."

1 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Second.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. I have a
3 question.
4 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So do I.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: That's exactly what
6 it says currently in here, so what's the change?
7 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: The change is to the
8 model bylaws so it reads the same.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The motion is to
10 change the model bylaws to include the Section 1 of the
11 Constitution & Bylaws to agree with -- anyway.
12 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: And also,
13 Madam President, Anita Biggs, District 23, to clarify even
14 further, on the model bylaws, Article IV, Section 2-A, we
15 were amending that sentence, sentence A that states: "No
16 member shall hold more than one elected office." We were
17 deleting "elected."
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. We first
19 need to deal with this other one first. So motion has
20 been made to correct the model bylaws to state: "The
21 officers of the Districts shall be President, First Vice
22 President, Second Vice President, Junior Past President,
23 Secretary-Treasurer, Historian, Chaplain.
24 Sergeant-At-Arms, and such other officers as the president
25 or district may deem necessary. The District
26 Secretary-Treasurer may be elected or be appointed by the
27 District President. (Note: The office of
28 Secretary-Treasurer may be divided.) No person shall hold
29 more than one District Office at the same time."
30 Is there any more discussion?
31 (No response.)
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All in favor?
33 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Now that was
35 voting the amendment. Now we're voting for the motion.
36 The motion is the same statement. All in favor?
37 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?
39 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Opposed.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Section 2-A.
41 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The
42 District Model Bylaws. We're doing the section, the same
43 -- what Diane is saying is that we should have done that
44 entire section there instead of taking out the 2-A. So
45 we'll do the section all the way down. That's what she's
46 saying.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Section 2-A of the
48 model bylaws Article IV should read: "No member shall
49 hold more than one district office at the same time."
50 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And the

1 rest is the same.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: And the rest is the
3 same. We're just making that correction in there.

4 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The same
5 as the bylaws & constitution.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Making it the same
7 as the constitution. Is there any discussion?

8 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: My motion
9 made it sound like it was going to --

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Hold on. Excuse
11 me.

12 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: It made it
13 sound like we're only talking about 2-A. We're talking
14 about the entire Article IV, Section 2 which includes the
15 A.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. We've
17 already voted. Thank you. No. Wait a minute. Hold on a
18 second, please. Wait a minute, please. We have a
19 clarification. I'll come to you as soon as I get done
20 with them. Okay.

21 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I know it's very
22 difficult to understand. In essence it's really a
23 housekeeping change, but the fact that it includes so much
24 of it, that's why we had to bring it to the floor.

25 In essence we want the model bylaws to be
26 consistent with the district bylaws. Right now every
27 district if they choose the model bylaws, which they are
28 mandated to do, are incorrect because they did not follow
29 the constitution. The bylaws of the model does not
30 override the constitution.

31 So we just voted on the amendment to add officers
32 because they're different than what's in the model. So
33 now we should be voting on the whole thing as a -- as a
34 function. I think all of you out there understand that.

35 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yes.

36 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Okay.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Do you have a copy
38 of the model bylaws, please?

39 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yes, I do.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Now I can
41 read it right. I need the model bylaws.

42 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: But the constitution
43 is what we're really voting on, that we're just making the
44 model be like the constitution.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Can you
46 please state the motion exactly how I should read it?
47 That's the problem.

48 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Okay. The motion as
49 amended should be that the office of the model bylaws need
50 to be changed to be consistent with the constitution which

1 reads: "The officers of the Districts shall be President,
 2 First Vice President, Second Vice President, Junior Past
 3 President, Secretary-Treasurer, Historian, Chaplain.
 4 Sergeant-At-Arms, and such other officers as the president
 5 or district may deem necessary. The District
 6 Secretary-Treasurer may be elected or be appointed by the
 7 District President. (Note: The office of
 8 Secretary-Treasurer may be divided.) No person shall hold
 9 more than one District Office at the same time."

10 DISTRICT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Now I
 11 understand. Thank you. Okay. The change reads on the
 12 Department Constitution states in Article XII, Section 1:
 13 "The officers of the Districts shall be President, First
 14 Vice President, Second Vice President, Junior Past
 15 President, Secretary-Treasurer, Historian, Chaplain.
 16 Sergeant-At-Arms, and such other officers as the president
 17 or district may deem necessary. The District
 18 Secretary-Treasurer may be elected or be appointed by the
 19 District President. (Note: The office of
 20 Secretary-Treasurer may be divided.) No person shall hold
 21 more than one District Office at the same time."

22 Is there any discussion? Yes. Please state your
 23 name and district.

24 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE BRUNNER: Bea Brunner,
 25 B-R-U-N-N-E-R, District 26. I would like to bring to the
 26 attention of the entire delegation that we are discussing
 27 the fact between holding a district office, period, or
 28 district elected office. I realize that the district
 29 bylaws must comply with the department bylaws. Also
 30 noting that if you can only hold one district office, that
 31 means if there are not enough as are done in units where
 32 you split some are elected and some are appointed, so that
 33 somebody can hold a district -- I mean a unit -- an office
 34 elected or appointed as we have been preaching in the unit
 35 for 30 years. So think about that. I'm saying that it
 36 would be easier on one hand to put insert the word
 37 "elected" in front of district in the department bylaws,
 38 but also know that the department bylaws are under
 39 revision, consideration. So instead of doing just one
 40 correction this year and a bunch or so in a year or two,
 41 that is why we're going this way.

42 Now I ask a question of the Chairman and the
 43 Parliamentarian. Do the unit bylaws as well have to
 44 comply with department? If the answer is yes, that same
 45 sentence of only one elected office is in the unit bylaws.

46 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Your unit bylaws say
 47 you only can hold one elected office and you can hold as
 48 many appointed as you want. You can hold one elected and
 49 you can also hold several appointed. They comply with the
 50 department constitution. It's only the district ones that

1 are off.

2 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE BRUNNER: Thank you.

3 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Now yes, there is a
4 committee and we are working on I call it a rewrite
5 because I truly think it's going to be a rewrite. We will
6 be moving things from constitution to bylaws and bylaws to
7 standing rules. Not everything, but some things. We hope
8 to have them ready to be voted on next convention. We are
9 in the process -- and we will take that under
10 consideration.

11 But, you know, your district, other than District
12 17 that only has one unit, there should be more people
13 coming to your district meetings than there are going to
14 your unit meetings because you have -- you have to have a
15 quorum which is one-third of your units present. So I
16 would hope that that's happening, that you have more
17 people at the district than you do in the unit meetings.

18 But we are considering that to possibly make that
19 "elected," but at the present time it isn't that way and
20 we need to be in compliance with our department bylaws so
21 that's where we are today. We did not want to make an
22 amendment and we were -- at this time we're trying to
23 avoid having a constitution change every single year with
24 one thing or another.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you. Okay.
26 Thank you. We're going to move -- all in favor?

