

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
98th ANNUAL CONVENTION
FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME I

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

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1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
3 98th ANNUAL CONVENTION
4 FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2017; 9:06 A.M.
5 RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA
6

7 CALL TO ORDER
8

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: This convention
10 session is now reconvened. I request everyone to have
11 their cell phones off. Pages, could you please check
12 mine? If your phone rings, ladies -- hello? I want you
13 all to be very clear of this. If the phone -- can you
14 hear me now? If the phone rings, you will be fined \$5 the
15 first time and \$25 the second time.

16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: This is an
18 executive decision. This will also go to my special
19 project, so thank you so much.

20 Sharon Moore, Department Chaplain, will you
21 please offer the invocation?
22

23 INVOCATION
24

25 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Dear Lord, Americans,
26 and Auxiliary Members. We continue to help our veterans
27 and those in need. We thank you for those assembled today
28 and pray that you will bless their many works and be with
29 us. I pray amen.

30 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Amen.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: May we observe a
32 moment of silence in honor of our loved ones who have gone
33 on to be with our Heavenly Father.

34 (Moment of silence.)

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Department
36 Secretary Ruby Kapsalis will call the roll call of
37 Officers, Chairmen, and District Presidents.
38

39 ROLL CALL
40

41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning,
42 ladies. Department President Wendy O'Brien.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I am here.

44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Department Vice
45 President Loretta Marsh.

46 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Here.

47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:

48 Secretary/Treasurer Ruby. She left the building.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's getting a
50 lei.

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yeah, I got a lei.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The rumors.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Karen, would you
4 please -- how you do you say that? Get it off the --
5 don't put that on the recording.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, yes. Please
7 remove that from the recording.
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yeah, put that not
9 in the record. NEC Woman Susie Tozier.
10 NEC WOMAN TOZIER: Yes.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chaplain Sharon
12 Moore.
13 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Here.
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Historian Dolly
15 Rios.
16 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: I'm here.
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Parliamentarian
18 Diane DeLashmit.
19 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: (Horn).
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Whoa. Thank you.
21 Musician Joyce Patton.
22 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: (Singing).
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sergeant-at-Arms
24 Liz Doidge.
25 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: I'm here.
26 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Marshal Susan
27 Morgan.
28 MARSHAL MORGAN: Here.
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Chairman
30 Terry Mikesell.
31 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Present.
32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Senior
33 Committee Linda Hayes.
34 FINANCE SENIOR COMMITTEE HAYES: Ahoy, Matey.
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Committee
36 Junior Brenda Preston.
37 FINANCE JUNIOR COMMITTEE PRESTON: I'm here.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Chairman
39 Anita Biggs.
40 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Here.
41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Committee
42 Pilar Reyes.
43 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REYES: Present.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Committee
45 LuAnn Capazzi.
46 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CAPAZZI: Present.
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Committee
48 Linda Fercho.
49 ADVISORY COMMITTEE FERCHO: I'm here.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past National

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1 President Nancy Brown-Park.
2 PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT BROWN-PARK: Here.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Americanism Kathy
4 Smith.
5 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: We're flying that
6 flag.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Do you want to
8 repeat that?
9 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: No.
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: AEF Ellen McClurg.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's excused.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Children & Youth
13 Kathie Martinez.
14 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good
15 morning, Ruby.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
17 Community Service Dee Ann Graham.
18 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Ahoy.
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Constitution &
20 Bylaws Tamra Duron.
21 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURAN: Present.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Convention Estella
23 Avina. She must be excused.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Commission
26 Convention Genieca Risner.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's excused.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Credentials
29 Danielle White, who is excused I believe because she's
30 outside.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.
32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Distinguished
33 Guest Linda Workman.
34 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Hanging
35 out on the lido deck.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Editor Estella
37 Avina. Still excused.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's still in the
39 hall.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's actually
41 here so I'm just going to put her here. Education Linda
42 Fariss.
43 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: Still learning.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Excuse me.
45 Elections Jackie Cleveland.
46 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Present.
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Girls State Elissa
48 Kirkland.
49 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Good morning,
50 Ruby.

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
2 Girls State Director Rhodona Enright.
3 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Are you from Girls
4 State?
5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah, yeah.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior Activities
7 Mindy Sinclair.
8 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES SINCLAIR: Here.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior Conference
10 Director Ann Philcox.
11 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: Here.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Leadership Gloria
13 Williams.
14 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Here.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Legislative Susie
16 Tozier.
17 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Here.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Membership Loretta
19 Marsh.
20 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Still here.
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: National Security
22 Tracy Varnell.
23 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Sea Horses
24 are racing to the finish.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past President
26 Parley Anita Biggs.
27 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good morning, Ruby.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Poppy Kim Vincent.
29 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Sea Flowers in the
30 house.
31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Public Relations
32 Jennifer Bieger.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's excused.
34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Resolutions
35 Madeline Lee.
36 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Here.
37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules Glenda
38 Schultz.
39 RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Here.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: VA&R Joan Cannon.
41 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Present.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ways & Means Jean
43 Cooley-Desmeules.
44 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Ways &
45 Means is now open.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1
47 Marialice Canclini. Absent. District 2 Judy Henderson.
48 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Yes.
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 3 Lola
50 Ramey. She's absent.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent, yes.
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 4 Geri
3 Fitzpatrick.
4 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK: Here.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5 Sandy
6 Paxton.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 6 Glenda
9 Schultz.
10 DISTRICT 6: My Wendy lies over the ocean. My
11 Wendy lies over the sea. And when this convention is
12 over, please send back my Wendy to me.
13 (Applause.)
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 7 Linda
15 Harmon.
16 DISTRICT 7: Aloha.
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Aloha. Tammy --
18 District 8 Tammy Manini.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 9 Helaine
21 Dolly Rios.
22 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 10 Liz
24 Parshal.
25 DISTRICT 10: Good morning, Madam President.
26 Anchors away.
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 11 Marcia
28 Munroe.
29 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT MUNROE: Present.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 12 Ann
31 Kelley.
32 DISTRICT 12: Good morning, Ruby and Wendy.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 13 CeCe
35 Harvey.
36 DISTRICT 13 VICE PRESIDENT HARVEY: Present.
37 Good morning, Madam President.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. District 14
39 Gloria Sinopoli.
40 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: Good morning.
41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
42 District 15 Zana Chaney.
43 DISTRICT 15: Good morning.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
45 District 16 Terry Oclaray.
46 DISTRICT 16: Good morning. 16th District is
47 here.
48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 17 Rachel
49 Wang-Yee.
50 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT WANG-YEE: I'm here today.

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 18 Gayle
2 Pouliot.
3 DISTRICT 18: Sailing, sailing from sea to
4 shining sea. District 18 is here to say ahoy to our
5 Wendy. Sailing, sailing over the deep blue sea. We did
6 our best continually from sea to shining sea.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 19 Becky
10 Bullard.
11 DISTRICT 19: Good morning, President Wendy. The
12 Noisy 19 wishes you smooth sailing.
13 (Applause.)
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 20 Nancy
15 Heinisch.
16 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT HEINISCH: Present.
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER: District 21 Susan Romero.
18 DISTRICT 21: Good morning, Captain Wendy. Our
19 ship has sailed and it's time to dock. The USS Brookshire
20 is here to rock.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The foghorn has
22 competition.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 22 Donna
24 Smith.
25 DISTRICT 22: Row, row, row your boat off to
26 Riverside, District 22, oh, what a ride.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 23
30 Patricia Patrick.
31 DISTRICT 23: Good morning, Madam President. The
32 23rd District USS Mohammed Ali are fighting our way to
33 knock out membership.
34 (Applause.)
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24
36 Deloris Artis.
37 DISTRICT 24: Good morning, Madam President.
38 We're District 24. (Signing.) Hoot, hoot.
39 (Applause.)
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 25 Maria
41 Granado.
42 DISTRICT 25: Our cruise ship has been sailing as
43 smoothly as can be, helping serve our veterans from sea to
44 shining sea. We planned our work and worked our plan to
45 make our year complete because when it comes to being
46 great, we simply can't be beat. Good morning from the
47 Great 25th District USS Cactus Voyager.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26th
50 Louann Johnston.

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1 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Ahoy.
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 27 Vicky
3 Goodchild.
4 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: Good morning.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
6 District 28 Karol Adams.
7 DISTRICT 28: Good morning, Madam President. The
8 USS Majestic is cruising along for our veterans.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 29 Carol
12 Borgman.
13 DISTRICT 29: We're all here.
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 30 Kim
15 Vincent.
16 DISTRICT 30: Good morning to you. Good morning
17 to you. We're all in our places with smiles on our faces,
18 good morning to you. Good morning to you. Good morning,
19 good morning to you.
20 (Applause.)
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Hospital Reps.
22 Lori Sullivan, Northern California.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Letecia O'Quinn.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's absent. I'm
26 sorry. Excused. I'm sorry.
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Central
28 California Sandra Dowell.
29 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE DOWELL: I'm here.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. Palo
31 Alto Connie Raya.
32 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE RAYA: Present.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Livermore Grace
34 Huston.
35 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HUSTON: Here.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
37 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HUSTON: Here.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, she's here.
39 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh, okay. WAVE
40 Clinic San Diego Lois Cornish. Outside working. Loma
41 Linda Jerry L. Pettis, Mavis Kanka.
42 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KANKA: Here.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Huh?
44 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's here.
45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. We'll
46 take you. All right. Loma Linda Mavis Kanka.
47 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's here.
48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I can't hear

1 either. Long Beach Pat Alvarez.
2 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ALVAREZ: Good morning,
3 Ruby.
4 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning, Pat.
5 Greater LA Earlean Paige.
6 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE PAIGE: Ahoy.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Barstow Vet Home
8 Angie Acosta.
9 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA: It's Red Friday.
10 Remember everyone deployed.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chula Vista Lois
13 Cornish. Fresno Veterans Home Rosalie Taylor.
14 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR: Here.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Lancaster Linda
16 Hayes.
17 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HAYES: Present.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Redding Vet Home
19 Terry Mikesell.
20 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE MIKESELL: Unfortunately
21 she's still here.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ventura Madeline
23 Lee.
24 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE LEE: Here.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: West LA Ruth
26 Hackney.
27 HOSPITAL PRESENTATIVE HACKNEY: Here.
28 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And
29 Yountville Peggy Grabski.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Absent. That
32 concludes your roll call, Madam President.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies,
34 this morning I'll be calling three chairmen at a time to
35 be on the stage and ready to give their reports.
36 Chairmen, please be sure to have sent notes of the
37 recipients so they are present at the right side of the
38 stage when you give your report.
39 Recipients, when you receive your awards, please
40 stay at the right of the stage so that individuals or
41 group photos may be taken after the chairman's report.
42 Remember to be as quiet as possible so everyone can hear
43 the reports of the following chairmen. Importantly, and
44 as I've said before, please keep your cell phones off.
45 We will now have Rules Chairman Glenda Schultz
46 read the convention rules.
47
48 READING OF CONVENTION RULES
49
50 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Good morning,

1 Madam President Wendy. At this time I will present the
2 convention rules. The convention rules can be found on
3 page 10 of the Book of Reports.

4 Madam President Wendy, this chairman will
5 hesitate after each rule so if there is a question or an
6 amendment, that may be presented at that time.

7 Number 1: All meetings of the convention shall
8 be called to order at the designated times or soon
9 thereafter as a quorum is present.

10 Number 2: A quorum shall exist when one-third of
11 the Units in good standing are partially or wholly
12 represented by duly elected delegates or alternates.
13 (Article IV, Section 5, Department Constitution.)

14 Number 3: The audience shall remain seated
15 during the business of the convention. The Department
16 President shall designate certain doors to accommodate
17 delegates who find it necessary to enter or leave the
18 convention hall during reports of committees or when a
19 speaker has the floor. There will be no smoking permitted
20 in the auditorium. Cell phones must be turned off or in
21 vibrate mode.

22 Number 4: The Chair may deviate from the printed
23 program when necessary or expedient.

24 Number 5: The Credentials Chairman shall report
25 registration as directed by the Chair.

26 Number 6: The registration of delegates or
27 alternates shall close at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 24th
28 2017.

29 Number 7: Only qualified delegates shall have
30 voice and vote.

31 Number 8: It shall be the responsibility of each
32 District President to see that only accredited delegates
33 and alternates serving as delegates are seated in their
34 District delegation during the business meetings of the
35 Convention.

36 Number 9: If a delegate expects to be absent
37 from the Convention, except for the purpose of attending a
38 committee meeting, she should release her delegate's card
39 to her alternate. The alternate shall then take her seat
40 in the voting section. In the event the delegate does not
41 have the opportunity of reporting to the District
42 President, it shall be the duty of the Chairman of the
43 unit delegation to report to the District President the
44 absence of the delegate and the presence of the alternate
45 or the absence of both delegate and alternate.

46 Number 10: A delegate wishing a privilege of the
47 floor shall rise, address the Chair as Madam Department
48 President, give her name, unit and district numbers,
49 pause, and wait to be recognized by the chair.

50 Number 11, a member speaking in debate on a

1 question shall be limited to three minutes. No one shall
2 speak more than twice on the same question without the
3 consent of the assembly.

4 Number 12: Delegates attending called committee
5 meetings shall be notified when the convention is
6 considering and voting upon adoption of any change in
7 policy or matters affecting finance.

8 Excuse me. Number 13: Reports of committees
9 which do not appear to be controversial in any nature may
10 be adopted by general consent, if there is no objection.
11 If there is objection, a vote shall be taken. Following
12 the acceptance of a report of the committee,
13 recommendations or resolutions may be presented for
14 consideration and adoption.

15 Number 14: Any committee whose proposed changes
16 in policy might conflict with that of The American Legion
17 shall confer with The American Legion before presenting
18 said change to the Convention.

19 Number 15: A Committee recommending an
20 appropriation of funds for any purpose shall consult with
21 the Department Finance Committee before presenting the
22 recommendation or resolution to the Convention.

23 Number 16: All resolutions to be presented to
24 the Convention shall be in triplicate and properly signed.

25 Number 17: Committees may amend resolutions and
26 recommendations referred to them before favorable
27 reporting same. Resolutions or recommendations rejected
28 by a committee shall be marked rejected, signed by the
29 Chairman of the Committee, and returned to the Department
30 Resolutions Chairman immediately following the Committee
31 Meeting.

32 Number 18: A Unit, District, or members
33 representing a resolution or recommendation shall have
34 their privilege of explaining same to the Committee to
35 which it was referred.

36 Number 19: Committee shall report to the
37 Convention all resolutions properly submitted and accepted
38 by a majority of the Convention Committee.

39 Number 20: A resolution rejected by a committee
40 may be brought before the convention by two-thirds vote.

41 Number 21: Emergency resolution which may arise
42 during the convention or after the date for submitting
43 resolutions may be presented no later than noon of the
44 second day of Convention. (Article IV, Section 4b,
45 Department Constitution).

46 Number 22: Nomination of Officers, Junior Member
47 of Finance, Department Delegates and Alternates to the
48 National Convention shall be held Friday afternoon, June
49 23rd, 2017.

50 Number 23: Endorsement of candidates for

1 National Office shall follow nominations.

2 Number 24: Nomination speeches shall be limited
3 to three minutes. There shall be no seconding speeches.

4 Number 25: Election of Department Officers,
5 Junior Member of Finance, National Candidate, Department
6 Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall
7 be held on Saturday morning, June 24th, 2017.

8 Number 26: The doors of the Convention Hall
9 shall be closed during the entire election procedure and
10 no one shall leave or enter the hall until Chair states
11 the election is concluded. The exception to this shall be
12 in an emergency a member may leave, and if her absence
13 affects the voting strength, the District President shall
14 immediately notify the presiding officer.

15 Number 27: When there is but one nominee for all
16 department officers and but one nominee for Junior Member
17 of Finance, the nominees shall be elected viva voce.
18 (Article V, Section 3 Department Constitution). Upon roll
19 call, the District Presidents shall report the number of
20 units partially or wholly represented by newly elected
21 delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the
22 time of the roll call. This is to determine that there is
23 a quorum of units present at the time of election.

24 Number 28: When there is more than one nominee
25 for the Department Officers, Junior Member of Finance or
26 endorsement for National Office, election shall be by
27 written ballot. The District President shall, when they
28 are instructed by the Chair, take a roll call of their
29 respective delegation to ascertain the total voting
30 strength of their District for the election reporting the
31 same to Chair.

32 Number 29: When there are three or more nominees
33 for office, Junior Member of Finance, or endorsement for
34 National Office, unless one nominee receives a majority
35 vote on the first ballot, the nominee receiving the lowest
36 number of votes shall be automatically dropped before
37 proceeding with the next ballot.

38 Number 30: When there is a candidate or
39 candidates for an endorsement to a National Office a
40 majority vote shall be by ballot. (Constitution Article
41 V, Section 13.)

42 Number 31: Each District President Or District
43 Member of the Election Committee shall distribute and
44 elect the votes cast by the District delegation and
45 deliver them to the Department Chairman of the Elections.

46 Number 32: Department Officers, Chairman,
47 Committee Member, and Past Department President shall vote
48 with their respective district.

49 Number 33: Each delegate shall be entitled to
50 one vote. The vote of an absent unit delegate not

1 represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority
2 of the delegates from the Unit. When two delegates
3 represent three votes, the Chairman of the Unit delegation
4 shall cast the third vote.

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

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

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

14 Madam Department President Wendy, this concludes
15 the reading of the convention rules. I move that the
16 convention rules be considered as read and be adopted as a
17 whole.

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Second.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There is a
20 motion on the floor -- oh, okay. Will you please reread
21 number 30?

22 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Number 30:
23 When there is a candidate or candidates for an endorsement
24 to a National Office, a majority vote shall be by ballot.
25 (Constitution Article V, Section 13).

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hold on just one
27 moment.

28 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Sorry about
29 that. Number 30: All members seeking National office
30 shall be endorsed at a Department Convention by a majority
31 vote not more than three years prior to the date they are
32 to be a candidate for office. Vote shall be by viva voce
33 unless there is more than one candidate, then a majority
34 vote shall elect by ballot. (Constitution Article V,
35 Section 13).

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Okay.
37 Glenda, can you also go back to number 3 and reread number
38 3?

39 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Number 3:
40 The audience shall remain seated during the business of
41 the Convention. The Department President shall designate
42 certain doors to accommodate delegates who find it
43 necessary to enter or leave the Convention Hall during
44 reports of committee -- or committees when a speaker has
45 the floor. Cell phones must be turned off or in vibrate
46 mode.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, yes.
48 Okay. So there is a motion on the floor to accept these
49 rules of the convention as a whole. Any questions? If
50 you have a question, could you please come up to one of

1 the mics. There are three mics up here. Could you please
2 come up?

3 UNIT 621 PRESIDENT WALLER: Madam President -- is
4 it on? Okay. Madam President, my name is Doreen Waller,
5 President of Unit 621, Squaw Valley, California. In
6 number 2 she had stated reading: A quorum shall exist
7 when one-third of the Units in good standing are partially
8 or wholly represented by duly elected delegates or
9 alternates. Article IV, Section -- she said 5. It says
10 Section 3. I just wanted to bring it to your attention.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you.
12 Right. There were a few misreadings, however, what is in
13 the book is correct so that is what will be -- we'll be
14 voting on this morning. All those in favor?

15 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.

19 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Madam
20 Department President Wendy, Rule Number 3 provides it is
21 your responsibility to designate certain doors to
22 accommodate delegates to enter or leave the convention.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. So since
24 the rule said I'm going to do that, I'm going to. Right
25 over here to your left -- my left is the doors that you
26 will come and go through. Please try to be as quietly as
27 possible because there is -- the chairs are very close, so
28 having any intermingling with members in the hall right
29 there or on this side of the doors will be very
30 distracting for the members. So please take your business
31 outside if you're going to do it. And the restroom is
32 right down the hall. Oh, yeah. There's that too. Yeah.

33 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: I would
34 suggest that the Pages request delegates entering the hall
35 to stand quietly and wait for the speaker to finish before
36 returning to their seats.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: That sounds
38 fabulous to me.

39 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Madam
40 President, thank you for this appointment and the
41 opportunity to serve you and the Department of California.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
43 Glenda.

44 (Applause.)

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We had some bad
46 news last night. Elaine Gallagher fell and broke her hip
47 and is having surgery this morning. And Debbie Fletcher's
48 brother has died.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Well, we've
50 had our three so we don't need anymore. Okay. We have

1 some guests here this morning. Will the Sergeant-at-Arms
2 and Marshal with the -- with the Distinguished Guest
3 Chairman please bring to the stage Past Detachment
4 Commander Chris Affolter and his aid. Affolter. Excuse
5 me.

6 (Processional.)

7 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: Good
8 morning, ladies.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

10 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: I was just
11 thinking maybe she just wore it out. Dang, that's a
12 prison weapon right there. Greetings from the Sons of
13 American Legion. Let me tell you those guys over there,
14 they are wonderful. They put together -- or I should say
15 I as the chairman for the convention city, we put together
16 a deal. And I know I heard some conflict, but we have
17 again the detachment youth party. It will be this
18 Saturday.

19 We are going to be going to water slides and
20 laser tag, mini golf, pizza, amusement rides. And when I
21 say youth, okay, that does not mean the ladies that are
22 over the age of 18. I had to get -- I had -- I had to
23 tell that to the Sons because I had like 20 guys stand up,
24 "I want to go. I want to go," and so -- there are some
25 amusement rides there too. And then we're going to get
26 some great pizza. I've known this guy for 20-some years
27 and he has a place called Nickelodeon Pizza. It's going
28 to be over at Grand Terrace/Colton. It's about 15 minutes
29 away. It's called Fiesta Village. It's a great wonderful
30 place. They gave us a really good deal on everything and
31 it is absolutely free for those that are under the age of
32 18.

33 (Applause.)

34 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: The Sons of
35 The American Legion, I really fought for this because, you
36 know, in the past years we've had video game trucks and
37 pizzas and something like that, and since we're down here
38 in the south -- next year I don't know what they're going
39 to do because I won't be on the committee, but the year
40 after that for the 100th, we're going to have a slam dang
41 bang going on. I'm going to push for something big, big.
42 So we'll see what happens.

43 The bus is going to be -- the bus is going to be
44 leaving at 3:00 o'clock sharply, so we would like the
45 young ladies to be out there between 2:30 and 3:00. The
46 reason for 2:30 is I've got parent permission slips that
47 need to be filled out. You know, the regular rigamarole.
48 We give them permission to send them to the hospital if
49 they go flipping out of the water slide, that type of
50 thing. But that will never happen there because, you

1 know -- you know, knock on the wooden gavel, we'll be just
2 fine. But that needs to be done. We'll have the forms
3 out there.

4 Now you're probably wondering how many can go. I
5 have a total seating arrangement of 50 students that we
6 have paid for or 50 youths that we have paid for. I've
7 gotten many texts this morning from the Sons. There's not
8 a lot of Sons over there, so there's definitely an
9 opening.

10 Hey, I know you two.

11 So if you can text me, here's my number. Are you
12 ready? Yes, I'm giving you my digits, ladies. Call me
13 any time. Just don't let my wife catch you.
14 (909) 251-2464. And what I need is even if you have a
15 group of girls, that's fine. Text me all of their names.
16 And I also need their unit number. Okay? So that we have
17 a little bit of tracking going on. Okay? Can I give a
18 shout out?

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

20 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: Okay. Shout
21 out to the 18th District. Yeah, ladies. Loving you.
22 And -- and my old homeland, the 21st. Love you, ladies.
23 Let me just tell you, I want to just tell you this is --
24 the Auxiliary raised me up in The American Legion or the
25 Sons of The American Legion. I know a few years ago I got
26 to come up here and talk way too many times with my
27 president, but let me tell you, I appreciate the Auxiliary
28 more than you can ever believe. Because I'll tell you,
29 the president and the treasurer and everything, when I was
30 commander of my Sons when I was 16 years old, I'll tell
31 you what, I wouldn't have been able to do it without the
32 ladies Auxiliary. So I thank you for everything that you
33 do, the hard work that you put in for this department, the
34 hard work you put in for The American Legion. And I
35 salute all of you. Thank you so much.

36 (Applause.)

37 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: Oh, they're
38 meeting at the parking lot all the way that way. So it's
39 the east side of the building. It's the parking lot
40 that's on Third Street. Okay. Go up there, you'll see
41 the buses up there or the bus.

42 Oh, by the way, I forgot something. I heard the
43 saddest news yesterday that some of your Pages won't be
44 done until 5:00 p.m. Isn't that horrible? So you know
45 what, I've arranged -- the bus will be back there waiting
46 for them at 5:15.

47 (Applause.)

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You want a shout
49 out?

50 SONS AID DESMEULES: I adore the 19th District,

1 you guys. Yahoo.

2 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: If you want
3 to get the slips for the parent permission, they are in
4 the Sons of American Legion office. Just ask my
5 beautiful, wonderful wife, member of Unit No. 280 and 13
6 both out of the 18th District.

7 (Applause.)

8 PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDER AFFOLTER: Love you.
9 (Processional.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We will now have
11 the report of the National Executive Committeewoman Susie
12 Tozier.

13
14 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT
15

16 NEC MEMBER TOZIER: At the close of the 2016
17 Convention for National, I attended the National NEC
18 meeting where the budget was approved. In February I
19 attended the National NEC in Washington D.C. where several
20 panels were presented showing the needs of the veterans.
21 That was really a fantastic event.

22 Later we visited the Vietnam Veteran Wall where
23 the National President placed a wreath. My next NEC
24 meeting will be in -- prior to the convention, the
25 Nationals in Reno. And we also -- I also provided
26 readings to the National President for Wendy in Pacific
27 Palisades. That was really a wonderful -- she's a very,
28 very nice lady. And her special project is scholarships.
29 Thank you.

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.

31 (Applause.)

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Vice President
33 Loretta Marsh, will you please assume the chair so the
34 President can give her report? With all the papers that I
35 had to bring to this convention, the one paper I forgot
36 was my convention report. So I have it on an iPad so
37 please forgive the iPad. But, you know, ladies, it is the
38 modern technology. So this could be the wave of the
39 future.

40
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT
42

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: This year our year
44 started off with a fantastic installation for Department
45 President with Linda Fercho at the helm with units and
46 districts going on a sea cruise. And what a cruise it's
47 been.

48 My first stop was at the Yountville Veterans Home
49 for the annual picnic. It was a great time for the
50 veterans with good food, music, and dancing. Family

1 smiles -- friendly smiles by everyone. This was followed
2 by the visit to the volunteer coordinator to talk about
3 our needs at the Yountville home.

4 Our training sessions and workshops were next and
5 well attended. Program orientations were conducted by
6 appointed Past Department Presidents with valuable
7 information shared. It is -- this is to produce veteran
8 informed members and build up a strong organization.

9 Then it was off to Cincinnati, Ohio for the
10 National Convention where I was installed. Or should have
11 been installed. I attended daily convention sessions,
12 participated in the parade, enjoyed sharing a real cruise
13 with the Department of California American Legion. This
14 is, however, when my ship went off course. At first I was
15 thinking I think we got on the Titanic, but then I thought
16 differently. I had an emergency at home and I knew that
17 the ladies that I have, Past Presidents, Advisors, they
18 would step up and help with this. So our boat continued
19 floating.

20 My emergency at home was my husband was very ill.
21 He had a very serious heart problem and was in and out of
22 the hospital for three months, with six weeks being in the
23 ICU. In between doctor visits and hospital stays, I was
24 very fortunate to be invited to the Cabrillo open house in
25 Long Beach. Seeing the opportunities these formally
26 homeless ladies are given at this facility and knowing
27 that we are helping them succeed was truly heartwarming.

28 John started his rehab therapy and more therapy
29 and more therapy, and then we celebrated the holidays with
30 the family and was able to have him home for that. Ann
31 Sanchez, my stand-in gopher, and I made it to Redding. I
32 was so excited. The whole town came out to see us and had
33 a parade in my honor. Okay. I guess it was just a light
34 parade for Christmas, but it still could have been for us.

35 Then it was off to the lovely town of Chico in
36 District 4. Seeing what these ladies are doing for our
37 veterans is fabulous. The National Commander Charlie
38 Schmidt's Northern California visit was very exciting.
39 Myself along with many ALA members participated in the
40 Walk For Veterans around the state capitol. We looked
41 like a bunch of minions and danced and had dinner to hear
42 his message at Post 77, Christmas with Santa and found out
43 I was going to be a great grandma again for the third
44 time. Ladies, another Auxiliary member is almost here.

45 In January we attended the National Mission
46 Training in Las Vegas where we learned how to effectively
47 develop our future grassroots leaders and new ways to
48 present our programs.

49 Then it was off to a very long ride to Brawley
50 with Susie, and I mean a very long drive with Susie, for

1 the Area 5 Membership meeting where the ladies are very
2 encouraging to each other. This is a wonderful, wonderful
3 time for the Auxiliary members to get together to
4 encourage each other for membership. It was quite
5 exciting.

6 February found me visiting with many districts,
7 District 7, 16, 20 and 29, where districts combined their
8 meetings with other districts to conserve time, which I
9 was sad to say my husband then had a stroke and wasn't
10 able to travel too far or too long because he was needing
11 me to be home with him. Thank you so much for these
12 districts for combining the sessions. Learning what these
13 members did for our veterans has been such a heartwarming
14 -- you see it on paper, but when you're there and they're
15 expressing it and you see this excitement, it's something
16 to remember.

17 March was a very, very busy month visiting
18 districts every week. Because of my home issues, I had to
19 cram lots of things together, and I enjoyed each and every
20 district that I visited. We were invited to the capitol
21 for legislative days with The American Legion learning
22 about the bills coming this year to support our veterans.
23 I was invited to District 4 where there was a -- they
24 honored female veterans. This was so exciting and the
25 members that were honored were certainly impressed that we
26 recognized them.

27 My visit to District 23, I was so excited to meet
28 our future member. She was dressed like a little sailor.
29 This was Gloria's granddaughter and it was such an honor
30 to be there with her dressed like a little sailor.

31 The American Legion Riders was our next stop to
32 bring greetings to. Then it was off to Junior Conference
33 where many of our Juniors met to run for election. These
34 ladies are outstanding and I think they're going to do a
35 great, great job leading our organization for the next 100
36 years.

37 The next thing was my homecoming. The American
38 Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary departments both
39 were from District 6, we decided that we would have the
40 function together. This was such a good party. I can't
41 thank my district unit enough for everything that they had
42 done for this.

43 The National President's visit, Mary Davis, we
44 decided her official visit would be in May. It was very
45 nice of District 24 to take the responsibility of the
46 subject visit. Deloris Artis and the 24th District did a
47 wonderful job. Miss Mary had a very happy visit. I want
48 to thank Deloris Artis and District 24 for all their
49 hospitality.

50 When we were at the hotel, which by the way was a

1 beautiful hotel, we were told by the front desk that
2 breakfast was just down the hill and over on the beach.
3 Well, I thought, well, it's just down the hill. We'll
4 just take that little journey. So we went down and looked
5 at the hill. The hill had about a hundred steps. Now it
6 could have been 200. It just was a really big hill. And
7 breakfast was at the bottom of that hill.

8 So Mary, being the energetic person that she is,
9 off she goes down those steps. Loretta and myself were
10 trying very, very hard to renegotiate that and take the
11 car. However, close to the bottom of the stairs, the
12 stairs were a little unlevel. I hit one stair and started
13 down. Oh, my goodness. All I could think was the next
14 news flash would be the Department of California President
15 rolled down the hill and smacked the National President.
16 I didn't think this is what they were talking about the
17 spirit of goodwill.

18 My hopes for this year was to get back to a
19 relationship with the family that we've had years ago with
20 The American Legion Family. And the way to do that was
21 communication. I think that that's what we have done. We
22 are started in the right direction. We've had meetings
23 with the Commander and with the department office and that
24 is the first start, talking to each other.

25 The amount of hospitality, care, and love that
26 was shown to this Department President throughout this
27 year is immeasurable and will never be forgotten. What
28 our members do for veterans, active military, and their
29 families is outstanding. I don't know why everyone
30 doesn't want to belong to our organization. I certainly
31 know I am very proud to belong to this organization.
32 Thank you so much.