27 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Opposed?
29 (No response.)

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. You just
31 voted on the amendment. Now the same statement --

32 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: No, I
33 think we voted.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: No. We're done.
35 (Applause.)

36 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: The code
37 was read and no action was taken. The Chair opened the
38 floor for questions and answers. Awards were given. Some
39 of these were not presented in my meeting. I just want to
40 let you know who got second place, who got supplemental.
41 District 19, Linda Fariss, Chairman. And Third Place Unit
42 Supplemental, District 24, Rebecca Stewart-Wilson,
43 Chairman. Second Place District Supplemental was District
44 10, Pilar Reyes. Third Place District Supplemental,
45 District 15, Delores Ryan.

46 (Applause.)

47 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Prayer was
48 offered and the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

49 Madam President, that concludes my report. May I
50 continue with my supplemental?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

2 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Madam
3 Department President Susie and Members, your Constitution
4 & Bylaws Chairmen were very busy this year. At this
5 writing, three districts and 19 units rewrote bylaws and
6 16 units made amendments to bylaws. Changes are still
7 coming in and will be added to this year's activity. And
8 I still have some in my bag pending that is not signed by
9 Madam President, but I will get those out to you units and
10 the districts.

11 This chairman was quite disappointed that I did
12 not receive 100 percent reporting. Nine districts did not
13 send in a year-end reports. Also quite disturbing was
14 that many units reported they do not review their Bylaws
15 and Standing Rules at the beginning of each Auxiliary year
16 nor at any time during the year. This is something all
17 Leadership chairmen throughout the department need to
18 address when holding training sessions or workshops. It
19 is imperative that our Constitution & Bylaws be followed
20 to ensure properly functioning units and districts.

21 Reading and following directions appears to be a
22 problem within our department. Some sent more copies than
23 necessary of the bylaws when rewriting, which costs more
24 in printing and mailing, and others may or may not have
25 included the correct number of signature pages required.
26 Please stress the importance of reading and following
27 directions and rules to your members.

28 Madam President, may I present my first place
29 awards?

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Yes.

31 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: First
32 Place Best Unit Supplemental Report goes to Alice F.
33 Coleman, Benjamin J. Bowie, Unit 228, District 23.
34 (Applause.)

35 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: And, of
36 course, First Place Best District Supplemental Report goes
37 to Anita Biggs, District 23.

38 (Applause.)

39 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: This
40 District certainly knows how to write supplemental
41 reports. See what happens when you write supplementals.
42 Congratulations to all who submitted supplemental reports.
43 Second and third place winners along with all 100 percent
44 reporting citations are listed in the department office.

45 Thank you, Madam President, for this experience.
46 This concludes my report.

47 (Applause.)

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: I won't hear from
49 you anymore in the mail?

50 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Beg your

1 pardon?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: You won't send me
3 any more mail?

4 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN SCOTT: You'll be
5 glad to get rid of me, won't you?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. We are going
7 to take a ten-minute recess, and during that ten-minute
8 recess the Sergeant-At-Arms and the Marshal with the help
9 of the Juniors will be leaving information on your
10 district chair where the pages are. So ten minutes be
11 back. We're starting without you if you're not here.
12 This is the Sanger/San Francisco presentation.

13 (Recess from 3:44 p.m. to 3:54 p.m.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Ladies, it's
15 time to go. Ladies, you are going to have to be quiet so
16 all of us can hear this information. You must stop
17 talking, please. We have a presentation. This is very
18 important. This is your decision, so please. We did this
19 work all for you.

20 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Are we ready?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Can we have the
22 lights dimmed, please? Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal,
23 District 13 and 17.

24

25 SAN FRANCISCO/SANGER PRESENTATION

26

27 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Can you hear me now?
28 I will try to talk louder. Madam President Susie, I first
29 would like to present our committee: Wendy O'Brien,
30 Harriet Clendenin, and myself, Diane DeLashmit. We were
31 asked to fact find San Francisco and Sanger for a possible
32 location to have our Department headquarters. It is not
33 our intent to encourage you to vote for one over the
34 other.

35 We visited both locations in mid-May and asked
36 the same questions at both locations. We asked through
37 the website for your questions and concerns, but we
38 received very few. Some made assumptions that were not
39 true. Hopefully our presentation will help at making
40 comparisons that allows you to determine what is best for
41 the American Legion Auxiliary.

42 Harriet has put together this presentation.
43 There's only a few slides. And you do need to remember
44 that San Francisco is already set up and Sanger is not.
45 They are not going to make that area for us unless we
46 decide to move there, and it is at that time that they
47 will make that space available.

48 Are we ready, Harriet?

49 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: No, I'm not. Give me a
50 second.

1 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: She wants me to go on
2 for a second. So you each should have one piece of paper
3 -- one paper at the top should say Sanger, one paper
4 should say San Francisco. I want to say about San
5 Francisco that there is -- there was discussion that the
6 War Memorial Building is for veterans. We as the
7 Auxiliary are not considered a veterans organization
8 because most of us are not veterans. The only ones that
9 are veterans are those women that served in the military.
10 The group there, the committee that is run by the
11 American Legion have had that name for that portion
12 changed, changed the word "veterans" to "patriotic." That
13 way that covers us for any future issues. And we're not
14 the only patriotic organization, women's patriotic
15 organization at the War Memorial Building. The DAR, the
16 Daughters of the American Revolution, are also in that
17 building. So that covers that issue with them as well.
18 There may be others as well, but I am aware of that one.
19 Okay. Are we ready?
20 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Almost.
21 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Almost.
22 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: We're very close.
23 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Very close.
24 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: We have a bit of technical
25 issues.
26 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: That's okay. So that
27 one sentence that's at the top of the page that says "San
28 Francisco" is different than we have on the Sanger page.
29 We have a hand up already.
30 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT LIVAS: Can we remove these
31 two signs? Because nobody in this corner can see anything
32 other than the districts.
33 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I'm kind of thinking
34 that might be too difficult. Can you maybe take -- for
35 just this presentation they're going to remove it. Thank
36 you very much, scarecrow.
37 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Diane, real quick.
38 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Who's talking to me?
39 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Over here, scarecrow.
40 If you do not have a Sanger or San Francisco page, please
41 let your District President know. District Presidents,
42 please raise your hands if you -- if anybody is missing
43 something. There's too many ladies, so if you're missing
44 either a Sanger or a San Francisco, please let your
45 District President know so we can -- so they can raise
46 their hand and we can get you some.
47 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Those of you who
48 received these papers yesterday, you would have been in
49 the DEC meeting, please give up your set if we're short.
50 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS VARNELL: Please, ladies, I

1 asked just the District Presidents to raise their hands.
2 It's too confusing if everyone is yelling at the Pages.
3 Thank you.

4 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Are we ready now,
5 Harriet?