33 (Applause.)

34 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: While you were
35 gone I dug up this treasure chest for you and brought it
36 in, so I would like to present that to you.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: As all of you
38 know, I love presents. Oh, are you sure? I need to open
39 this because it's just, like, so beautiful. Look how
40 beautiful that is. My department president loves
41 peacocks. I mean -- did I say department? I mean
42 district president. She ain't getting this though. Wow.
43 Look at this.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, my God.
46 Loretta painted this. Look at that.

47 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: Let's see.

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, I'm sorry,
49 ladies. That's beautiful. Oh, yeah, the sea. The sea
50 horses. "Serving Veterans From Sea to Shining Sea." Oh,

1 my God.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Whoa, Nelly.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Wow, I really like
4 this present. Wow. Holy moly.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I see the pirates
7 over here are trying to get near me. You made this?

8 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Yes.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You are so good.
10 You know, somebody said that you seem very emotional this
11 weekend. I can't help but be emotional.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ladies, this
14 department, the Chairmen, the Past Department Presidents,
15 what they do for this organization most of you will never
16 know. There is so much happening behind the scenes that I
17 had absolutely no clue until I was in this position.
18 These ladies handle things for you, and that's how it
19 should be. The leaders should be taking care of things so
20 the members don't have to deal with the everyday stresses
21 of this. And you couldn't ask for a better team.

22 I thank you more than anything to all of you, all
23 of you, the Past Presidents who are sitting with your
24 district. Everyone, thank you so much.

25 (Applause.)

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All right. We
27 will have the reports of Department Officers. Will all
28 officers not already on stage please come up quickly and
29 be ready to give your report. Just a reminder to the
30 Department Officers and Chairmen. All reports excluding
31 Americanism, Education, Membership, Children & Youth,
32 Poppy, Resolutions, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
33 per the department code is to be limited to five minutes.
34 This includes your committee report, supplementals, and
35 first place award presentations.

36 Can we have Vice President Loretta Marsh give her
37 report.

38
39 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT

40
41 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Madam
42 Department President Wendy didn't have much advice for me
43 to report on this year, so my report is very short here.

44 I attended the Girls State meeting in the fall
45 and the Four Chaplains Ceremony in Sanger in February. I
46 had the privilege of attending Junior Conference and
47 installing the new junior officers for the year. Those
48 girls are great.

49 I left my quiet country home to travel north to
50 the big city of San Francisco for a budget meeting, then

1 south to the big city of Los Angeles or in the Los Angeles
2 area for the National President's visit, which I enjoyed
3 immensely, proving that if I am elected president this
4 year, I can deal with the traffic when I have to. I have
5 lived in Los Angeles, but that was my first experience
6 driving in San Francisco. Enough said on that.

7 But the best part of my year as Vice President
8 was the privilege of working with the great officers and
9 chairmen this year, especially my president who was and is
10 a great mentor and friend. Thank you, Madam President.
11 This concludes my report.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Loretta, before
14 you get settled, can you assume the chair so I can bring
15 greetings to The American Legion?

16 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: You didn't
17 leave me a stepstool.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Sorry.

19 (Processional.)

20 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Can we have the
21 report of the Secretary/Treasurer?

22
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER CONVENTION REPORT

24
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That was a little
26 bit of a surprise, wasn't it? Greetings, Madam Department
27 President. Greetings on behalf of the Department
28 Membership Clerk Julie Frisch and Bookkeeper Imelda Cruz
29 and myself. It has been a pleasure and privilege serving
30 as the Department Secretary/Treasurer for the great
31 Department of the -- of California for the past four
32 years.

33 I want to thank Imelda for the outstanding job
34 she does with the finances and for keeping the office
35 going for the five months until we hired Julie as our
36 membership clerk in February. Julie is a welcomed
37 addition to our staff and is rapidly catching on to all of
38 the day-to-day operations of the Department Office and The
39 American Legion Auxiliary.

40 I also want to thank -- take time to welcome our
41 court reporter now, Karen Aufdermaur. Is that correct,
42 Karen? I can't see her. She's back for her sixth year
43 recording the convention proceedings.

44 (Applause.)

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I want to thank
46 Newport Harbor Unit 291 for their generous donation which
47 is going to be used to purchase a computer for our
48 membership clerk.

49 (Applause.)

50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We have three

1 prospective new units in the process of forming: Leonard
2 Yates Unit 709, District 6; James Fowler Unit 264,
3 District 7; Samuel Patterson Unit 198, District 8;
4 Northside Unit 858, District 13; and Temple City Unit 279,
5 District 18.

6 (Applause.)

7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I traveled to
8 Indianapolis for the Department Leadership National
9 Conference with Loretta Marsh and Joan Cannon where we
10 received a lot of information including that the 2017-'18
11 Junior meeting held in conjunction with the ALA Mission
12 Training will be held in Las Vegas on February 3rd and was
13 told that National is proposing a \$3 membership increase
14 at the Reno Convention to take effect during the 2018
15 administrative year. If passed, units would be submitting
16 \$20 per capita for senior members with National receiving
17 \$12 per senior member and \$8 for the Department of
18 California instead of the \$17 that you normally submit.

19 In my opinion this needs to be discussed and
20 decided whether or not the National delegates attending
21 the Reno Convention will support or reject this proposal
22 based upon the consensus of those present and voting at
23 this Department Convention.

24 Operations of the Department Office are going
25 well and finances are in great shape. With more and more
26 new chairmen taking positions at the unit level, I would
27 like to see training developed to increase the knowledge
28 and comfort levels of those assuming new positions within
29 the units.

30 Another area that I would like to see developed
31 is reporting and tracking all the required reports into a
32 system simplified for the user as well as tracking and
33 compiling all those reports we have to do.

34 Madam Department President, I wish for you a most
35 memorable and productive Department Convention and it has
36 been a pleasure working with you serving our veterans from
37 sea to shining sea. This concludes my report.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Thank you. We
40 will now have the Chaplain's report.

41
42 CHAPLAIN CONVENTION REPORT

43
44 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Thank you, Madam
45 President. The Chaplains met on June 22nd in the
46 Raincross B room of the Riverside Convention Center here
47 in Riverside, California. The statistical report of this
48 chairman appears on page 49 of the Book of Reports.

49 C.J. Reyes, District 19, Unit 496 was appointed
50 as Secretary, Delores Ryan, District 15, Unit 26 was

1 appointed Chaplain, and Joyce Patton, District 23, Unit
2 252 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. There were a total of
3 20 district delegates that answered roll call. There were
4 eight visitors present.

5 The committee agreed on the following report.
6 There were no code changes. Second and third place awards
7 for unit and district were presented along with 100
8 percent reporting certificates. The Chaplains discussed
9 the memorial service and songs were distributed to those
10 participating in the choir.

11 And that ends my committee report. May I move on
12 to the supplemental?

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Yes.

14 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: The Beacons of Light
15 from the Department of California have been very busy
16 providing the spiritual needs of our entire American
17 Legion Family. As this year comes to a close, we have
18 much to be grateful for and thankful to be part of this
19 great organization.

20 A total of 27 out of 30 districts provided
21 year-end reports details activities of the 258 units
22 within the State of California. 310 deceased members were
23 reported, there were zero juniors reported, and three
24 deceased Gold Star Mothers. Seventy-five units in 17
25 districts held memorial services for deceased members.
26 Seventy-six units draped the charter for deceased members.
27 Fifteen units reported having donated \$1,476.01 to the In
28 Loving Tribute Fund. Sixteen units reported having
29 participated in the Chapel of Four Chaplains and donating
30 \$2,133.

31 Ten units brought prayer books to the convention
32 for competition including two junior books. Twelve units
33 are sending -- sent prayers for the Department President's
34 Prayer Book. Twenty-two units reported sending 7,708
35 cards, various cards valued at \$7,725.60. Eighty-four
36 units utilized "Reflections" prayers as a source, and 78
37 units utilized other sources.

38 Many units participated in various patriotic
39 events such as Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Independence
40 Day, 911 Remembrance, and Flag Day. Units and districts
41 participated in 29 other activities including Veterans Day
42 parades, Wreaths Across America, Junior Conference Flag
43 Retirement, and Vietnam Memorial Wall just to name a few.

44 Chaplains reported visiting veterans in
45 hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes. One unit
46 donated 300 lap robes and blankets and hosted Stand Downs
47 searching for homeless veterans on the streets, under
48 bridges and provided needed assistance to those veterans.

49 Members of one unit created a counseling program
50 consisting of veterans and others counseled those in need.

1 Chaplains have visited children's hospitals bringing
2 cheer, celebrating birthdays, distributing toys and just
3 simple companionship. One district along with the entire
4 Legion Family prepares 2,000 fresh cut carnations, and
5 with the assistance of the local police department and
6 Legion Riders parade to the cemetery and places the
7 carnations on grave sites on Memorial Day.

8 One unit maintains a memorial rose garden at a
9 local park which was dedicated in May of 1944 to veterans
10 killed in action. Units of one district raised funds for
11 the burial of a member's loved one and many also donated
12 and prepare food for numerous repasts.

13 This Chairman was honored to assist the Honorary
14 Junior Chaplain at Junior Conference who happens to be
15 here today, Teresa Pouliot. She's in the back. Assisted
16 her at Junior Conference. I lost my place here. Sorry.
17 With the memorial service. Although there were no reports
18 of Juniors deceased, we conducted a ceremony on the
19 Military Child's Table in honor of those children whose
20 parents are deployed. It was well received.

21 This Chaplain was also honored to give the
22 invocation and benediction at the dinner for National
23 President Mary Davis' official visit in southern
24 California in April. The Beacons of Light have honored
25 your slogan, Madam President, of "Serving Veterans From
26 Sea to Shining Sea" while spreading light, love, hope and
27 prayer throughout the ALA Cruise Line.

28 Madam President, this ends my report and I would
29 like to thank you for this appointment.

30 (Applause.)

31 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: May I move on to the
32 first place awards? We have First Place In Loving Tribute
33 Largest Donation goes to Unit 210, District 4.

34 (Applause.)

35 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Four Chaplains
36 Largest Donation, first place goes to Unit 291, District
37 29.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Largest number of
40 cards. First place goes to Unit 258, District 22.

41 (Applause.)

42 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: And now we'll move on
43 to the Best Supplemental. Goes to first place Susan
44 Baker, Unit 694, District 28.

45 (Applause.)

46 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: First Place District
47 Best Supplemental goes to Arlene Barton, District 25.

48 (Applause.)

49 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: And for the Prayer
50 Book, we actually -- I said ten in my report, but we

1 actually had 11 senior books and we had two junior books.
2 So we have our First Place Best Prayer Book goes to Amy
3 Gimmel, District 22.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: First place Unit 280,
6 District 18 goes to Rodie Andressi.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: And last but not
9 least, first place goes to Zoey Tiaduey, Unit 283,
10 District 24 for the Best Junior Prayer Book.
11 (Applause.)
12 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: And, ladies, I want
13 you to know that I did not choose them, even though I
14 concur, but we did have a committee and I want to thank
15 the committee that assisted on judging the books
16 yesterday. We had C.J. Reyes, we had Sandy Jacobs, and we
17 had Joyce Patton.
18 Thank you so much, Madam President. And if I can
19 approach your station. Oh, I'm sorry. Let me give you
20 your book. Okay.
21 First of all, Madam President, this is from many
22 units and districts compiled by myself. And with the
23 assistance of all my roommates, we want to present this
24 prayer book to you. And we just love you and I hope you
25 enjoy the book.
26 (Applause.)
27 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: We had so many. We
28 also had a little memory chest here for you that has
29 seashells and other poems and devotions inside. And it
30 says: "My trust is in you, God of miracles and surprises.
31 Daily I feel your presence in a dozen ways."
32 (Applause.)
33 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Now this ends my
34 report.
35 (Applause.)
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She did an
37 outstanding job, don't you think?
38 (Applause.)
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Sharon.
40 Okay. It looks like we have another guest, so
41 could we -- could we have The American Legion Riders
42 President Mick Sobczak.
43 (Processional.)
44 ALR PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Last year you were all
45 dancing the last time I did this. I have to admit you are
46 the most fun out of the entire family.
47 (Applause.)
48 ALR PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: You even put my Riders to
49 shame.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So am I.

1 ALR PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I was going to say how
2 many Riders do we have out here? Stand up.

3 (Applause.)

4 ALR PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: And I see my district
5 over here, District 22. Ladies.

6 (Applause.)

7 ALR PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: One thing about the
8 Riders is we're actually the only all-inclusive program
9 within The American Legion. You don't have to be a
10 Legionnaire, Squadron, or an Auxiliary member be a Rider.
11 And that's a really good thing, but I'm getting on my
12 veterans' case about that because we have 2,068 members
13 within the program, The American Legion Riders', 85
14 chapters, but of that only 334 are Auxiliary members. And
15 I learned early on in life, happy life, happy wife. And I
16 know a lot of the wives out there for these veterans
17 aren't Riders. And a lot of them aren't even Auxiliary
18 members, so I'm getting on them about that.

19 So I'm hoping to increase your numbers this year,
20 and that's what my membership office, Department Chairman
21 Gary Teicher has been tasked with. So he actually does
22 all the legwork and I get the credit for it. I love how
23 that works.

24 But I'll be here all weekend. I'm looking
25 forward to having some dinner with you all tomorrow night.
26 I do dress up well. I clean up a little bit better than I
27 do right now. So I'm actually retired from the military
28 finally. February 7th of this year I finally retired from
29 the U.S. Army, so --

30 (Applause.)

31 ALR PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Went to Marine Corps boot
32 camp in 1982, so I'm showing you my age. But I have a
33 plaque here for Wendy. It says thanks for her support to
34 The American Legion Riders. And if I could cut it into
35 little pieces and give every one of you a piece, I would,
36 but she gets it.

37 (Applause.)

38 (Processional.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies,
40 it's extremely distracting for the members on this side of
41 the room when you're coming and going through the doors.
42 When there is a speaker especially up here giving their
43 report, please stand in the back and wait to leave the
44 room or to come in so that way it doesn't disrupt their
45 report. There's a lot of business going on outside those
46 doors and so we want to keep it as quiet in here as
47 possible so that we don't have to scream. So thank you
48 very much.

49 (Applause.)

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Our next

1 report will be given by our Foghorn, Ms. Diane DeLashmit,
2 our Department Parliamentarian.

3
4 PARLIAMENTARIAN CONVENTION REPORT

5
6 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Thank you for playing
7 my theme song. Madam President, Captain Wendy O'Brien, as
8 we left port in Fresno, it looked pretty bleak for a year
9 without major storm activity. We were entering turbulent
10 weather and were going to be sounding the foghorn for some
11 really rough waters ahead. However, in a short while the
12 storm subsided and we have had smooth sailing ever since.

13 There were five articles presented for the
14 Parliamentarian Corner. Hopefully they were helpful.
15 Thank you, Ruby and Art, for putting them on the website.
16 Several members, units, districts, officers and chairmen
17 requested directions for many port excursions and
18 activities, but nothing that caused any worries. Perhaps
19 referring to my theme song this year, "Always Stay Humble
20 and Kind," was taken to heart.

21 Just a reminder that when we are civil and
22 respectful to one another, it makes for a more pleasant
23 environment and the work we do becomes more fruitful and
24 enjoyable. It was a pleasure to serve you and the
25 department as Parliamentarian and I am sure secretary Ruby
26 was glad that the foghorn was silent for most of the
27 voyage.

28 Madam President, may I take a point of personal
29 privilege?

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may.

31 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I wish to thank
32 everyone for their cards, letters, emails, phone calls,
33 and other communications during my recent illness. And
34 it's been really -- I'm surprised that I'm emotional about
35 it.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: It's one of those
37 weekends.

38 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I guess so. And many
39 of you have asked and were concerned about me this week.
40 It was truly appreciated. I am doing fine now, but I did
41 have quite a wake-up call. Thanks again for your concern.

42 (Applause.)

43 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: You'll only have to
44 hear it a couple more times. Thank you.

45 (Applause.)

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. We will now
47 have Joyce Patton give her report. Our Musician. Excuse
48 me.

49
50 MUSICIAN CONVENTION REPORT

1
2 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: I see nobody to my
3 right. There should be a choir over there.

4 Good morning, everyone. The Convention Committee
5 on program named Musician met on June 22nd, 2017 in Room
6 Ballroom A of the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside,
7 California. The statistical report of this chairman
8 appears on page none of the Book of Reports.

9 Barbara Toth, Unit 112, District 25 was appointed
10 secretary, Sharon Moore, Unit 252, District 23 offered
11 prayer, and Jean Cooley-Desmeules, Unit 314, District 19
12 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of ten district
13 delegates answered roll call. There were seven visitors
14 present.

15 I was so excited. The committee agreed upon the
16 following report. There were three recommendations for
17 this committee. The committee wants music back.

18 (Applause.)

19 MUSICIAN PATTON: Song book competition, and a
20 junior music program. There was much discussion regarding
21 music in our department. The committee was very much
22 aware of the fact that music is no longer a program on the
23 National level, but they feel we should have music in our
24 department. Some of the reasoning is the following:

25 One, no guidelines for this program. Two, music
26 is the motivation behind everything we do. Three, music
27 is a part of our heart and soul. Four, being that music
28 is no longer in our schools, we are just giving our
29 children to the streets and the music they run to is rap.

30 Five, our bodies are electrically and skillfully
31 made and that's why we feel good when music is in our
32 lives. Six, children with music in their lives have
33 cognitive and positive lives. Seven, the skill set we get
34 from music can be transferred to many other areas of our
35 lives. There are -- these are some of the arguments as to
36 why we need the music program back. So at this time I
37 would like to move that we reinstate music in this
38 department.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion
40 on the floor to -- now do you have that written somewhere
41 exactly how you've said it? Okay.

42 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's right
43 here.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There's a
45 motion on the floor that we reinstate music in this
46 California Department. Any discussion?

47 (No response.)

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
49 favor, say aye.

50 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Those opposed,
2 nay.

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.

5 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: We rehearsed our
8 song, "Keep on Rowin'" written by Pat Gracey, District 15,
9 and adjourned with prayer at 12 noon. Musically yours,
10 Joyce Patton, Musician. That ends my meeting.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay.

12 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: May I move to my
13 supplemental?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

15 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: I'm so excited.
16 Hey, Seashells. First I want to thank President Wendy for
17 allowing me this pleasure of filling in for our great
18 friend and sister Alzora Carter who is now singing with
19 our father in heaven. In her first bulletin for Musician
20 it stated: At our Department Executive Committee meeting
21 in January 2017, this Seashell will bring -- will present
22 a monetary gift of \$50 to the District and Unit who will
23 send me a CD of your original recording song of the sea --
24 or ocean or sea.

25 So it was a pleasure to award Pat Gracey,
26 District 15, our contest winner \$50 for that great song
27 she wrote, "Keep on Rowin'."

28 What is the essence of music. Do you know what
29 it does? The essence of music is communication and
30 expression of one's life and emotions, whatever that may
31 be. This year our Seashells sang The National Anthem in
32 their units and district, at the VA hospitals, Post homes,
33 and some in-home service visits. Some District and Unit
34 Seashells had fun by singing nautical songs and ocean
35 songs, music at their unit and district meetings. Music
36 was used at all of our Auxiliary functions and meetings.

37 One unit stated that they had fun creating,
38 performing, and spreading music around the State of
39 California. They also performed at the Greater Los
40 Angeles VA Hospital for the veterans' Christmas party
41 where they had a sing-off with the hospital veterans.
42 They also performed for the Department President's dinner
43 as well as the National President's Dinner.

44 One district who had a lot this year stated: We
45 started the year off with a musical presentation at our
46 first official district meeting in September for music
47 month, singing medley of songs. The choir was
48 outstanding, performing songs that were in line with our
49 name, The Musical Seashells. The audience even got up and
50 clapped and sang along with us. Their choir made an

1 appearance at the Christmas program for the veterans at
2 the VA hospital where holiday songs were enjoyed and sung
3 by all.

4 Their next performance was at their district
5 meeting during the visitation of our Department President.
6 She enjoyed it so much that she stood up and was singing,
7 clapping, and dancing with them. The choir did an
8 exceptionally great get down and get back up performance,
9 as some of the songs were a bit challenging. A good time
10 was had by all. Their last performance was at the
11 National President's visit where they performed The
12 National Anthem.

13 Two districts formed a choir, but not many units
14 formed choirs. But as they sang in their units and
15 district, it was choir worthy. Many participated in
16 musically events in their units, districts and communities
17 as they promoted a devotion to Americanism through music.
18 It is plain to see that many of our members have
19 participated once or twice in their lives in a school,
20 church or American Legion Auxiliary Unit/District Choir.
21 The most favorite patriotic song this year was The
22 National Anthem.

23 The question was asked, "What is the essence of
24 music?" Well it looks like the Department of California
25 has found out this year and have communicated an
26 expression of one's life and emotions, whatever that may
27 be, through patriotic music in meetings, at the VA
28 hospital, in church choirs, at veterans' events, units,
29 and district programs.

30 In closing I'd like to say music helps bring
31 family a little closer. And we are family. Family is
32 like music. Some high notes, some low notes, but always a
33 beautiful song. We musically -- we Musical Seashells will
34 continue lifting our voices while serving veterans from
35 sea to shining sea. Musically yours, Alzora Carter,
36 Musician posthumously. Joyce Patton, Musician Department
37 Singing Seashell.

38 Thank you so much, Madam President.

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
40 Joyce.

41 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: I would like to move
42 on to my awards.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

44 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: First place award
45 for Best District Supplemental report goes to Matilda
46 Haywood, USS Muhammad Ali, District 23, Unit 639.

47 (Applause.)

48 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: Award for the Best
49 Music Book goes to Jean Cooley-Desmeules, Noisy 19
50 District, Unit 314.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: Jean, I'm telling
3 you, she's a wonder. We didn't ask for a music book, but
4 she gave one. That's what you do when you go over and
5 above.

6 Okay. And last, but not least, this to me is a
7 special award, a lady I met at DC. She came up to me and
8 she -- she says: You know, I used to be Music Chairman
9 and I would like to recommend a song. And I said, oh,
10 that's so nice of you. So I'd like to give her an award.
11 Her name is Arlene Barton, Musician, Unit 777, District
12 25.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: Okay. And we're
15 going to sing now. Choir, are you ready? Okay. Are we
16 ready? Ready? We're going to do it acapella. It's
17 better that way. Everybody one, two, three.

18 (Singing.)

19 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: Thank you. Madam
20 President, may I approach?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Sure. Thank you,
22 Joyce. I know it was very difficult stepping in under
23 such tough situations, and you did an outstanding job.

24 Ladies who were singing and your award winners,
25 congratulations. You guys did a great job.

26 Now we have a special presentation. Could we
27 have District 30 President Kim Vincent and can the
28 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
29 Chairman please escort to this station Aurora Saldivar
30 representing Eduardo Garcia, 56th Assembly District.

31 (Processional.)

32 MS. SALDIVAR: Good morning. It's a privilege to
33 join you on behalf of Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia,
34 California State Legislature. Eduardo Garcia is proud to
35 represent the community of the Coachella Valley and the
36 entire Imperial County.

37 And today we're here for a special purpose, to
38 recognize one of your own. But first we would like to
39 commend this body for all their work and advocacy within
40 our California communities. Your work, your outstanding
41 volunteerism really does brings stars and stripes of our
42 flag to vibrant reality within our communities and is a
43 true inspiration. So thank you very much. You all
44 deserve a big round of applause.

45 (Applause.)

46 MS. SALDIVAR: The reason we are here today is
47 because Eduardo Garcia is extremely proud to recognize one
48 from District 30 in our Imperial Valley Community, Ms. Kim
49 K. Vincent for her exemplary service and true patriotism
50 and all of her outstanding work help bring alive veterans

1 and to serve veterans within Imperial County and the
2 entire community at large of the Imperial County, taking
3 on projects like leading them in the Veterans Day parade,
4 Memorial Day parade and Veterans and you name it. She
5 goes, she works. She -- you know, she really brings to
6 life like the constitution. She inspires people. She
7 teaches the importance to serve our veterans, taking on
8 projects like working with the Auxiliary to assembly care
9 packages.

10 And she never quits. Any veteran organization in
11 the Imperial County, and somewhere down the line Kim is
12 going to help get it started, gather up volunteers, put
13 out an SOS call on Facebook. She's there. She is there.
14 She is grassroots organizing. She is amazing. You know
15 what, we have this resolution from the State, but there
16 wasn't enough room to list all of her biographies on it.
17 It is just so much.

18 And, you know, I don't have to tell you. I'm
19 sure you all know her more than I do. She's one of your
20 families. It just goes to show we're in great company.
21 You're an amazing group of ladies. So Eduardo is so proud
22 and we will continue to recognize Kim Vincent throughout
23 the year as our Assembly District 56 Veteran of the Year.
24 Thank you so much. Please accept this.

25 (Applause.)

26 DEPARTMENT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: I just wanted
27 to say thank you. This is such an honor to be recognized
28 and I just -- it's all for the veterans and my passion is
29 helping the active duty and our veterans and I'm going to
30 continue to do what I do. And thank you for the
31 recognition.

32 (Applause.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. We'll
34 continue with the officers' reports. Can we have Dolly
35 Rios, our historian, give her report, please.

36
37 HISTORIAN CONVENTION REPORT

38
39 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Good morning. The
40 Convention Committee on program the Historian met on June
41 22nd in Ballroom A of the Riverside Convention Center.
42 The statistical report of this chairman appears on page 52
43 of the Book of Reports.

44 Harriet Clendenin, Unit 221, District 15 was
45 appointed secretary. Gigi Manno, Unit 258, District 22
46 offered prayer, and Michelle Pounds, Unit 311, District 20
47 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 15 district
48 delegates answered roll call. There were six visitors
49 present.

50 The committee agreed upon the following report.

1 The code was read and there are no changes. Second place
2 awards were given and discussion on importance of keeping
3 records. Keeping -- meeting closed at 10:40 with closing
4 prayer.

5 Madam Secretary [sic], may I go on with my floor
6 report --

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

8 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: -- and first place
9 awards? Thank you. Greetings Madam President. "Serving
10 Our Veterans from Sea to Shining Sea" has been a very
11 interesting cruise. Beginning with all lifeboats and
12 buoys we stayed afloat, no man overboard. Captain
13 Wendy --

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You're going to
15 need to speak up just a little bit. I know. I'm sorry.

16 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Captain Wendy settled
17 into many ports -- sailed into many ports of call. All
18 her shipmates were very busy getting help to all the
19 veterans and guiding us through troubled waters. There
20 were several workshops which I myself attended some, even
21 had some shipmates become certified leadership
22 instructors. Veterans Day is celebrated with great
23 enthusiasm as shipmates gather at homes as Yountville and
24 give the veterans there an enjoyable visit, entertainment,
25 and barbecue.

26 Children and youth are very important for our
27 voyage. Each day is a blank page on which we write, and
28 at the end of the year we have a book called the Unit
29 History and the District History. These books are
30 important to be passed onto the new generation. Picture
31 books are a great source of visually showing what has been
32 accomplished around us, the who, what, why, and when of
33 all that picture -- of that picture. Without that, the
34 picture has no meaning.

35 Madam President, this concludes my report. May I
36 give my supplementals?

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may.

38 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Okay. Historian
39 District 19, Unit 359.

40 (Applause.)

41 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: And the First Place
42 District History Book, Dee Ann Graham.

43 (Applause.)

44 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: And the Unit History
45 Book, first place was Cathy Medina, District 19.

46 (Applause.)

47 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Okay. First Place
48 Picture Book, District 19 Jean Cooley-Desmeules.

49 (Applause.)

50 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: And I wish to give

1 a -- I wish to give a special thank you to Harriet who
2 guided me through this voyage.

3 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: You did a
4 great job.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: And the three judges
7 were great, Estella Siegrist, Ellen Baundy, and the
8 expertise of Gigi Manno.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Madam President,
11 thank you so much.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
13 Dolly.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Could we
16 have the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, Liz Doidge and
17 Susan Morgan, come give their -- are they here?

18 Okay. So while they are taking care of business
19 in the hallway, we're going to -- I'd like to take a
20 moment to -- I didn't introduce them yesterday because I
21 -- you know, they're supposed to be doing all this for me,
22 but I forgot to give them their own gifts, so I didn't
23 want to do it until I had the gifts to give them.

24 These two ladies that I will present to you have
25 supported me in so many ways. Without their help I don't
26 know how I could get through the events. There is a lot
27 of walking and lifting, and if you haven't seen the ship
28 that one of my Pages takes along with us, it's up and down
29 the aisles a lot. So I -- these ladies are extraordinary.

30 Even though one of them, Zana, has had an
31 extraordinary life-changing event in her life, she has
32 managed to make it here to help out this President. I
33 don't know that I could ever thank you ladies enough.

34 So, ladies, could you please give a big hand to
35 my Personal Pages, Zana Chaney and Ann Sanchez.

36 (Applause.)

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Well,
38 while -- I don't even see her. Jolina Freeman has left
39 the building, so we'll have to wait on that. Let's
40 have -- let's move onto -- she's probably not in here
41 either because I don't see her either. Estella Avina, are
42 you here?

43 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: There she is.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, she's here.
45 Okay. Let's have Estella Avina come up with Judy and give
46 her report.

47 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: Judy is missing.

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. I know Judy
49 is really busy out in the hall taking care of business.
50 If we can have Estella Avina, the Convention Chairman,

1 come up.

2 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: I don't hoe.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I could take that
4 really bad.

5 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: No, that's okay. Win
6 a few, lose a fee.

7
8 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN CONVENTION REPORT
9

10 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: Anyway, well, what do
11 I have to say? My partner is outside. She's helping with
12 the luncheon. I was helping them too. I disappear from
13 time to time. Sorry. I tell you the boys I take care of:
14 Sorry. Okay. I'm sorry. Oh, you cannot hear me.
15 Seriously?

16 Okay. Anyway, welcome ladies. It is my
17 pleasure. I love doing this, believe it or not. It gets
18 me out of the house. No, I love doing it. I love seeing
19 all of you because it's my one and only time a year I get
20 to see a lot of the friends that I left since I moved to
21 Arizona. But that's why I continue to work with the
22 Auxiliary because I just love it. I love coming and
23 seeing my old friends. And they all know I'm a
24 whackadoodle, but that's okay. It comes with -- thank
25 you, sweetie. Thank you, Bonnie. Love you and I miss
26 your mommy. Anyway, you -- you were around when my
27 husband dressed like a bear and danced with your mom on
28 stage in Fresno '91-'92, yes. Because her theme was
29 bears. So my husband dressed up like a bear and he danced
30 with Betty and that was his -- my husband danced with her
31 on stage because she loved to dance.

32 Okay. Back to everything here. You know, we
33 hopefully tried to make everything comfortable for you.
34 We hope that there are no major problems, that everybody
35 is kind of having a good time. Aren't you?

36 (Applause.)

37 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: Thank you. And I
38 want to introduce some people that, like I say, my side
39 kick isn't in here, but a lot of the gals from the 21st
40 District, stand up. Come on, girls, come on. All of
41 these ladies worked very hard to make sure that they
42 supported our needs. And God love you all because I love
43 you. See how that works.

44 Anyway, so I also want to -- okay. All you gals
45 from other districts come in and they offer their help and
46 they say if you need our help, we're here. And they did.
47 And where is Ms. Jackie? Jackie, are you in the room?
48 Where's my sister? Stand up, girl. She's taking care
49 of -- she's taking care of the Pages. Hey, wait until you
50 see me at the end of the summer. You'll know we're

1 sisters. Right, Jackie? Thank you, honey. I love you.
2 Anyway, you know, everybody here is just helpful
3 and, you know, they're just good friends and I enjoy every
4 bit of it.

5 And thank you for the pleasure of doing your
6 convention, Madam President, El Capitan. You're the
7 captain. You should be. Okay. And Sue Tozier for taking
8 over the banquet. At the end of the banquet you can thank
9 her. If it goes good, thank her. The Past President's
10 luncheon of course is Judy. And I just thank all of you
11 that were there for me. That's it, Madam President.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Is the
15 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal here? Are they still
16 outside? Oh, here comes -- here comes the
17 Sergeant-at-Arms.