6 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Yes, I'm ready now. Can
7 everybody hear me? Okay. Thank you. I want to start by
8 letting you know that you can go to the Auxiliary website
9 and on the bottom of the page is this PowerPoint
10 presentation. I understand that some of you in the far
11 reaches may not see it as well. We want everybody to see
12 it.

13 The idea when we put this together is to give you
14 a visualization. Personally I need that. I like to see
15 what I'm talking about, so this is what we did.

16 First place we went to was San Francisco. Go
17 ahead. This highlights to just show the space as best as
18 we could. And this is the membership office and the
19 clerk's office -- yeah, membership and Department
20 Secretary. Could you turn the lights down too, please?

21 As you can see in the back wall we have some
22 memorabilia things and there are two enclosed offices.
23 The secretary uses the one on the left and the president
24 uses the one on the right. Okay. This one I wanted to
25 show you some of the things that we have that would have
26 to be moved: display case, mirrors, cabinets, desks, et
27 cetera.

28 This is the floor plan. The one on the left is
29 the space that we're using and the one on the right is the
30 space of the whole floor with our portion highlighted.

31 This is going to be a little bit tricky. This is
32 the Memo of Understanding between the War Memorial
33 Commission and us. These are things that we talked about.
34 For example, I'll give you an example. The War Memorial
35 Building can allow patriotic organizations to use the
36 space for a donation. Okay? The American Legion
37 Auxiliary falls into that category. And space is built to
38 suit. The ALA has space on the third floor and it is
39 approximately 1300 square feet.

40 The War Memorial complex consists of the Davies
41 Symphony Hall, the War Memorial upper building, and the
42 War Memorial veterans building for veterans organizations.
43 All three are owned by the City and County of San
44 Francisco and are managed by a mayor-appointed War
45 Memorial board of trustees. Excuse me.

46 The San Francisco post of the American Legion,
47 collectively District 8, are a beneficiary of the Legion
48 War Memorial Commission and is the standing committee of
49 District 8 with the sale -- wait. Sole chart of managing
50 the Legion space within the veterans building. The ALWMC

1 does not have a seat on the board of directors and the
2 trustees do not sit on the commission.

3 This terminology is important, but it's also
4 confusing. Since the board of trustees is actually a city
5 commission and the ALWMC is actually a district committee,
6 at this time other than a donation there are no other
7 expenses such as utilities, landscaping, et cetera. All
8 other expenses such as copier, Internet, and phone are
9 paid by the ALA.

10 There are conference rooms that can hold as many
11 as 200 or small ones that will hold 20 which can be
12 reserved if needed at no additional cost. There is
13 24-hour security and an employee may enter the premises at
14 any time. There are seven assigned parking spaces shared
15 with all ten veterans organizations. Should the ALA to
16 move out, space is not guaranteed and the new patriotic
17 organizations will they have to pay for utilities and
18 service charges if the board of trustee policies stands
19 up.

20 Now we'll talk about Sanger. What we tried to
21 accomplish with this picture is to give you a sense of
22 what 600 square feet is. The one at the end in front of
23 the safe, vault, if anybody's been there you know what I'm
24 talking about, that's the 600 feet. Now the cabinets and
25 the counters and all that stuff would be removed.

26 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: When your
27 face goes, take the microphone.

28 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Okay. This is the outside
29 of the Sanger building to the American Legion, the flags,
30 and all the parking spaces. Okay. This is again a floor
31 plan. Where is it? Right. Okay. Right around there is
32 the 600 -- okay. The Sanger building will allow the
33 American Legion Auxiliary 600 feet of space next to the
34 conference room. The space needs to be built out to
35 include an enclosed office. This will allow us to
36 comfortably set in two desks or cubicles. And the
37 American Legion has two poles. We can do something
38 similar to those.

39 The ALA space will have a door on two sides with
40 some privacy since the area behind has a printer and
41 workspace that can be used by us as well. There will be
42 no rent, however, we are asked to pay somewhere between
43 one-quarter and one-third of utilities, pruning services,
44 and gardening. Copy, phone, and Internet expenses may be
45 piggybacked with the TAL. However, we do have contracts
46 for our copiers which we may continue until the length of
47 its service.

48 There is a -- hello? Okay. There is a
49 conference room that can hold as many as 80 or an office
50 that may be utilized should we not -- should we need a

1 much smaller space. Any employee may enter at any time
2 and will be given the alarm code. There are 56 parking
3 spaces on the premises with free parking on the street.
4 General office hours are 8:30 to 4:30, Monday through
5 Friday. The TAL will need to build out the space to
6 accommodate, and the soonest as we may be able to move in
7 is spring of 2017.

8 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Are you finished?

9 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: I'm done.

10 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: So now if you want to
11 look at your sheets, I would suggest we put them side by
12 side and that's kind of what we're going to go over.

13 Now I don't know if we have to go over every
14 single item on this. We will point out some of the bigger
15 ones because some are minor little things. Okay. I told
16 you about the first line on the San Francisco, so we'll
17 start with footage. At San Francisco we have 1300 square
18 feet. I don't know if she mentioned it. That lunchroom
19 is shared by the people that will be next to us. At this
20 point it's vacant.

21 At Sanger it's 600 feet. There is a little bit
22 more as far as the front from the foyer for the display
23 cabinets. The next thing is -- okay. The rent. She's
24 already talked about rent. At the present time there is
25 no rent. We don't anticipate any rent at San Francisco,
26 but we are giving them \$200 a month donation. At Sanger,
27 the -- let's see.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Can we ask them to
29 turn the lights back up? Thank you.

30 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: There is no rent at
31 Sanger, but they do expect us to pay parts of the
32 utilities and some maintenance things, from one-third to
33 -- I'm sorry. From one-quarter to one-third of the
34 utilities. And it's going to be based on 750 feet even
35 though we only have 600 feet because they're including our
36 share of the conference rooms whenever we need them.

37 Okay. Both facilities we're able to access 24/7.
38 And even though the office hours are 8:30 to 4:00, we have
39 access. So if we want our hours to be different, that
40 would be okay. Let's see. I'm going to have to turn
41 around so I can see this. Right now we have four -- we
42 have three employees really. One's not an employee; it's
43 a volunteer. We have two employees and the volunteer
44 secretary-treasurer and the Legion has seven. But we
45 could have up to four space-wise.

46 At San Francisco as far as getting the employee
47 pool, I know in the past we have had some schools that
48 have helped us with getting people there to work. At
49 Sanger I'm told that the employees in that area often are
50 not year-round, they work seasonal. There are more

1 seasonal employees and they would like to have year-round
2 employment.

3 And at this time the Legion has had some people
4 come to work there that were given their credentials in
5 various areas and they need to have experience in order to
6 get a job. So I know of one that came to, quote, work
7 there without pay to get the experience to put on their
8 resume. And then we have the colleges there that like to
9 work with them, and we probably do -- okay. I did want to
10 say when I looked at the pay scales, some of them say
11 under \$10, but I think we all know that law is going into
12 effect that we have to give \$10 an hour for pay and
13 eventually it will be 15. So when you look at -- there's
14 a couple on the Sanger side that are under \$10, and with
15 the job titles and what their hourly wage is and what
16 their annual wage is, annual wages are full-time
17 employees, and at the present time I believe we have one
18 full-time and one part-time.

19 So if you want to look at those and look at the
20 differences, the salaries in the system are in some cases
21 much higher, but it's based on their experience level.
22 You can look at those in your spare time.

23 At one point it was sort of suggested that the
24 Legion be part of the hiring board. They didn't really
25 call it that, but they wanted everybody to be compatible.
26 They wanted to make sure that the employees could be
27 compatible. When we went back and talked to them, the
28 hiring practice, I was told, is strictly by the Auxiliary.
29 And if they move to Sanger, there may be training
30 requirements because my perception is that the employees
31 we now have working in San Francisco are probably not
32 going to go to Sanger, so that means we would have to hire
33 new people.

34 They do have -- I told you they do not want us to
35 move in until spring of 2017, and that is -- they are not
36 going to start to renovate that area that we would be
37 occupying until we say yes, we're moving or no, we're not.
38 And so they wanted to do all the infrastructure before we
39 move in. That's the length of tables for phones and all
40 of that. And that makes sense. They don't want us to be
41 there to put all of that in, so we're looking at the
42 spring of 2017.

43 For the move, the cost of the move. The cost of
44 the move when we went to San Francisco was \$462.60. We
45 received an estimate for move to Sanger to be \$3,558.70.
46 Now the reason for that is we can't possibly move
47 everything that's in the San Francisco office to Sanger
48 because it won't fit. Now there's things that don't fit
49 in San Francisco also, but they're already there so --
50 because it really is limited space.

1 I have listed down here the inventory that we
2 took of things that would have to be moved. Remodeling
3 expense is kind of up in the air because it depends on
4 whether or not we're going to reuse the desks and the
5 things that we have or if we want it to look like the
6 Legion side. The Legion side is not using desks and all
7 of that. We have beautiful old desks, but they have
8 converted theirs to cubicles like you see in many offices.
9 And they're about this high. They are higher -- I think
10 they're five feet, which I guess would be about this high.
11 I can't look over them, and that's a good thing. And
12 actually they purchased -- I believe I'll say used from
13 other places, but they looked great. They did not look
14 used. Okay. So the cost on those they estimated was
15 \$1,000 a cubicle. And so they put down 3,000, so that's
16 the cost.

17 Cost of equipment at Sanger. They want us to --
18 actually, they're not pressuring us, but they would like
19 for us to share equipment. So that's going to have to be
20 another decision. By sharing, of course, it won't take up
21 as much space and there are ways you can do that. You put
22 in a code and you know how much paper the Legion used and
23 how much the Auxiliary used. So you can do that.

24 If we want our own things there, then we have to
25 make sure we have room for them and hook them up. And
26 yes, we still have contracts with the copiers and with the
27 stamp machine and they're still for two years. Of course
28 by then it would be down to about one year. And they said
29 they renegotiated their contracts and it was -- it was
30 easier. It was less costly.

31 Let's see. What else do we have here? All
32 right. We can utilize the same phone system. If we
33 choose to have our own, of course we're going to have to
34 pay for that. Let's see. They suggested a shared
35 employee for a receptionist. I'm not sure we need a
36 receptionist, but that was offered to us. There would be
37 one enclosed office for the Secretary-Treasurer and it
38 would be in the area where the vault -- just outside of
39 the vault. I think maybe we should be inside of the
40 vault, but -- but anyway, and then we just close the door.

41 Let's see. Harriet told us about the conference
42 room, 80 occupancy. And actually it's Bill Siler's office
43 now. That would hold eight. There are 56 parking spaces.
44 Two are handicapped with street parking.

45 San Francisco, as she told you, there are seven
46 spaces for ten veterans organizations and there is metered
47 parking on the street. I don't want to jump around too
48 much, but you can read all of those statistics.

49 When we checked on the area crime rate, well, I
50 went on the website and San Francisco, to be honest, I

1 really couldn't tell because it's color coded and some of
2 the colors ran together. It was really hard to see what a
3 medium red was to a darker red. So I'm going to say it
4 was average -- no, not average. High, but it could be
5 very high, but I put down just high.

6 Sanger came up with an average -- I'm sorry what?
7 That's just the average crime rate, you know. People want
8 to know is this a city that's crime free. Well, there's
9 very few of those. I'm not sure if there is any. They're
10 saying that the average, the crime rate in Sanger is
11 average. I have to say that would be for that size
12 community. San Francisco is high. And that was just
13 something that came up, would we have to walk over
14 homeless to get here and there, and so I thought, okay,
15 that's a concern of somebody's, so, okay, I checked that
16 out.

17 There is room at Sanger for cabinets. We have a
18 beautiful cabinet in San Francisco. The PDP pictures are
19 up on the wall and we have very nice display cases for
20 them. They're older in nature that I would almost say
21 they're antiques. Very -- they're very nice and they hold
22 many things. Hold pins, things that belonged to many of
23 ours Past Department Presidents.

24 DELEGATE MEMBER: Question. Can we --

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: We will have a
26 question and answer period after Diane is finished.

27 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Let's see. Then
28 there is a place in Sanger across the windows in our area
29 will be -- they would fit up there. They're above the
30 windows. And I asked if we could have more space and they
31 said we could put the other memorabilia in the foyer,
32 which for me is a nice place to put it because everybody
33 who comes in would see it. I don't think we're going to
34 have as much space as we have currently now at San
35 Francisco.

36 Some extra costs -- I'm not sure I have the
37 papers in the right order. The normal things that go with
38 it, employees are going to be the same. I was checking as
39 far as tax things and such, but we're all in the State of
40 California so all of those are going to be the same. And
41 the City of San Francisco has some extra things in their
42 policies, but basically those are going to remain the
43 same. We have no costs at San Francisco for maintenance
44 or any of those things. You know, if the plumbing goes
45 out and air conditioning, we have no -- no extra costs
46 there.

47 In Sanger they said that they would like us to
48 pay one-fourth to one-third of maintenance. Well, we have
49 to kind of figure out what they're talking about, so I
50 said if the air-conditioner goes out and we have to get

1 somebody, do you expect us to pay for that? Well, we
2 first were told probably a quarter of it, and the last
3 time I talked, well, we probably would pick that up. But
4 that was their answer, we probably would pick that up.
5 Probably.

6 Okay. And by the way, we have a Memorandum of
7 Understanding from San Francisco. We have asked for one
8 from Sanger. To my knowledge we don't have one yet.
9 Okay. So yes, I did write down one -- actually, I should
10 have written it the other way in these copies. It should
11 be one-fourth to one-third, not one-third to one-fourth.