18 Okay. So now we will have the Sergeant-at-Arms
19 and Marshal, Elizabeth Doidge and Susan Morgan, give their
20 report, please.

21
22 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS AND MARSHAL CONVENTION REPORT
23

24 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: Good morning, everyone.
25 I'm so sorry about the tail. I have to relax for a
26 second. So I had a lot of trouble coming up with what to
27 say today after what I said at DEC. I think I outdid
28 myself at DEC, so I was, like, crud. So I finally got
29 this done I think Tuesday morning and we left Tuesday
30 evening, so we'll see.

31 Until 1912 there was no set design for the stars
32 and stripes. Hidden in older versions of the flag, its
33 markers laid hints of the country's history and quest for
34 identity. Aptly, given its national anthem is about the
35 flag, the stars and stripes is a key part of America's
36 identity. It hangs in classrooms and courtrooms, on state
37 buildings, and suburban porches.

38 It has been the national flag since 1777. And
39 the flag that inspired the anthem was enormous, measuring
40 30 feet by 42 feet. It was raised over Baltimore's Fort
41 McHenry during the War of 1812. Its 15 broad stripes and
42 15 bright stars inspired Francis Scott Key to write The
43 Star Spangled Banner, the song that became The National
44 Anthem. But before then half of the flag's 234-year
45 history, there was no official design. The arrangement
46 and appearance of the stars was up to the maker, and that
47 makes it an artwork in a way that other nation's flag are.
48 It's to do with this -- it's to do with this peculiar fact
49 that they didn't standardize the design, so you could
50 express different things within each flag.

1 Generally speaking, a flag is a flag. It's like
2 a number plate or a logo. It always stays the same. But
3 America -- but in America it didn't, which left room for
4 people to express their creativity or their bile or their
5 sadness.

6 So what are the hidden messages in these notable
7 flags? The basic symbolism of the first flag was 13 stars
8 in the form of a constellation and 13 stripes. Both of
9 those counts reflected the number of original colonies.
10 Multiple stars forming a single constellation was symbolic
11 of the colonies coming together to form a new nation, and
12 stars were added as more states joined the union. But
13 they never specified what the constellation was supposed
14 to be.

15 With no official design until 1912, some flag
16 makers arranged the stars into one big star or in a circle
17 or in rows. And some replaced a state's star with its
18 initial to show where their sympathies lay. The many and
19 varied designs encapsulate American individualism in flag
20 form.

21 The Civil War era flag is a stark illustration of
22 the -- stark illustration of the north/south divide at
23 this turbulent moment in this American history. The Green
24 Mountain Boys was a nickname for a Vermont military unit
25 who used it to express her anger against the south. Some
26 flags only showed 20 stars, though there should have been
27 34 or 35. Or at the tail end of the war it should have
28 had 36 stars. The maker has done something that Abraham
29 Lincoln said specifically not to do, which was remove the
30 southern states from the flag during the war.

31 It is surmised that the maker had lost a son or
32 sons in the conflict and so they said no, these guys are
33 out; I'm not going to include those stars when I make it.

34 This flag, made soon after the Civil War of 1861
35 to 1865, comes from the defeated South. Sorry. This one
36 comes from the defeated south. The stars are configured
37 in a southern cross buried in the design of this flag.
38 That was a subtle way of displaying southern sympathies.
39 They're hiding the confederate battle flag within the
40 stars and stripes. It's as if to say we have been
41 forcibly incorporated into the United States, but we still
42 feel southern.

43 As long as you had the right number of stars, you
44 could configure it however you wanted. The most famous
45 American flag of all is a huge banner from almost 200
46 years ago that hung at Fort McHenry. And the most notable
47 aspect of its design is its sheer size. In 1814 the U.S.
48 was again at war with its former colonial ruler. In an
49 attack expected on Baltimore, the commanding officer of
50 Fort McHenry requested a flag so large that the British

1 would have no difficulty seeing it from a distance, as
2 well as to spook the enemy. He hoped it would also rally
3 the spirits of Baltimore's citizens and soldiers alike.
4 It took Maryland flag maker Mary Pickersgill and her young
5 assistants weeks to sew short strips of wool bunting into
6 the 42-foot flag that would become known as the Star
7 Spangled Banner.

8 Several decades after the flag design was set in
9 stone, Jasper Johns adopted it as a favorite subject.
10 White flag -- no, it's supposed to be that way. White
11 flag from 1955 now hangs in New York's Metropolitan Museum
12 of Art. By painting the flag he expressed how he felt
13 about America. He painted this in the McCarthyist period.
14 Johns was never explicit about the message of his
15 paintings, but observers liken the whited-out stars and
16 stripes to the right-wing patriots suspicion of America's
17 diversity.

18 Under the painting is a collage of beeswax and
19 scraps of newsprint torn from the headlines and articles,
20 adverts and letters to the editor. It's believed that the
21 idea was that all the many -- that all the many voices of
22 America were being submerged beneath the idea of a single
23 nation represented by the flag. It's the conflict between
24 trying to make America a nation and allowing it to be
25 millions of people all expressing their own difference.

26 Johns used the flag because of the U.S. -- Johns
27 used the flag because in the U.S., it is an everyday
28 object rather than one brought out for special occasions
29 such as football matches or royal weddings as in the U.K.
30 If you go to Spain or England or Scotland, there may be an
31 occasional flag often tied to idea of separatism, but in
32 America it's everywhere. It is such a huge continent so
33 the flag becomes a point of coherence, a rallying point.
34 And underneath its apparent uniformity, the flag has
35 always been a focus for statements that don't quite toe
36 the patriotic line. It's very interesting that something
37 as uniform as a flag could be adapted to express such
38 different aspects of the American conflict and life.
39 Thank you.

40 (Applause.)

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
42 Okay. We're going to now hear from our Honorary Junior
43 President Jolina Freeman.

44 HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT FREEMAN:
45 Hello, everyone. Before I start I would like to recognize
46 all of our juniors for all of their hard work that they've
47 done this year. I really appreciate it. You guys are
48 awesome.

49 (Applause.)

50 HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT FREEMAN: I

1 can honestly say that this year has been such a blessing.
2 But none of this would be possible without all of you
3 guys. Junior Conference was amazing. It was fun. They
4 had -- I believe they did horseback riding, they went
5 kayaking, they played pool, took pictures.

6 And at Junior Conference, thank you to everybody
7 who donated. They have lots of money and lots of candy.
8 They're pretty hyper. I received many reports from our
9 girls about the different service activities they've done
10 such as bake sales, car washes. They made scarves,
11 blankets, and did many more things.

12 I would like to thank President Wendy for all of
13 her wise words of wisdom and her emails. Right before
14 Junior Conference, she was, like, let me know if you need
15 anything. If you need anything, just email it to me and
16 I'll get it for you. But I didn't need anything because
17 you already had everything there.

18 The department, my district, my unit, thank you
19 guys. I love you guys a lot.

20 (Applause.)

21 HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT FREEMAN:
22 And I would be remiss if I didn't mention this person.
23 And I stress her out a lot, but I know she loves me. My
24 aunt sitting over there in the corner not paying attention
25 to me.

26 (Applause.)

27 HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT FREEMAN: I
28 see her. She's kind of ignoring me. It's okay. But
29 she's been there through everything and I don't know what
30 I would do without her waking me up in the morning to go
31 to school, reminding me to send out emails to my chairmen.
32 And I love you and I appreciate everything you've done.

33 (Applause.)

34 HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT FREEMAN:
35 And Ms. Ann Philcox and Susie Tozier can come up here,
36 please, if they're in the room. Okay. The first one is
37 for -- sorry. President Wendy.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ladies, Jolina did
40 an outstanding job leading our Juniors this year.

41 (Applause.)

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: For those of you
43 who haven't been to Junior Conference, it really truly is
44 an eye-opening experience seeing our young people that we
45 hope will continue leading this organization grow and
46 learn our programs and get excited like we were when we
47 first started.

48 So, Jolina, you did an outstanding job and I
49 thank you and all of your Juniors for what you've
50 contributed to our veterans this year. Thank you.

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(Applause.)

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam President, I know all of us was saddened yesterday hearing about the loss of our own Margaret Quinones. We'll be passing out cards to every district, and if your delegates could please sign them, we'll be sending them to Angel.

(Applause.)

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you. Okay. So now we're going to move onto the Department Chairmen. So could I have Girls State Director Rhodona Enright and Elissa Kirkland, could you please come up. Legislative Susie Tozier will be next, and then Dee Ann Graham for Community Service will follow her.

Okay. We'll hear from our Legislative Chairman Susie Tozier.

LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION REPORT

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I had to take my shoes off to get closer to the mic. I feel so tall.

The Convention Committee for Legislative met on June 22nd, 2017 in Room Ballroom B at the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, California. The statistical report for this chairman appears on page 54 of the Book of Reports.

Linda Diebel was appointed Secretary, Marge Rye offered prayer, and Linda Dieble was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 17 district delegates answered roll call. There were six visitors present.

The committee agreed upon the following report. Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. Roll call was taken. There were 17 delegates and six guests. Susie reported on the Legislative Awareness Assembly in Washington D.C. It was reported that this was a memorable event walking the halls of the House of Representative. She recommends this for others to attend. There is in March an event for the State Representatives.

The code was read. There were no changes. The following awards were presented: Second Place Best District Report, District 22. Third Place Best District Report, District 19. Second Place Best Unit Report, Unit 258, District 22. Third Place Best Unit Report, Unit 496, District 19. Meeting was closed at 10:55 a.m.

May I move on to my supplemental?

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: The voice of the people are so important. How would Congress and the State and Local governments know what the people want? As Auxiliary members it's up to us to help support those bills that would benefit the veterans. There are tools

1 available for us online. With a few key strokes the word
2 can be told.

3 Resources are available on The American Legion,
4 the National Legislative Report, Dispatch, and the
5 National Legislative Handbook, American Legion Department
6 of California under calegion.org under the word
7 "commission." You have to go to "commission." They don't
8 have programs like we do. You look under there and you
9 look for legislative and they have -- you will be able to
10 keep up to date on the issues that are important for the
11 current status of California legislation and bills on the
12 governor's desk. Connect with the legislative
13 commissioner in your area. They have a lot of
14 information.

15 And now I am going to present my reports. First
16 Place Best District Report, District 25.

17 (Applause.)

18 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: The chairman that
19 wrote District 25's report is in the maternity delivery
20 room waiting for twin grandchildren.

21 (Applause.)

22 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: I hope they're
23 Auxiliary members. Best Unit Report, Unit 118, District
24 27, Danielle White.

25 (Applause.)

26 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Thank you, Madam
27 President.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Susie.

29 (Applause.)

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Do we have Elissa
31 Kirkland? Please come up, our Girls State Chairman. I'm
32 sorry. I knew that.

33
34 GIRLS STATE CONVENTION REPORT

35
36 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Greetings, Madam
37 President. I will begin with my Convention Committee
38 meeting report. The Convention Committee on Girls State
39 met on June 22nd, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in
40 Raincross F of the Riverside Convention Center in
41 Riverside, California. The statistical report of this
42 Chairman appears on page 52 of the Book of Reports. One
43 report was submitted after the statistical report was due,
44 so it's not reflected in that report.

45 Lauree Camarato, District 22, Unit 731, was
46 appointed secretary. Silvia Hillyer, District 6, Unit 77,
47 offered prayer, and Zana Chaney, District 15, Unit 124,
48 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 26 district
49 delegates answered roll call. There were 12 visitors
50 present. Actually, I think that's supposed to be 17.

1 The committee agreed upon the following report.
2 The Department code was read and there were two proposed
3 code changes. One proposed code change was approved. One
4 new proposed code change was approved. The committee
5 approved two total code changes. May I read the code
6 changes?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

8 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Okay. Code now
9 reads, Code 8: "The Department President, in consultation
10 with the Girls State Chairman, shall call a meeting of the
11 Girls State Committee to be held as soon as possible but
12 no later than October 1. The Secretary/Treasurer shall
13 attend the Girls State Committee Meeting. The Girls State
14 enrollment and registration fees shall be recommended
15 annually by the Girls State Committee after the review of
16 the previous year's budget, expenses, and current bids
17 received from colleges, for the following administrative
18 year. The enrollment and registration fees shall be
19 recommended at the Midyear Department Executive Committee
20 meeting for approval at the Department Convention."

21 The proposed change will read, Code 8: "The
22 Girls State Chairman, in consultation with the Department
23 President, shall call a meeting of the Girls State
24 Committee to be held as soon as possible but no later than
25 October 1. The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend the Girls
26 State Committee Meeting. The Girls State enrollment and
27 registration fees shall be recommended annually by the
28 Girls State Committee after the review of the previous
29 year's budget, expenses, and current bids received from
30 colleges, for the following administrative year. The
31 enrollment and registration fees shall be recommended at
32 the Midyear Department Executive Committee meeting for
33 approval at the Department Convention."

34 By the direction of the committee, I move to
35 adopt Code 8 with the proposed change.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There is a
37 motion on the floor to change Code 8 to read: "The Girls
38 State Chairman, in consultation with the Department
39 President, shall call a meeting of the Girls State
40 Committee to be held as soon as possible but no later than
41 October 1. The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend the Girls
42 State Committee Meeting. The Girls State enrollment and
43 registration fees shall be recommended annually by the
44 Girls State Committee after the review of the previous
45 year's budget, expenses, and current bids received from
46 colleges, for the following administrative year. The
47 enrollment and registration fees shall be recommended at
48 the Midyear Department Executive Committee meeting for
49 approval at the Department Convention."

50 Any discussion?

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
3 those in favor, say aye.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed say no.
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
8 Thank you.
9 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Code 16 current
10 code now reads, 16a: "Shall select registered nurses,
11 secure chief counselor and personnel for the sessions.
12 Invitations shall be sent out three months prior to
13 convention. They shall be furnished identification badges
14 containing the name and insignia of the ALA which shall be
15 visible at all times."
16 The proposed change will read, 16a: "Shall
17 select registered nurses and secure chief counselor
18 immediately after the current Girls State session.
19 Invitations shall be sent out six months prior to
20 convention for other personnel. They shall be furnished
21 identification badges containing the name and insignia of
22 the ALA which shall be visible at all times."
23 By the direction of the committee I move to adopt
24 Code 16a with the proposed change.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a proposed
26 change for 16a which should read: "Shall select
27 registered nurses and secure chief counselor immediately
28 after the current Girls State session. Invitations shall
29 be sent out six months prior to convention for other
30 personnel. They shall be furnished identification badges
31 containing the name and insignia of the ALA which shall be
32 visible at all times."
33 Any discussion? If you have discussion, please
34 come to the microphone.
35 (No response.)
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
37 those in favor, say aye.
38 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Those opposed?
40 (No response.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
42 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: There were no
43 resolutions pertaining to Girls State. There were three
44 recommendations, to expand Code 16 to include all
45 director's responsibilities, add to signature packet
46 information regarding reimbursement to fees to unit if the
47 delegate leaves early, and comment a -- recommendation to
48 conference with legal counsel regarding definition and
49 inclusion of gender wording in codes.
50 A listing of all awards has been given to all

1 district delegates, the Girls State Committee, the
2 Department President, and those seated upon the stage. A
3 copy of the list will be posted in the Department
4 Convention Office and it has been posted.

5 Madam President, may I continue with my report?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

7 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: This year Girls
8 State focused on mainly some small changes that we needed
9 to implement after last year. After having had the
10 position for a year previously and learning so much, fine
11 tuning was needed as suggested by Unit, Chairmen, and the
12 Committee. We had a few kinks with the website, but once
13 it was up, I found it very easy to use.

14 Changes that were implemented last session
15 include two meal times, allowed us to accommodate more
16 girls; daily flag raising and flag lowering ceremonies;
17 and the Circle of Light Ceremony. All of those were
18 suggestions that we found at the leadership conference in
19 Indianapolis.

20 We added a couple of new questions for the girls
21 on the online application because that was suggested at
22 the National Girls State Leadership Conference, was to
23 help us identify if we have any delegates with currently
24 active duty or deployed family members.