12 And it's kind of funny because the poor
13 receptionist, I don't know what his name is, but they said
14 he's the receptionist, but he also does the janitorial
15 work. And he may do the lawns too. So he might be our
16 maintenance person too. I'm not sure.

17 And then we come to -- okay. So what happens if
18 the Commander changes? Will things change for us too with
19 whoever comes in? And they said no. The Commander does
20 not come in and change things from one Commander to the
21 other. But that is why we wanted to have a Memorandum of
22 Understanding so this is what we had agreed upon. And
23 even though it's not a contract, it's in writing. But we
24 have discussed our expectations on that. At San Francisco
25 they have issued a Memorandum of Understanding.

26 So I think I'm down to the last. Did I miss
27 something that was really important? Okay. So that's a
28 rough idea of the two locations. So I guess at this
29 point, Madam President --

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. If you have
31 any questions, please come to the microphone to talk on
32 the subject. Two minutes. You have two minutes.

33 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Three.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Oh, Diane is giving
35 you three.

36 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: No, that's what the
37 book says.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. You only get
39 to talk on the subject twice and you get three minutes.

40 NATIONAL WESTERN VICE PRESIDENT WORKMAN: My
41 concern -- Linda Workman, District 26. My concern would
42 be I know that there were litigations that are against the
43 American Legion and I'm wondering if those have been
44 settled.

45 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I have no idea. Some
46 of -- some of the things that were asked of us or given to
47 us, remember it's -- it's -- really Auxiliary isn't into
48 Legion business, and so things like that we did not feel
49 like we could really address. So you're going to have to
50 take -- figure that out. That's why you're going to have

1 -- tonight maybe if you have a spouse or somebody of
2 importance in the Legion, you can ask those questions of
3 them. We felt like we would be invading Legion business
4 if we got into some of those personal things.

5 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE PHILCOX: Ann Philcox,
6 District 20. I'm curious, does the Legion know we were
7 going to discuss a vote on this? Why didn't we get that
8 memorandum because I'd be afraid to vote without that
9 Memorandum of Understanding.

10 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We -- when we were up
11 there in mid-May we were instructed to give -- to write
12 down all the things that we have talked about and to give
13 it to the Department Commander and then he was going to go
14 over it with his Judge Advocate. I don't know what
15 happens. Do you know anything about that? But that was
16 done.

17 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Yes.

18 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We did give
19 it to them, yes.

20 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Anita Biggs,
21 District 23. So I can ask more than one question
22 because -- first I want to know is there any public
23 transportation in Sanger?

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I did not check for
25 public transportation. It's not a very big place.

26 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Is there --
27 how far is the hotel accommodations at the Picadilly Inn
28 from the --

29 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: And, you know, I
30 didn't check that mileage out and I forgot to address that
31 here. I can tell you we can probably go --

32 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: I can Google
33 it.

34 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: -- on these phones
35 that we have and figure that out.

36 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Also is --
37 was the -- did the American Legion give you any estimate
38 as to how much the utilities are costing them monthly?

39 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: They thought it would
40 be about \$100.

41 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: On our part?

42 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yes. That would be
43 our share.

44 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Our share
45 would be \$100.

46 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: About that.

47 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: About that.

48 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Do we pay for
49 the cubicles that have to be built?

50 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Yes.

1 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: So that
2 \$3,000 would be something we pay?
3 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: That is correct.
4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Last thing.
5 From my understanding the Girls State --
6 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excuse me,
7 Anita. On the cubicles, they're -- it's -- everything
8 comes together: the counter, the walls, the filing
9 cabinets, everything for -- you probably know that and for
10 others who don't.
11 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: I work in a
12 cubicle.
13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So the whole
14 thing is the walls, the counters, the file cabinets, a
15 file cabinet on top. Everything comes together in one
16 thing and that is what would be the \$1,000 per cubicle.
17 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you.
18 Last thing. From what I understand I was told that the
19 Girls State Alumni for California has been offered space
20 in the San Francisco War Memorial Building and that's
21 being considered by Girls State for free as well. That's
22 just something I wanted to --
23 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I have no knowledge
24 of that.
25 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: I was just
26 told that this weekend. Thank you.
27 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Could be.
28 (Applause.)
29 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: Barbara Rossin,
30 District 7. On the Sanger fact-finding, about halfway
31 down it says move dates --
32 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Halfway down.
33 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: On the Sanger sheet,
34 Move date-Spring 2017 due to renovation. How much is the
35 renovation and who's paying for it?
36 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: The Legion is paying
37 for it. And I don't know how much it is because they're
38 paying for it.
39 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: If we get an MOU.
40 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Well, no, because
41 that is their equipment. It's their cables, electricity,
42 and all of that. That is part of their building. They
43 are paying for that.
44 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: On crime rate, do we
45 know what kind of crimes there are?
46 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Oh, there are all
47 kinds. I didn't list them. Actually I was told in San
48 Francisco they didn't have crime and yet -- and yet we --
49 the three of us were crossing the street across from the
50 hotel and some woman yelled out, "He's got a gun," and

1 some man says, "He doesn't scare me with a gun."

2 Well, you know, we went across the street. We
3 didn't look back. And I don't know if anything happened
4 or not. At Sanger we were told, well, we don't have any
5 right here, but the prostitutes and -- the drug dealers
6 and the prostitutes are over there.

7 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: That's the
8 difference between a John and a gun.

9 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We went on the
10 website, we put in their zip code and it tells me.

11 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: And my last question
12 is --

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Barbara, if
14 we may add to that, ladies, if you go to any town and
15 right where you get off to the freeway, how bad it is. So
16 every community has issues. It's just we tried to find
17 what the listing was for the majority of the town that we
18 were trying to do. So there's crimes in both places.

19 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: And my last question
20 is who's paying for property insurance?

21 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Who's paying the
22 what?

23 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: Property insurance.
24 It says we won't have any property insurance.

25 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Right, that's the
26 building, the land they're on. The Legion is paying for
27 it. It's their building. You're talking about Sanger;
28 correct? They're paying for it. We're not paying for any
29 of that.

30 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE ROSSIN: Again MOU.

31 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Correct.

32 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT TAFOYA: Ramona Tafoya,
33 District 6. I just have a concern about the cost of your
34 printer and your stamps. To me it seems it's very high.
35 You're paying that monthly and you're on a two-year
36 contract and --

37 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We have to use up the
38 contract. It was a longer contract than that.

39 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT TAFOYA: I'm just concerned
40 about the cost. You're paying monthly for that. That's
41 quite high it seems like. If you put them both together
42 it's over \$2,000 so --

43 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: That is what
44 we're paying in San Francisco at this particular moment.
45 That is what things cost for the machine and the stamp
46 machine and the copy machine.

47 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT TAFOYA: Otherwise it would
48 be free.

49 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: If we moved
50 to Sanger we have to negotiate a contract. We may have to

1 pay for the two-year contract and then get a contract
2 there or have a machine that we might be able to borrow
3 from the Legion. So the price on the San Francisco is
4 what we're paying in San Francisco right now. That's not
5 going to change unless we move, so --

6 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT TAFOYA: Right. Okay.
7 Thank you.

8 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Even if we
9 move.

10 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: Even if we move, yeah.

11 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: Linda Farris,
12 District 19. I have to talk fast. I have a lot
13 questions. First of all, I wanted to state because I was
14 in the apartment business, 600 square feet is about the
15 size of an average side one-bedroom apartment, if that
16 helps people get a mental picture of what we're talking
17 about. 1300 square feet is the size of many three-bedroom
18 apartments. So just to kind of -- because most of us are
19 not very spacial.

20 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I understand. I'm
21 not either.

22 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: And what is the --
23 oh, I remember. The person coming in, I thought he was
24 the manager. I don't know who he was came in last year
25 and addressed us. He told us we were going to get the
26 whole second floor, and now we're back to 600 square feet.

27 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I don't think so.

28 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: 1300 feet is
29 what we have.

30 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: I made notes.

31 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: The man that came to
32 talk to us last year was from San Francisco. I don't
33 think we had anybody here from Sanger. And the old
34 upstairs of Sanger is not very big. It's not the whole
35 building, it's just a portion of it.

36 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: Okay. Maybe I
37 misunderstood. If we get into the situation where we're
38 sharing -- we're sharing a printer with the Legion, who
39 decide who gets to use it when?

40 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Good question, good
41 question. And that is one of the issues that we perhaps
42 want to use our own.

43 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: And how -- what is
44 the total square feet of the first floor?

45 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: The first floor?

46 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: The floor we would
47 be on in Sanger.

48 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: What is the total
49 footage? Well, I was told that 600 feet is the same work
50 area space that their employees have. Now I have a little

1 question about that because one thing that we have to have
2 on our side is a walkway that is wide enough for
3 wheelchairs. It's an ADA thing. I don't know if that was
4 included in our 600 feet. So maybe we would have to
5 design the office to be the -- probably would be whatever
6 we decided to do, a table or cubicles, would have to be up
7 against the wall and where the windows are and out.

8 Because then we would have to allow that walkway or path
9 or whatever you want to call it and then have the file
10 cabinets or whatever on the other wall. But somewhere in
11 there we would have to allow for a certain width for ADA.

12 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: One last question.
13 Does anyone know why the Legion chose to move to Sanger in
14 a falling down bank building?

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I can't tell you
16 that. I just know for years and years and years I've
17 heard about the Legion trying to find property in mid
18 California so that it was not all the way up north and --
19 I mean, it really isn't all the way up north. There's a
20 whole lot of land past San Francisco. And I've heard that
21 for years and years and I guess they just did it.

22 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARRIS: Thank you, Diane,
23 and thank you to the whole committee for all the work you
24 put in.

25 (Applause.)

26 DISTRICT 21 DELEGATE VONDRA: Yes, I'm Leslie
27 Vondra from Unit 519, District 21. My first question is
28 how much of that 1300 square feet do we actually use in
29 San Francisco?

30 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: All of it.

31 DISTRICT 21 DELEGATE VONDRA: All of it.

32 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: It's a little more
33 spacious. I mean, they do have quite a bit of room to
34 walk around. They're able to have -- we have a table that
35 probably seats about eight right there in the main office
36 so if you want to have a short meeting that doesn't need
37 the privacy and things, we have that table. Plus the two
38 offices and a huge table in the lunchroom that we're using
39 right now because we're not sharing that lunchroom with
40 anybody until somebody moves in next door.

41 DISTRICT 21 DELEGATE VONDRA: My other question
42 is when the Legion decided they were going to move to
43 Sanger and thought about the Auxiliary moving with them,
44 did they not think that we would need more space than 600
45 square feet? And what would be the main benefit for us?
46 Why do they want us to move in that building with them?
47 What would be the benefit to them?

48 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I think it's the
49 perception of a Legion Family. I think they want us to be
50 together as a -- you know, in San Francisco to -- until we

1 moved -- until we moved last year, the Legion and
 2 Auxiliary were right next to each other. I don't know how
 3 much actual communication went on because I didn't work
 4 there, but they were right next to each other. This way
 5 we would be separated so I -- I think they -- and I
 6 shouldn't say what I think, but I think they just assumed
 7 we're part of them and that we would go with them.

8 You know, and I'm not saying this about any
 9 particular person, but there's a lot of misconceptions
 10 about our relationship. I think many of us experience
 11 that in our local areas where they think they kind of
 12 control us or --

13 (Applause.)

14 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: You know.

15 DISTRICT 21 DELEGATE VONDRA: You see, that is
 16 why I was asking. Because since the Auxiliary is a
 17 separate entity, what benefit do we have by moving into
 18 Sanger?

19 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I think we would have
 20 to use that -- you're going to have to figure that out.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Diane,
 22 I just wanted to add one comment that these -- the
 23 membership is not aware of. At the War Memorial
 24 Commission, we have storage space allocated in the
 25 basement that we're storing a lot of stuff down there as
 26 well. So not only do we have 1300, we have probably
 27 another 600 feet down there for storage.

28 (Applause.)

29 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And to go
 30 back to the question that was asked, I don't think the
 31 Legion really talked to us about moving before they did
 32 it. It was something they did for the Legion and it was
 33 an afterthought of how the Auxiliary was going to handle
 34 it.

35 (Applause.)

36 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Let's see. I think
 37 maybe you're next.

38 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Dolly Rios, District
 39 9. What happened to last year they talked about the
 40 Legion moving to Sanger and also the Riders moving there.
 41 What happened there?

42 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I did ask that
 43 question when they were up there and they said not at this
 44 time. Maybe they're waiting for us to make the decision.
 45 Maybe if we don't use it, that's going to be for them.
 46 But that's what they told me, not at this time.

47 DISTRICT 23 DELEGATE MOORE: Sharon Moore, 23rd
 48 District, Unit 252. Ruby kind of answered my question,
 49 but, Ruby, this is to you. The staff there at San
 50 Francisco, can you literally move to the 600 square feet

1 and still be comfortable in your daily duties?

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: No.

3 DISTRICT 23 DELEGATE MOORE: The answer is no.
4 Okay. And then secondly in regards to the MOU, is Sanger
5 going to provide us with an MOU before we make a decision
6 or are they waiting on our decision to then provide us
7 with an MOU?

8 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I think your
9 suspicions are correct.

10 (Applause.)

11 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: You know, they can have a
12 change of heart so to speak. They're going to have a new
13 president. There's -- there is chaos a little bit in
14 Sanger with Bill leaving, and I think after that settles
15 down and figured out, then we'll get the MOU. New Judge
16 Advocate, new everything. That's all right. You don't
17 need to.