25 As suggested by Unit Chairmen, we added lines
26 onto the signature packet to help identify the girls more,
27 school name and phone number. We also made sure to make
28 the signature packet match the code and put in a signature
29 line for Unit Chairmen. Many Unit Chairmen did not notice
30 this addition and skipped it. Please get the word out
31 that we like the Unit Chairmen to check and verify the
32 signature packets for completeness.

33 Fourteen grants were offered by the Alumnae, but
34 not many were taken. We had \$1800 donated to the Girls
35 State General Fund that could have gone directly to units
36 if they are struggling. Remember there are four full
37 grants available to new schools and there are also ten
38 matches grants available to units that are struggling
39 financially to support all of the schools they are
40 sending.

41 Ann Kelley, Assistant Director, has been in
42 charge of the 75th Anniversary Committee. We are having
43 our Diamond Jubilee 75th Girls State in 2018. Ann has a
44 table in the lobby with earrings, necklaces, and pins for
45 sale.

46 If you did not attend DEC, you may not have known
47 that our state Samsung winner, Sadie Mae Mace, Unit 50,
48 District 16 was an overall Samsung winner of \$20,000.

49 (Applause.)

50 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Currently we have

1 524 delegates to attend the 2017 Girls State session
2 starting this Monday. It's a small increase from last
3 year's session. 275 of these delegates are eligible to
4 become members. 275, ladies. I always encourage the
5 girls to give back to their units by joining them in
6 membership. I am a member again because of the Girls
7 State. Twenty-one delegates are currently members of our
8 organization.

9 Some things I would like to touch on from my
10 end-of-year reports. Eight units reported sponsoring a
11 delegate for the first time within the last three years.
12 Eighty-five units invited eligible American Legion
13 Auxiliary Girls State delegates to join their units.
14 Thirty-five eligible ALA Girls State delegates joined the
15 ALA, and we received \$4,210 in donations from units.

16 I have had 68 and counting reservations dropped
17 from the list, with two that are already paid for
18 delegates and not having alternates that could attend. We
19 have had 22 delegates drop out. And those were the ones
20 that were covered by alternates. Four units were awarded
21 grants by the Girls State Alumnae Foundation for a total
22 of \$2200.

23 Madam President, at this point I would like to
24 present three special awards. And a list of all awards
25 given at the committee meeting has been provided.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you.
27 Go ahead.

28 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: My first award
29 goes to the unit that sponsored the most girls. I want to
30 thank Unit 161 in District 9 for continuing to support the
31 Girls State program. This year they are sending 18
32 delegates under the chairmanship of Roseann Vicky Bean, my
33 district.

34 (Applause.)

35 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: This year I have
36 chosen Judith Samples, District 25. Judith Samples. And
37 she just said it's all because I was her junior when I was
38 little. I was a junior before I left for a few years and
39 she was my -- she was in charge of me as a junior, so --

40 (Applause.)

41 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: And my final
42 award goes to the Unit Chairman with an outstanding unit
43 supplemental. This year I have chosen Unit 43, District
44 24, Chairman Tamara Brown.

45 (Applause.)

46 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Madam President,
47 I would like to thank you for this appointment. This
48 program has had a huge part of my life for the last 18
49 years when I attended Girls State in 1999, so you can add
50 up how old I am. I would like to introduce our committee.

1 We have our Director Dona Enright.
2 (Applause.)
3 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our Assistant
4 Director Ann Kelley.
5 (Applause.)
6 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our Girls State
7 Advisor Nancy Brown-Park.
8 (Applause.)
9 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our Girls State
10 Nurse Elizabeth Tomlin.
11 (Applause.)
12 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our One-Year
13 Member Kathy Smith.
14 (Applause.)
15 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our Two-Year
16 Member Becky Bullard.
17 (Applause.)
18 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our Three-Year
19 Member Tammy Sollazzo.
20 (Applause.)
21 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Our President's
22 Alternate Gloria Sinopoli.
23 (Applause.)
24 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: And our Vice
25 President Alternate Zana Chaney.
26 (Applause.)
27 GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN KIRKLAND: Madam President,
28 this concludes the Girls State Chairman's report.
29 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Thank you so much.
30 Last year I got a comment that they couldn't see me over
31 the podium, so I'm standing to the side. Okay. Thank God
32 you can see me.
33 Good morning everybody, members. As Elissa said,
34 this year we have 524 delegates for Girls State that will
35 be arriving on Monday to attend the session. And this
36 year we will also have all air conditioned buildings.
37 (Applause.)
38 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Of course we have
39 to move for food off campus to the campus next door
40 because now they're rehabilitating that building. First
41 of all I want to thank Judy Tabachi who just stepped up to
42 become a sitting mom yesterday.
43 (Applause.)
44 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: And then today
45 forgot she had a doctor's appointment for her eyes so will
46 not be attending after all. So we -- so we are still
47 short one sitting mom. If you can come for three days,
48 I'll take you. If you can come for the rest of the term,
49 I don't care. We'll get you trained and you will enjoy it
50 so much that you will be back next year.

1 Okay. The schedule for June of 2018 -- oh, wait
2 a minute. I can't even read my own writing. Anyway, I
3 just want to thank everybody for everything. We have made
4 contact with Sacramento State again, so I will be helping
5 them review that and then it will be turned over to the
6 new crew to see if we can move Girls State more midstate.

7 (Applause.)

8 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Thank you, Madam
9 President, for this appointment and I'll see you next week
10 at Girls State.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Dee Ann is
14 going to wait and give her Community Service after lunch
15 because we have to break at a certain time for the Past
16 Presidents Parley luncheon. So we're going to have our
17 Past President Parley Chairman Anita Biggs give her
18 report.

19
20 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CONVENTION REPORT

21
22 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: I'm not even going to try to
23 get that low. Those days are over.

24 Madam President, the Convention Committee on Past
25 Presidents Parley met on June 22nd, 2017 in room Raincross
26 E of the Riverside Convention Center right here in
27 Riverside. The statistical report of this Chairman
28 appears on page 56 of the Book of Reports.

29 Glenda Schultz, thank you, District 6 was
30 appointed secretary. Susan Baker, District 28, offered
31 prayer, and Tracy Varnell, Little Fercho, from District 16
32 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. Yeah, Little Fercho.
33 That's her new name. She's going to change her name.
34 She's going to be Little Fercho. A total of 16 District
35 Delegates answered roll call. There were five visitors
36 present.

37 The committee agreed upon the following report.
38 The code was read with no code changes. There were no
39 resolutions. Committee recommended that nurse
40 practitioners be considered for scholarship consideration,
41 and I will pass this information on to next the chairman.

42 100 percent reporting awards were given to
43 District 6, 10, 12, 18, 21, 24, 27, 28 and 29. Second and
44 third place awards along with honorable mention was given
45 to units and districts. District 6 and 28 were awarded
46 for starting new unit parleys. Give them a big round of
47 applause.

48 (Applause.)

49 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: With no further business the
50 meeting was closed with prayer and adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

1 Madam President, can I continue with my
2 supplemental and awards, please?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

4 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Would all honorees please
5 attend -- assemble in the back with Linda Workman if
6 you're in the room, all luncheon honorees.

7 Madam President, thank you for your motto of,
8 "Serving Veterans From Sea to Shining Sea." I want to
9 first say that this year we had 100 percent district
10 reporting. By hook or by crook, I got you all to report.
11 Thank you so much. This allowed the Poseidon Adventure of
12 our Queens of the Sea, our Past Presidents a great
13 platform to recognize active duty servicewomen, honor
14 female veterans, observe outstanding unit members, and
15 seek out students entering our continuing nursing school.

16 We have three new Past President Parleys reported
17 this year. This year found Past President Parleys hosting
18 Valentine's Day parties, with a special party at the West
19 LA VA Medical Center Naomi House for transitioning
20 homeless female veterans with 45 goodie bags filled with
21 hygiene items, pajamas, sweats, scarves, books and gift
22 cards.

23 Many parleys led the way honoring female veterans
24 and active duty servicewomen by hosting luncheons, giving
25 flowers, cards, gift certificates and paying their dues.
26 Other units adopted female veterans by providing them with
27 many comfort items, clothing, pajamas, slippers, scarves,
28 gift cards, hats and coats. Two Unit Parleys helped host
29 an all-female veterans Stand Down in their county.

30 One unit Parley visited a local center that
31 assists homeless female veterans and gave them a special
32 luncheon. The city's vice mayor and councilman were
33 invited and presented a special proclamation to the
34 center. All the veterans in attendance received a very
35 special gift bag from the Past Presidents.

36 Another unit Parley held a joint dinner with the
37 Legion and celebrated generations of past and present
38 female veterans. They all wore their uniforms and each
39 told their military story. And this event was published
40 in their newspaper.

41 Units held very unique and creative fundraisers,
42 so I wanted to share with you on the department nursing
43 scholarship one unit parley held a crazy 1 cent/400 cents
44 opportunity drawing. I never heard of that either.
45 Tickets are picked that have from 1 cent to 400 cents
46 which is paid at that initial time. Then three lucky
47 recipients were drawn and won \$100 each. This event
48 raised \$592 for nurses' scholarships.

49 Another unit held a gift card extravaganza
50 fundraiser where the winners all receive gift cards. And

1 this event raised \$410. We received so many qualified
2 nursing school applicants and have awarded \$10,000 in
3 scholarships. That's all from you, ladies.

4 (Applause.)

5 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: With the top applicant
6 receiving \$4,000. All qualified applicants were awarded a
7 portion of the remaining budget. It is through your
8 generous donations that we can continue awarding these
9 excellent students with some much needed financial
10 assistance.

11 Active duty servicewomen deserve an award for all
12 they do, and this year we are awarding two state winners,
13 one representing the Army National Guard and one the U.S.
14 Navy, both highly qualified and excellent contributors to
15 their communities. The two department winners were
16 forwarded to National for further review.

17 The Department President has the honor of
18 selecting the Unit Member of the Year, and there were many
19 submissions which made her job very difficult. And it
20 took her quite a long time to get the submission to me,
21 but thank you, Madam President.

22 The Unit Member of the Year, \$4,000 scholarship
23 winner, and the active duty servicewoman winners have been
24 invited to attend our Department Past President Parley
25 luncheon where they will be guests of honor. I'm so proud
26 that we are all here. It is apparent that California Past
27 Presidents continue to contribute with their leadership
28 and assistance in the welfare of our many unit members.

29 Madam President, this concludes my remarks. May
30 I continue with my first place awards and present the Unit
31 Member of the Year, the \$4,000 scholarship winner, and the
32 two outstanding Active Duty Servicewomen of the Year to
33 this delegation?

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

35 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you. The First Place
36 Best Unit Past Presidents Parley overall program goes to
37 Carol Yates, Chairman, Monterey Cypress Unit 694, District
38 28.

39 (Applause.)

40 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: And the First Place Best
41 District Past President Parley Overall Program goes to Ms.
42 Susan Baker, District 28, Chairman.

43 (Applause.)

44 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: 28, they're rocking it. I'm
45 telling you. Great job. Thank you, Susan.

46 It is my pleasure to present to you, Madam
47 President and our delegation, the \$4,000 nurses
48 scholarship winner Ms. Renee Harvey.

49 Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal and the
50 Distinguished Guest Chairman bring Renee Harvey to the

1 front.
2 (Processional.)
3 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Renee is in her second
4 semester at Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing in
5 Monterey, California. An excellent student, she is
6 described as a nurse we would all love to have. You will
7 hear -- I'll get teared up. You will hear more about
8 Renee at our luncheon. So for now, please give Renee a
9 big round of applause.
10 (Applause.)
11 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Madam -- oh, are you guys --
12 you guys are slow. Linda, you normally would be in the
13 back already.
14 Madam President, these next two heroes are just
15 that and we could not be prouder to honor these two women.
16 Would the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please escort our
17 two Active Duty Servicewomen of the Year.
18 (Processional.)
19 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: I'll let you go down once I
20 introduce you. Oh, they're going to go down there. May I
21 present to you, Madam President and the delegation, First
22 Lieutenant Jawana McFadden representing the United States
23 Army National Guard.
24 (Applause.)
25 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Jawana is from District 23.
26 (Applause.)
27 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: And Admin Leading Petty
28 Officer Susana Saenz representing the United States Navy.
29 (Applause.)
30 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: From District 30. You will
31 also hear more about these wonderful women at our
32 luncheon. So, ladies, please have a seat. Thank you very
33 much.
34 (Applause.)
35 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: And, Madam President, now it
36 is my distinct pleasure to present to you our 2017 Unit
37 Member of the Year. Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal
38 please escort Ms. Stephanie Janji.
39 (Processional.)
40 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: All right. Ms. Janji, you
41 know I love you because you're tall and other things.
42 She's a fantastic -- this is one of the best members I've
43 had the pleasure to work with. And Ms. Janji was
44 nominated by her unit Los Alamitos 716, District 29.
45 Our Captain Wendy will read her wonderful
46 nomination at the Past President Parley luncheon, however,
47 I do have your sash which of course I left out in my bag
48 because I can't remember anything after 60, so bear with
49 me. I will get you your sash. We're going to put it on
50 you at the President's station.

1 (Applause.)
2 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: We're sashing her.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I never feel short
4 when I'm with these two.
5 (Applause.)
6 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Thank you, Madam President.
7 That is my report and we hope to see you all at our
8 luncheon. Thank you very much, members.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ruby, do we have
10 any communications to share for today? You tried to throw
11 a monkey wrench on me.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: From Marge Rye.
13 To everyone that -- I don't know. Had an order -- a
14 floral order pick up Thursday, please pick up your
15 Thursday orders on your way out at recess.
16 District 29 has two luncheon tickets.
17 District 25 is looking for a PPP ticket.
18 Kathleen Wilkins.
19 Bev's Stars, Madeline's Love Princesses, Norma's
20 brides -- Birds of Paradise will meet today after close of
21 session in the area next to the Poppy displays.
22 Bev's Sparks, Peachy Performers, and Classy
23 Penguins will meet at lunch at the Saturday noon break at
24 the Marriott in Room 921.
25 Anita's Team Captains will meet for breakfast
26 Saturday, June 24th at 7:00 a.m. at the Marriott
27 restaurant. Please send a note if you can or cannot
28 attend.
29 Ruby, please announce that Bonnie's Prom
30 Princesses and Sandy's Colonels will meet in Room 415 here
31 for lunch on Saturday. Please RSVP Bonnie in District 20
32 and Sandy in District 13.
33 Sue's Lighthouse, Melanie's Balloon Pilots,
34 LuAnnn's Ship Captains will meet for lunch Saturday at
35 noon in the Marriott Hotel restaurant.
36 Goldie's Golden Links, Geri's Cards, Ruby's All
37 Stars, Margaret's Dream Catchers, Shelby's Actresses, and
38 Pilar's Musicians will meet in the Marriott on Saturday in
39 Room 612 for lunch.
40 Post 79 Convention Committee presents convention
41 week program. They've got all kinds of good things
42 happening. I'll have this on my desk if anyone wants to
43 see it. They have a lunch, a breakfast, all kinds of good
44 things. So check it out.
45 LuAnn Capazzi is looking for someone with a
46 battery charger for a Nikon Cool Pics or a new battery for
47 that camera. That concludes your announcements.
48 (Singing.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She tried to get
50 me before. Okay. The Past Presidents Parley luncheon

1 will be held at Convention Ballroom A and B. Those of you
2 who are making nominations for office of 2017-'18, please
3 be on stage when we return from lunch. We will now recess
4 for lunch and reconvene at 2:00 p.m.

5 (Lunch recess.)

6 (Time noted: 11:57 a.m.)

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION - 2:03 P.M.
2

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: This convention is
4 reconvened. Can we have the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal
5 with the Distinguished Guest Chairman please bring to this
6 station Matt Parsons and his lovely wife, Julie. The
7 Department Detachment Commander and their entourage.

8 (Processional.)

9 PAST SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER SEATON: Good
10 afternoon. You may be seated. First off let me introduce
11 myself. I'm Mike Seaton, Past Detachment Commander of the
12 Sons of The American Legion and a member of the Internal
13 Affairs Commission of The American Legion as a consultant
14 to the Sons of The American Legion.

15 So I joined you today to introduce to you our
16 Detachment Commander for the Detachment of California,
17 Matt Parsons from the 29th District.

18 (Applause.)

19 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: Thank you,
20 thank you. I bring greetings and I bring wine. There's
21 definitely enough for all of you if you have a little tiny
22 baby sip. But I want to congratulate Wendy on a fantastic
23 year. She's done amazing and the Sons wouldn't be
24 possible without the Auxiliary. We are so thankful and so
25 proud of all of the accomplishments of the Auxiliary. It
26 is so important to The American Legion Family. It's
27 important to the Sons and it's important to everybody up
28 here, my wife, Julie, our Past National Commander Mike
29 Seaton, our candidate for National Commander Michael Fox.

30 (Applause.)

31 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: Our Alternate
32 National Executive Committeeman Ned Fox, and my
33 Commander's Aid Gil Desmeules. But I'd like to
34 acknowledge Kat Kapps who's been fantastic to me from my
35 own unit, 291.

36 (Applause.)

37 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: Thank you,
38 District 29. Thank you for all that you guys have done in
39 my own area and district. You guys are fantastic.

40 I'm also here on a bit of business, to award the
41 Sons' award for Auxiliary Member of the Year. I don't
42 believe she's here, but it goes to Ann Baker out of Linda
43 Unit 807.

44 (Applause.)

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Geri is coming.

46 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK: She's from my
47 unit.

48 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: Excellent,
49 excellent. That's just heavy.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I received this

1 award several years ago.

2 (Applause.)

3 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: Fantastic.
4 But Ann has done so much for her own district and area.
5 She's involved in Cast For Kids and the Yuba -- Yuba
6 Sutter Toy Drive and Take a Warrior Fishing and countless
7 breakfasts and countless hours at the Yountville Veterans
8 Home, countless hours of just giving back to your
9 community and making it such a positive, positive thing.
10 And that's why it was a very easy choice to make her our
11 Auxiliary Member of the Year for the Sons of The American
12 Legion.

13 (Applause.)

14 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: And I have to
15 get a selfie with Wendy. Thank you. Have a great
16 convention. Oh, here. Everybody smile. We're going to
17 get you in the background. Don't want to take a picture
18 of the wall. Thank you, ladies. Have a great convention.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I would like to
21 thank you both. You represent so much to us, and this is
22 a little something for you a little later. Thank you very
23 much, Michael. He's from my post and District 6.

24 NATIONAL COMMANDER ELECT FOX: Well, surprised
25 they're giving me a microphone. Wendy, in case you
26 haven't heard, you put a microphone in front of me, you
27 may not get it back.

28 You know, just to reiterate what Commander
29 Parsons said, without the Auxiliary, without a doubt 50
30 percent of our squadrons would go away. It's because of
31 what you guys do to help us that enables us to do what we
32 do for The American Legion Family. Without your support,
33 we would not be as successful as we are. My unit, 521,
34 has supported me for 39 years.

35 (Applause.)

36 NATIONAL COMMANDER ELECT FOX: And the biggest
37 challenge will be coming up very shortly. In 2020
38 California will have another National Commander at the
39 podium.

40 (Applause.)

41 NATIONAL COMMANDER ELECT FOX: So on behalf of
42 the Detachment of California, I truly thank you very much.
43 And I would also like to extend an invitation to you,
44 Wendy, to come over and visit us any time you'd like. And
45 that's an executive decision. Sorry, Mr. Parsons.

46 SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER PARSONS: No.

47 NATIONAL COMMANDER ELECT FOX: Because quite
48 frankly at this point he's not a Past Detachment
49 Commander, he's the sitting Commander, but us DEC's just
50 have to kind of make decisions for him sometimes. But he

1 has had a tremendous year. The Sons are at an all-time
2 high in membership.

3 (Applause.)

4 NATIONAL COMMANDER ELECT FOX: And it's all
5 because of the team. I told Matt last year before he got
6 elected, it doesn't matter what you do, it's the team
7 around you. The Sons have been on a rampage the last few
8 years growing in membership, the camaraderie. There is no
9 division anymore in the State of California. We are one
10 unit working together for a common goal, and that's to
11 make The American Legion Family better. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so, so
14 much. One more hug.

15 (Processional.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The
17 chairmen giving their reports after nominations will be
18 Dee Ann Graham for Community Service, Tamra Duron for
19 Constitution & Bylaws, and our Junior Conference and
20 Activities Director Ann Philcox and Mindy Sinclair. Could
21 you please come to the stage.

22 At this time we will proceed with the nominations
23 for Department Officers, Junior Member of Finance, and
24 Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention. If
25 there is no objections, this Chair will open the
26 nominations. Oh, okay. Okay. So can we have someone
27 come up for Department President. Who is presenting for
28 Department President? Nominations are open for Department
29 President.

30 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT OCLARAY: Madam President,
31 I am Terry Oclaray, District 16 President, and I'm here to
32 proudly nominate for the position of Department President
33 Loretta Marsh. And I have her bio here.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay.

35 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT OCLARAY: Okay. Loretta
36 Marsh's eligibility is through her husband of 55 years,
37 Harold, a World War II and Korean War veteran. They have
38 three children, seven grandchildren and two great
39 grandchildren. She is endorsed by Corporal Marshal M.
40 Braden Unit 56 in District 16.

41 Through the almost 30 years of membership she has
42 served multiple terms as president of her unit, as well as
43 all unit officers and chairmen positions. She has served
44 as District President in 2004-2005 and multiple
45 chairmanships on the district level. She has served the
46 department for 11 years as a Personal Page, Marshal, two
47 terms as Chaplain, Chairman of Community Service,
48 Americanism, Poppy, National Security, Children & Youth,
49 Veterans Affair & Rehabilitation, Membership, and as Vice
50 President.

1 She has served her community by volunteer work in
2 her church and other veteran organizations, schools, and
3 hospitals. She is dedicated to serving those who have
4 served in our military. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Are there any
7 further nominations for Department President?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none,
10 nominations for Department President are now closed.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Nominations are
13 now open for the office of Department Vice President. The
14 chair recognizes Marcia Munroe, District 11 President.

15 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT MUNROE: Hello, I'm Marcia
16 Munroe, District 11 President and a member of Unit 249.
17 On behalf of District 11 and McCall-Grisham 249, I take
18 pride in nominating Joan Cannon for Department Vice
19 President for the year 2017-2018.

20 Joan has been a member of The American Legion
21 Auxiliary for 32 years. Her eligibility is through her
22 ex-husband, Vietnam veteran, her father, J.W. Holloway, a
23 World War II, Korea, Vietnam veteran and a retired chief
24 petty officer from the U.S. Navy, and her son, David
25 Cannon, a Desert Storm veteran having served in the U.S.
26 Navy as a submariner.

27 Joan has one son, two granddaughters, and two
28 deceased grandsons. Joan is a member of McCall-Grisham
29 Unit 249 in District 11. Joan served as president of her
30 unit, District 11, and held most district chairmanships.
31 She is a point of contact for District 11 and she has
32 been -- she's been instrumental in helping many of the
33 units in District 11 with their taxes.

34 Joan has held the following department
35 chairmanships: Elections, Public Relations, Community
36 Service, Children & Youth, and Veterans Affairs &
37 Rehabilitation. Joan is a credit to The American Legion
38 Auxiliary.

39 Joan is retired from the Defense Logistics Agency
40 after serving 30 years as a defense distribution center
41 San Joaquin and distribution center New Cumberland,
42 Pennsylvania. During her career she has held many
43 leadership positions. Her analytical and critical
44 thinking skills are some of the reasons Joan will make an
45 extraordinary vice president.

46 McCall-Grisham Unit 249 and District 11, along
47 with her family and friends, are thrilled to nominate Joan
48 Cannon for Vice President the Department of California.
49 Thank you.

50 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Are there any
2 further nominations for the Department Office of Vice
3 President?

4 (No response.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none,
6 nominations for Department Vice President are now closed.

7 Nominations for are now open for the office of
8 Department Junior Member of Finance. The Chair recognizes
9 Deloris Artis from District 24.

10 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ARTIS: Good afternoon.
11 Martha Romano is running for the office of Junior Member
12 of Finance. She's currently serving as the unit president
13 of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 283 in the 24th
14 District. She has been an active member for three years.
15 She qualifies for membership in the Auxiliary under her
16 husband, Jerry L. Romano of nine years, a Panama and
17 Desert Storm War veteran who served in the United States
18 Marine Corps. Her three daughters and her mother-in-law
19 are members. Her father-in-law, a Vietnam veteran who
20 served in the United States Army, is a member of Palisades
21 Post 283 and one son is a member of the Sons of the Legion
22 Squadron 283.

23 Martha has served on several committees in her
24 unit and has held the chairmanship for Community Service,
25 Children & Youth, and Poppy at the district level. She's
26 currently the Chairman of Americanism and Community
27 Service. She's also the co-chair of the Constitution &
28 Bylaws and a member of the budget committee.

29 Martha attended Santa Monica College majoring in
30 business and is employed at Santa Monica College for 27
31 years. For 12 years she worked in the business
32 administration and human resources department. She
33 currently serves as the Santa Monica College Student
34 Veteran Certifying Official and co-advisor to the Student
35 Veterans Association. She's the first vice president of
36 the Employees' Union and a contact negotiated team member.
37 She serves as a member of the school district budget
38 committee, along with the district planning and advisory
39 counsel, the district's shared government body. She also
40 has held the position of treasurer of the unit.

41 Martha worked at First Interstate Bank for three
42 years as a loan officer, handling wire transfers, merchant
43 and new accounts. During tax season she worked for Gomez
44 Tax Service preparing income tax returns.

45 Martha's community service involves city
46 member -- oh, no. Councilmember of St. Ann's Church and
47 Shrine, the American Cancer Society's 24th Cancer Walk,
48 Relay for Life Santa Monica and Venice, and past president
49 of the Virginia Park Ballet Florklorico -- I mispronounced
50 that one, but, yeah, okay. You know the dance, da, da,

1 da, da.

2 Palisades Unit 283 and the 24th District along
3 with her family members are happy to endorse Martha Romano
4 for Junior Member of Finance. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT MUNROE: At this time I
7 would like to nominate Martha Romano as Junior Member of
8 Finance.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Are there any
10 further nominations for the office of Department Junior
11 Member of Finance?

12 (No response.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none,
14 nominations for the Department Junior Member of Finance
15 are now closed.

16 Are there any endorsements for National office?
17 Okay. We will now proceed with the nominations of the
18 delegates to the National convention. Ruby, can you give
19 us a hand with us? Bring one of your tentacles out.

20 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: Let's not
21 even go through that.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Let's hope
23 this goes well. I will tell you we have more delegates
24 than we have spots for, so we are going to have to start
25 backing off on some of them or do something. All right.
26 District -- as you know, by the Constitution & Bylaws,
27 the -- pardon me.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Do you want to
29 read that?

30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All right. It
32 says: Department Constitution Article V, Section 10, the
33 Department President, Department President Elect, the
34 Department Secretary/Treasurer or the individual called by
35 the Department President to serve as the delegation
36 secretary to the National Convention, and the National
37 Chairman shall be the first nominated delegates if they
38 are in attendance -- attending the National Convention.
39 Each district will present the name of the elected
40 delegate and/or alternate for ratification. The privilege
41 of further nominations providing -- provided the number of
42 delegates and/or alternates is under the designated number
43 shall be given by the District numerical membership
44 strength.

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. So the
46 first one that's nominated is Wendy O'Brien. Then Loretta
47 Marsh. And, Madam President, who are you declaring as
48 your secretary of your convention?

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Diane DeLashmit.

50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. And Melanie

1 Taylor is a chairman of the National Girls Nation. Okay.
2 District number 1, pass. District number 2, pass.
3 District number 3, pass. District number 4, pass.
4 District 5 is a pass for the delegate and they have an
5 alternate of Lynn Jewel. District number 6 is Glenda
6 Schultz, Unit 521 and Ramona Tafoya, both of Unit 521.
7 And District 7, Linda Harmon, Unit 587 and Bonnie
8 Bradbury, Unit 169. District 8, pass. District 9,
9 Helaina Rios, Unit 202 and Roseann Bean, Unit 261.
10 District 10 Gwen Woody, Unit 295 and Susan Marr as the
11 alternate of 117.
12 District 11, Joan Cannon, Unit 249 and Grace
13 Huston, 249. District 12, Kathy Smith, Unit 83 and
14 Victoria Ferreira-Allen, Unit 166. District 13 is Angel
15 Van Glider and Sandy Jacob -- I'm sorry. Back up. Angel
16 Van Glider, Unit 318, Sandy Jacob, Unit 149.
17 District 14, Gloria Jean Sinopoli, Unit 147 and
18 Ellen McClurg, Unit 147.
19 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: Madam Secretary,
20 Gloria Jean Sinopoli, District 14 President. We need to
21 change our alternate.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
23 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: We're going to
24 change it to Debbie Herado.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: At least I know
26 how to spell that this time.
27 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: Yes.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
29 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: Thank you.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 15, Dee
31 Ann Graham, Unit 26 and Zana Chaney, Unit 124. District
32 16, Darlene Duncan, Unit 502 and Linda Fercho, Unit 741.
33 District 17, pass. District 18, Pamela Dixon Hicks, Unit
34 790 and Teresa Lugo-Nunez, Unit 291.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: 261.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 261. Sorry. My
37 glasses are not good. Okay. Back to you. All right.
38 Unit District 19, Jean Cooley-Desmeules, 314 and Sheraton
39 Green, Unit 496. District 20, Nancy Heinisch, Unit 507,
40 and Roberta Estes, 507.
41 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT HEINISCH: Madam Secretary,
42 we're going to change the alternate to Linda Hayes, 348.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: From Roberta
44 Estes? Thank you. Okay. District 21 Susan Romero, Unit
45 742 and Leslie Vondra, Unit 519. District 22 the delegate
46 is a blank and we have June Coatney, Unit 460 as an
47 alternate. District 23, Anita Biggs, 252, and Gloria
48 Williams, 252. District 24, Deloris Artis, 283, and
49 Marsha Romero, 283. District 25, Donna Scott, 422, and we
50 will be removing Diane DeLashmit as the alternate as she

1 will be taking the place of the secretary.
2 District 26, Linda Workman, Unit 472 and Louann
3 Johnston, 595. District 27, LuAnn Capazzi, 684 and
4 Danielle White, 118. District 28 passes. District 29,
5 Carol Borgman, Unit 277 and Pat Alvarez, 277. District 30
6 passes. The way I count it we have 24 delegates and we
7 are authorized 19.
8 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT GRANADO: Ruby? Ruby,
9 District -- Marie Granado, District 25. Since we're
10 removing Diane off the alternate list, we have Cyd Kintzer
11 for the alternate.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Who is the
13 alternate?
14 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT GRANADO: Cyd Kintzer,
15 K-I-N-T-Z-E-R.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. That
17 doesn't help matters, but that's okay. Yeah, we're
18 actually electing 15 delegates and we've got 24. We will
19 have to go by the Department Constitution & Bylaws. We
20 will have to go into a ballot vote if this is not changed.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Chair
22 recognizes Sandy Jacobs.
23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT JACOBS: Well -- well,
24 come on. I was elected as the delegate for 13.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes. No, you're
26 the alternate.
27 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT JACOBS: No. Well,
28 that's not the way it's done because I don't think the
29 other lady will show up.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well, according to
31 the paperwork that I received you were the -- you were the
32 alternate.
33 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT JACOBS: Okay. That's
34 fine.
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yeah.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Chair recognizes
37 Dolly Rios.
38 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: We would like to
39 withdraw District 9.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Both?
41 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Yes, please.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you, Dolly.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, I
45 don't want this -- the election to scare you off. If you
46 want to go to National Convention, then stick to your guns
47 and let's have an election. It is going to take a few
48 more minutes, but it is our way. Your district elected
49 you, so if you are interested in representing your
50 district at the National Convention, then don't be

1 frightened by this. But it is our diplomatic way, so --
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We have got four
3 more delegates and four more alternates than we are
4 authorized. Don't everybody jump up at once. We need to
5 remove some.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Chair
7 recognizes Vergie.

8 DISTRICT 22 DELEGATE GOFNEY: Vergie Gofney,
9 District 22, Unit 201. We would be interested in as a
10 delegate at the National.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Right. There --
12 the election of delegates is done. Your district elects
13 the delegates. This is to ratify them. So if -- if your
14 name wasn't on there, I'm sorry.