18 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Remember there's pros
19 and cons at both places. You're going to have to weigh
20 those as what is best for the American Legion Auxiliary.
21 And April -- I'm sorry.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: It's over here.

23 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Pat.

24 DISTRICT 30 DELEGATE SINIBALDI: Pat Sinibaldi,
25 District 30. They mentioned some of them, but don't you
26 think being so close to the post and the Legion is going
27 to conflict of what you're doing since we're not supposed
28 to be in their business and they're not supposed to be in
29 ours?

30 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Well, what I
31 understand, for 30 years we've had this where we were
32 right next to each other. I don't -- I don't really think
33 that on the department level it really was that big of a
34 problem. I think those problems are more on the local
35 level.

36 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: April Kochur,
37 District 22 President. Just to backtrack --

38 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Can you talk
39 into --

40 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: We veterans to --

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: April, can you make
42 the microphone go closer to the lips.

43 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Okay. Sorry.
44 What I mean is we shouldn't be making an issue of the
45 crime rate when we've got experienced veterans and
46 soldiers around us. Because we're going to pretty much be
47 safe whether we go to Sanger and even at the Port of San
48 Francisco area we've got military around us. So we'll be
49 fine there on that.

50 My -- my other question or my comment is if the

1 Legion is expressing interest in wanting to be a part of
2 the hiring process, that sort of stuff, I'm kind of
3 wondering, you know, if by chance the office manager, ALA
4 office manager, supervisor is out of the office for
5 whatever reason that day, is there going to be a blurred
6 line of where the Legion is going to be coming over to the
7 Auxiliary office managers.

8 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We addressed that to
9 a point and that was stated -- first they said, no, this
10 is yours -- that's your business and that -- but yes, it
11 needs to be in the memorandum.

12 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT KOCHUR: Okay. Thank you.

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SPARKS: Beverly
14 Sparks, District 25. I haven't been involved in the last
15 few years, but it seems to me there are way too many
16 questions that need to be answered. Because our group up
17 here of three have a list of advantages and disadvantages
18 of this move. Too many ifs. I can't imagine 600 square
19 feet with storage and 15 cabinets and desks and cubicle
20 walls. I mean, you're going to be in a closet. So,
21 sorry, I know the Legion and family is very important,
22 but, boy, you get two families that are fighting over
23 space, I don't know what you're going to have at that
24 point.

25 (Applause.)

26 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: That's why we wrote
27 this up the way we did, issue by issue for you to figure
28 out yourself what are the advantages and the
29 disadvantages. We -- the three of us are not trying to
30 convince you to go to one place or another. You take
31 these things and you figure out, okay, this is an
32 advantage, this is a disadvantage. So you work it out and
33 whatever you think is the best place to be for the
34 Auxiliary, that's -- that's the way you need to vote.

35 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE NEEBLE: Linda Neeble, 19th
36 District. I just have a question. I understand the
37 building was originally a bank and that there is a vault
38 in that building. Is that vault on our side of the
39 building and is considered as part of our 600 feet? Thank
40 you.

41 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Well, the vault is
42 about 600 feet. It's huge. I want to say there's three
43 rooms in the vault. They're not big rooms, but enough
44 to -- I mean, you have three separate little whatever
45 areas. So, no, that -- it is on our side of the room,
46 but no, it's not part of the 600 feet.

47 NEC CHAIR CLENDENIN: The vault -- actually where
48 the vault door is is the beginning of our 600 feet. Then
49 it goes this way. Does that help?

50 While I have the mic I wanted to be sure that you

1 people know that when we started talking about our trip
2 and doing this fact finding, we are trying very, very,
3 very hard to compare apples to apples and not apples to
4 grapes. So that's why you have two pieces of paper with
5 the same questions.

6 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT DURON: Tamra Duron,
7 District 25. First off I would like to ask, this MOU that
8 we have from San Francisco, is it dated -- is it for 50
9 years, a hundred years? Because I have an MOU with my
10 union, it's negotiable and it can be changed. So are we
11 guaranteed this MOU for a certain amount of period?

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I don't think so. It
13 was -- I mean, it will be dated as to whenever it will be
14 effective. There is no ending date. We have had not a
15 contract, but -- I don't know if we had a written
16 Memorandum of Understanding, but it was 1931 and we have
17 been there since then and this is now 2016. So we're
18 talking about 85 years or so. I have pretty much an
19 understanding that -- and even though we've been there
20 that long, the Auxiliary hasn't paid a dime all of those
21 years because we were really part of the Legion and the
22 Legion paid the donation. So we had not had any conflict
23 there in over 80 years. I don't anticipate any now.

24 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT DURON: Okay. I'd also
25 like to say that there's been a lot of comments what was
26 the Legion thinking, why did the Legion do this. We can't
27 speak for the Legion. If we'd like to know those answers,
28 we need to go to the Legion and ask them.

29 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Correct.

30 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT DURON: Also I'd like to
31 state that I work for a school district and we can take
32 600 square feet and put six to eight employees there and
33 work efficiently and effectively. Square footage does not
34 effect the quality of work that we do. Thank you.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well, I
37 you have liked you to have been there on 13th when we had
38 three people in 900 square feet and it was not pleasant.

39 Madam Department President, I was just told by
40 one of our members that stage is approximately 800 feet.
41 What you're standing on is 800 square feet.

42 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: That looks about
43 right.

44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
45 What I would like to let everyone know is when we were at
46 13th Street, I shared an office with Bill Siler and with
47 MJ, his secretary. We had three phones in that room. We
48 could not -- either one was talking too loud, one couldn't
49 hear. If you had a private conversation, you had to go
50 outside in the hallway because the Auxiliary does have

1 business that the Legion doesn't need to know. And the
2 same way vice versa.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We have
5 a beautiful facility in San Francisco. I myself can think
6 of family, yes, family is good, but my family is from New
7 York. You have family in other places and we operate and
8 work together as a family no matter where we're at. We
9 don't have to be under the same roof.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We
12 don't have that much interaction with American Legion when
13 we're sharing offices with them. We do our own thing,
14 they do their own things, and we intermingle when we need
15 to. And we work cooperatively together, but I can tell
16 you when the Legion decided to move, we had no place to go
17 because they could not take us at Sanger. I went to the
18 War Memorial Commission. I said would you accept -- could
19 we come back to the War Memorial Commission, not knowing
20 about the Legion that they would even allow us there.
21 They took us under their wing and they have taken care of
22 us ever since for almost three years.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I've
25 been thinking nothing but downside moving to Sanger, no
26 upsides. I have -- the War Memorial Commission, I have a
27 parking spot. I have a key. We share when I'm not in the
28 office the keys. We have a key.

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Ladies,
30 these are the last three that we have because it's almost
31 5:00 o'clock. It's 4:58.

32 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE ARTIS: Madam Chairman, at
33 first I wanted to piggyback on the evils about the -- I
34 want to piggyback on the -- well, first I'm Deloris Artis,
35 District 24. I was just at the Sanger building about two
36 months ago for the Junior Conference and in there I saw
37 that there was a small -- there was an office that the
38 Legionnaires has that was a closed-in office. If we're
39 talking about that there was going to be a small office
40 for the Auxiliary, where do you plan on putting this small
41 office? Because I'm seeing that 600 square space and I
42 don't see where you can put the enclosed office there.

43 And then with that vault being there, who's
44 sharing that vault? That vault is going to be storage
45 space that's going to be Auxiliary and the Legionnaires.
46 And then you look at the acoustics. I retired from a
47 cubicle office where three of us shared an office space in
48 this cubicle space that we had and it was a little
49 closed-in office, but as I said, when we really needed to
50 handle business, when it was something that myself as a

1 legislative analyst for the State of California that I did
2 not want the Los Angeles County person hearing, I had to
3 take private calls somewhere else. So -- because the
4 acoustics of the cubical, everybody heard.

5 So you have to look at the fact of this that in
6 that small space like in this big open arena that you're
7 in right now, the acoustics bounce all over the place.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. We need to
9 move on. Sorry. Okay.

10 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE ARTIS: I just want you to
11 look at the fact you'll have acoustics problem and you
12 have the --

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: All right. Linda
14 Workman.

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Just a second. Let
16 me add to that. The vault is the Legion's. It's up to us
17 to design how we want our 600 feet. They're not dictating
18 to us how it has to be. We -- they suggested that the
19 enclosed office would be -- it would be in that corner
20 where the vault is and the east wall that it would be kind
21 of piggyback to that -- not piggyback, but say this is the
22 building, it would be in that corner. So one part of the
23 wall would be the vault. The other wall would be the
24 outside wall on the other side. So then it would just be
25 two sides that would actually be the enclosed secretary's
26 office and it's on the opposite side of where the Legion's
27 offices is. And it could be a little smaller than that,
28 than the Legion's. Okay. Linda?

29 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Linda Fercho,
30 Past Department President, District 16, Unit 741. First I
31 want to thank you very much, very, very much for all your
32 hard work in bringing both sides together and giving us a
33 very good --

34 (Applause.)

35 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN FERCHO: -- cross-reference
36 on this. And I want to thank Ruby and that whole staff in
37 San Francisco who have pulled us through amazing things.

38 My question is this. We have been looking at
39 trying to find a secretary/treasurer. Ruby's been
40 advertising for years and we have not been able to find
41 that or have not employed anyone in San Francisco.

42 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hey, I didn't
43 do anything wrong. You didn't have to hit me.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Well, you were
45 going to get smashed.

46 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN FERCHO: If anything was to
47 happen in San Francisco, how hard is it going to be to
48 find someone to replace them should anything happen.
49 Second of all, I do know that in Sanger that the Legion
50 when they did interview, there was many, many, many

1 qualified candidates.

2 I think we kind of have to look at change is
 3 uncomfortable. It's inevitable. And make sure that when
 4 we make the decision, we can continue staffing for a long
 5 period of time. And hopefully we can get even more
 6 staffing in San Francisco. Thank you.

7 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Okay. This is our
 8 last speaker. Linda, you have brought up an excellent
 9 point. We all know that we had a relative secretary for
 10 three years and we certainly appreciate that and do not
 11 know what we would have done without her.

12 (Applause.)

13 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We have had
 14 difficulty filling the position and I too have heard
 15 there's all kinds of people in the Sanger area that would
 16 jump at working there.

17 There was something else I was going to say about
 18 that. Also the wages have a lot to do with it. If we
 19 look at the pay scales, the amount of pay at Sanger and
 20 many areas is considered way less than what it is in San
 21 Francisco. This is one of those things you need to weigh
 22 advantages, disadvantages. So yeah, that's where that's
 23 at.

24 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Hi.
 25 My name is Jean Cooley-Desmeules from District 19
 26 Hawthornes. I don't know how many have been to the
 27 National office. You're all wanting us together.
 28 National is in two separate buildings about five miles
 29 away from each other. Okay. They work together hand in
 30 hand even though they are in separate buildings. Okay.

31 My number two question, Ruby just said that we
 32 have 600 feet down in the basement of nothing but storage.
 33 Our size of building what we're going to get of that
 34 building which is long and narrow because I was there is
 35 600 feet, what are we going to do with this extra storage?
 36 We're going to have to rent storage off site which is an
 37 extra additional cost.

38 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: It may not be off
 39 site. It might be in the parking area. We have -- in
 40 Sanger there's 56 parking spots. Presently the Legion has
 41 seven employees.

42 So yes, you're right, we would have -- if we're
 43 going to keep that stuff, whatever that stuff is I don't
 44 know.

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Records.

46 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We would have to
 47 probably rent some storage area, whether we go, you know,
 48 to a like a public storage thing or if we have our own
 49 storage, we would probably be on site.

50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I just

1 wanted to clarify about hiring of the Department
2 Secretary/Treasurer and such a hard time that we've had.
3 We have not had a hard time because basically I stopped
4 advertising until we knew what we were going to do in this
5 department. There's no sense hiring somebody in San
6 Francisco and asking them to move to Sanger. So I have
7 volunteered and stayed in this position because we didn't
8 know, but there is plenty of available people in the Bay
9 Area that will hire out to be our office manager. They
10 will be knocking down the doors.

11 The problem in this organization, the
12 secretary/treasurer -- we are a corporation. She is a
13 corporate secretary and a corporate treasurer. She must
14 be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. That's why
15 I'm still there.

16 (Applause.)

17 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Okay. That's the end
18 of our discussion today.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay. Ladies, we
20 will resume tomorrow morning at 8:30. Think about this.
21 We will be doing a paper ballot. It will be right after
22 the reps -- I mean the delegates to National. So you will
23 have to have a person per district who will go along with
24 the Election Chairman June Coatney to a room. Lunch will
25 be provided to count the votes. Okay?

26 So we have a lot of time to catch up on tomorrow.
27 We are very far behind. So please go and think about it.
28 Thank you. See you at 8:30 promptly.

29 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention
30 was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.)
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) ss.
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS)

I, Karen A. Aufdermaur, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate Number 10919, do hereby certify that the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California 97th Annual Convention was taken Friday, June 24, 2016, at the time and place set forth on the first page hereof.

That upon the taking of the meeting, the words of the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California 97th Annual Convention members were written down by me in stenotypy and thereafter transcribed by computer under my supervision; that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the oratory given by the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California 97th Annual Convention members.

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

Dated this 13th day of July, 2016, at Modesto, California.

Karen A. Aufdermaur, CSR No. 10919