15 DISTRICT 22 DELEGATE GOFNEY: My
16 misunderstanding.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The Chair
18 recognizes Donna.

19 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT SMITH: Donna Smith,
20 District 22. We would like to remove June Coatney as an
21 alternate.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Thank you.
23 I've got 20 alternates.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. I have a
25 question. Are all of the people on this list going to the
26 convention? Because if they're not going -- their names
27 really shouldn't be on here if they're not for sure going
28 to the National Convention.

29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I've got four more
30 delegates than we are authorized. We've got 19 delegates
31 and 20 alternates.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies,
33 nominations for the delegates to National Convention is
34 closed. We need to -- we'll have to have an election, but
35 we're going to move on to alternates. Nominations are now
36 open for alternates to National Convention. Will Ruby
37 read the names again of nominees?

38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1, pass.
39 District 2, pass. District 3, pass. District 4, pass.
40 District 5, Lynn Jewel. District 6, Ramona Tafoya.
41 District 7, Bonnie Bradbury. District 8, pass. District
42 9, pass. District 10, Susan Marr. District 11, Grace
43 Huston. District 12, Victoria Ferreira-Allen. District
44 13, Sandy Jacob. District 14, Debbie Herado. District
45 15, Zana Chaney. District 16, Linda Fercho. District 17,
46 pass. District 18, Teresa Lugo-Nunez. District 19,
47 Sheraton Green. District 19 -- oh, I'm sorry. District
48 19, Sheraton Green. District 20, Linda Hayes. District
49 21, Leslie Vondra. District 22, pass. District 23,
50 Gloria Williams. District 24, Marsha Romano. District

1 25, Cyd Kintzer. District 26, Louann Johnston. District
2 27, Danielle White. District 28, pass. District 29, Pat
3 Alvarez. District 30, pass.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Is there
5 any other nominated -- any other nominees for Alternate to
6 the National Convention?
7 SENIOR MEMBER OF FINANCE HAYES: Madam President?
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.
9 SENIOR MEMBER OF FINANCE HAYES: I'll remove my
10 name. I would like to sit in the guest section.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Who are
12 you?
13 SENIOR MEMBER OF FINANCE HAYES: Oh, I'm sorry.
14 I'm Linda Hayes, District 20, Unit 348.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. So Linda
16 Hayes has removed her name.
17 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Madam President, with
18 Linda Hayes removing her name, we have 19 alternates for
19 convention. So we're okay on alternates. Okay. It's
20 because of those four extras that are automatic, they do
21 have an alternate that can replace them rather than like
22 some of those in their own right they don't have
23 alternates.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Right.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Just delegates.
26 We've got 20. I've got 19 delegates.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Nominations
28 for alternates are closed to the National Convention.
29 Okay. So tomorrow we will have a ballot election.
30 All right. Will the candidates nominated for
31 department office please come to the stage? At this time
32 is my pleasure to present your department candidates for
33 year 2017-2018. Where are you, girls?
34 (Applause.)
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Department
36 President Loretta Marsh.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Department Vice
39 President Joan Cannon.
40 (Applause.)
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And Junior Member
42 of Finance Martha Romero.
43 (Applause.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
45 ladies. And I'm sure there's going to be some photo opps
46 throughout the day, so prepare yourself. And if you'd
47 like to do that now, you can do it right over here by the
48 flags. Thank you so much, ladies.
49 (Applause.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ruby, would like

1 to say some stuff?

2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I would like to
3 let everyone know that Reno is looking for Pages. Anyone
4 wanting to go and serve as a Page does not need to be a
5 delegate. So if anybody wants to go and work as a Page,
6 the door is open and all you have to do is let me know and
7 I'll let Nevada know.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. We will now
9 continue with the Department Chairmen reports. We are
10 going to hear from -- who do I have here? I have Dee Ann
11 Graham, Community Service. If you can come up.

12 Tamra Duron, Ann Philcox, Mindy Sinclair, and
13 Kathy Smith, if you could please be prepared.

14 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Good
15 afternoon, Madam President.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good afternoon.
17 Could I ask that you -- could I ask that you sort of like
18 find love with the microphone so the ladies out there can
19 hear you.

20 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Did you enjoy
21 your lunch?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, it was
23 wonderful.

24
25 COMMUNITY SERVICE CONVENTION REPORT

26
27 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: The
28 Convention Committee on Community Service met on June
29 22nd, 2017 in the Raincross E of the Riverside Convention
30 Center in Riverside, California. The statistical report
31 of the chairman appears on page 50 of the Book of Reports.

32 Grace Huston was appointed secretary, Sandra Carr
33 offered prayer, and Tammy Wilkening was appointed
34 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 22 district delegates
35 answered roll call. Seven visitors were present.

36 The committee agreed to the following report. No
37 changes to the code. Presented second and third place
38 awards for unit and district supplementals and announced
39 districts with 100 percent reporting.

40 Members shared projects and ideas to promote
41 membership and reminded us to be branded by wearing our
42 pins and shirts.

43 Madam President, may I continue with my
44 supplemental?

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may.

46 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: After reading
47 the end-of-the-year reports proved to me our Auxiliary
48 members are actively participating and contributing to our
49 veterans, partnering with their posts and volunteering in
50 community events. Our main focus will always be veterans,

1 but after reading those reports made this Molly Malone
2 very proud.

3 Our Molly Malones attended a crotchet class at a
4 senior center making lap robes for veterans and chemo caps
5 for the medical centers. Those Mollys also donated baby
6 items, blankets, towels, wash cloths, toys, and hygiene
7 items to a women center. Some members are docents at
8 local missions and museums. Our Auxiliary members are
9 very active in the American Cancer Relay For Life as
10 survivors, a team member, or part of the pre-event
11 volunteer.

12 This year our state afire which devastated many
13 of the mountain county communities. Our Molly Malones
14 were there donating water, supplying blankets, hygiene
15 items and clothing. One unit partnered with their post
16 along with the Halliburton serving a \$5 lunch and raised
17 thousands of dollars for those veterans in the nearby --
18 excuse me. Nearby mountain community.

19 One Molly Malone unit organized a team and
20 participated in a March Of Dimes walk at the state's
21 capitol, the March For Babies, which benefits pregnant
22 women, unborn and premature babies. They emailed and
23 Facebooked invitations to family and friends to
24 participate and/or to donate to the community's event.

25 During the summer a Molly reported holding two
26 drives, one for food and the other for school supplies.
27 The food was delivered to a pantry at the VA hospital and
28 a naval weapons station, then helped three veterans trying
29 to establish items for their apartments. The school
30 supplies collected were given to two local schools. This
31 outreach in their community allows them to demonstrate who
32 we are and what our mission is and creates goodwill.

33 Mollys reported members assisting seniors and
34 neighbors with transportation and errands, giving care
35 packages where needed and taking meals to those who were
36 ill, disabled, and elderly.

37 Our Molly Malones worked very hard to make their
38 community a better place to live. Our work sometimes goes
39 unnoticed, like cleaning churches, placing flags on
40 graves, volunteering in thrift stores, food pantries, and
41 contributing to animal shelters and animal organizations.
42 They continue to collect can pull-tabs which enables a
43 family to stay one night at Ronald McDonald House.

44 Additional Community Service included members
45 donating to and networking with other agencies such as the
46 Election Board, Women's Clubs, League of Voters, Easter
47 Seals, Civic Councils, DAR, Lung Association, Boys and
48 Girls Scouts, Children's Miracle Network, Paralyzed
49 Veterans, and Salvation Army.

50 Everyone is a Molly Malone whether we realize it

1 or not. We do the things we do because that is who we
2 are. I am sure our Mollys did not -- I'm sure some of our
3 Mollys did not report every hour or the monies spent.
4 They don't even know how many lives they have touched.
5 There is no real conclusion to this report because our
6 Molly Malones will continue to serve our veterans and
7 community for as long as there is a need. The statistical
8 report outlines their works, but the stories each district
9 chairman shared and wrote meant so much more.

10 Madam President, may I present to you -- I have
11 an honorable mention and our first place winners.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may.

13 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Honorable
14 Mention goes to Marion Rocha-Carlos, District 16, Unit
15 211.

16 (Applause.)

17 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Unit First
18 Place, Placentia District 29, Carol Chavez.

19 (Applause.)

20 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: And First
21 Place District 16, Connie Bieger, Chairman.

22 (Applause.)

23 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Madam
24 President, that concludes my report.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
26 Dee Ann.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Now we'll
29 hear from Tamra Duron, the Constitution & Bylaws Chairman.
30 And if we can have the Junior Conference Director and the
31 Americanism Chairman please come up here and sit so they
32 get ready to hop in there and get it done.

33

34 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CONVENTION REPORT

35

36 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: Good
37 afternoon, Madam President.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, good
39 afternoon.

40 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: The
41 Constitution & Bylaws committee met on June 22nd, 2017 in
42 Ballroom B of the Riverside Convention Center. The
43 statistical report of this chairman appears on page 48 of
44 the Book of Reports. Debbie Fletcher from District 25 was
45 appointed Secretary, Pilar Reyes, District 10, was
46 appointed Chaplain, and Linda Diebel from District 19 was
47 appointed Sergeant-At-Arms.

48 The Chaplain offered prayer, the members recited
49 the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was answered by 16
50 delegates and there were six guests. 100 percent

1 reporting certificates were given to Districts 5, 6, 7,
2 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, and 28. The
3 department code was read and there were no code changes.

4 Chairman Tamra Duron reported on a correction
5 that needs to be made to the model bylaws. On a motion by
6 Linda Dieble, it was voted to change Article IV, Section 2
7 of the unit bylaws to read: "And one more executive
8 committeewoman." On a motion by Linda Dieble it was voted
9 to change Unit Model Bylaws Article IV Unit Officer
10 Section 3.

11 Once all business was concluded there was a
12 question and answer session with discussion on Junior Past
13 President and the process to surrender a charter. The
14 Chaplain offered prayer and the meeting concluded at 10:10
15 a.m.

16 Madam President, may I proceed with my
17 supplemental?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No, because we
19 have to address --

20 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: Oh, yeah,
21 you're right. Before I would like to get into the
22 changes, I would like to explain the reason I'm proposing
23 these changes is that approximately 85 percent of the
24 Constitution & Bylaws that I received this year had a
25 problem in this area, so we are attempting to correct that
26 and hopefully the Department Constitutions Chairman for
27 next year will have it much easier as well as the units.

28 I handed out to the front table the portion of
29 the Department Bylaws I will be referring to as well as
30 the portion of the Model Unit Bylaws.

31 Department Constitution Article XIV, Section 1
32 Elected Officers now reads: "Each unit shall elect the
33 following officers: President, First Vice President,
34 Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one or
35 more Executive Committeewomen. (The offices of secretary
36 and treasurer may be combined.)"

37 Our Model Unit Bylaws Article IV Unit Officer
38 Section 2 now reads: "The elective officers shall be:
39 President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,
40 Secretary/Treasurer and at least one Executive
41 Committeewomen and shall be elected annually by majority
42 vote at a meeting designated by a vote of the Unit,
43 provided nominations and elections are held not earlier
44 than April 1st or less than five days prior to the opening
45 of Department Convention. The Unit shall notify their
46 membership and the District President of the time set for
47 election."

48 By direction of the committee I move the
49 following change: "The elective officers shall be:
50 President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,

1 Secretary/Treasurer and one or more Executive
2 Committeewomen and shall be elected annually by majority
3 vote at a meeting designated by a vote of the Unit,
4 provided nominations and elections are held not earlier
5 than April 1st or less than five days prior to the opening
6 of Department Convention. The Unit shall notify their
7 membership and the District President of the time set for
8 election."

9 The justification in this is to bring the Model
10 Unit Bylaws in line with the Department Constitution.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion
12 to change the Model Unit Bylaws Article IV Unit Officer
13 Section 2 to read: "The elective officers shall be:
14 President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,
15 Secretary/Treasurer and one or more Executive
16 Committeewomen and shall be elected annually by majority
17 vote at a meeting designated by a vote of the Unit,
18 provided nominations and elections are held not earlier
19 than April 1st or less than five days prior to the opening
20 of Department Convention. The Unit shall notify their
21 membership and the District President of the time set for
22 election."

23 Any discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
26 those in favor, say aye.

27 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.

29 (No response.)

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion passed.

31 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: Thank you,
32 ladies. Model Unit Bylaws Article IV Unit Officer Section
33 3 now reads: "The appointive officers shall be," you list
34 them. "And if not elected," number, "Executive
35 Committeewomen. Junior past is automatic - no need to
36 list."

37 By direction of the committee I move the
38 following change. Unit Model Bylaws Article IV Unit
39 Officers Section 3 to read: "The appointive officers
40 shall be," you list them. "Junior past is automatic - no
41 need to list."

42 The justification in this is there is no
43 provision in the Department Constitution for appointed
44 Executive Committeewomen at the unit level.

45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There is a motion
46 on the floor to change Unit Model Bylaws Article IV Unit
47 Officer Section 3 to read: "The appointive officer shall
48 be," and you list them. "Junior past is automatic - no
49 need to list."

50 Any discussion?

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
3 those in favor say aye.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
8 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: Thank you,
9 ladies. You have done a good job. Good deal for the next
10 Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman.
11 Now, Madam President, may I continue with my
12 supplemental?
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may. Yes, you
14 may.
15 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: As the
16 fleet of Wendy's Cruise Liners have sailed the calm,
17 rippling water of the California oceans, many amendments
18 and rewrites were submitted before docking into the many
19 breezy ports of call. Some minor citations were issued
20 for problems such as leaving required officers out of
21 their Constitution & Bylaws or appointing all executive
22 committeewomen rather than keeping the mandatory elected
23 one.
24 The biggest infraction was not using the model
25 bylaws as is necessitated by our department code. Some
26 chose to completely type them rather than use the fill-in
27 provided by the Department. This caused many errors and
28 the return of the Constitution & Bylaws to the chairman
29 for corrections.
30 All in all at year's end I am happy to report no
31 accidents at sea, broken down vessels or arrests have been
32 reported by the many qualified port authority officers of
33 the Department of California.
34 Constitution & Bylaws are the governing document
35 for our organization. They provide guidelines for what we
36 can and cannot do in our units, districts and department,
37 as well as provide stability ensuring business is
38 conducted correctly. It is the responsibility of each
39 member to become familiar with this document guaranteeing
40 that the different levels of our organization are
41 operating within the guidelines established for them.
42 When we become familiar with our governing documents, we
43 become responsible members.
44 Operating by our Constitution & Bylaws also
45 provides the avenue for civility within each level of our
46 organization, preventing arguing, tension, and hard
47 feelings towards one another. When the rules are
48 followed, there are no questions about how things are
49 being done. The Constitution & Bylaws should not be used
50 to point out a member's errors, criticizing them for work

1 done incorrectly. Rather, they should be used as a guide
2 showing them how to do things appropriately and orderly.

3 Constitution & Bylaws are created to protect the
4 rights of members giving them a voice in how the units and
5 districts are ran. We must remember the voice of the
6 minority is just as important as the voice of the
7 majority.

8 This past year several units and districts
9 rewrote their Constitution & Bylaws as the ten-year
10 mandate as well as many both amending them. Constitution
11 & Bylaws were reviewed at the beginning of the year,
12 during organizational meetings, district meetings, unit
13 meetings, and executive board meeting. They were also
14 reviewed at the end of the year before elections to ensure
15 elections were held correctly and members would know their
16 responsibilities as they were elected and appointed as
17 officers and chairmen of their districts and units.

18 It is reported that 18 of our 30 districts have
19 standing rules with nine revising or reviewing them.
20 Units followed suit with 96 units having standing rules,
21 with almost half reviewing or revising them. Units and
22 districts have Constitution & Bylaws in procedure books
23 for president, secretaries, and the Constitution & Bylaws
24 chairmen as well as giving copies to every member yearly
25 and to new members during initiation ceremonies and when
26 being accepted for membership into the units.

27 Units and districts also report having copies of
28 the Department Constitution & Bylaws for their members and
29 keep Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised on hand for use
30 when needed.

31 Of the units reporting most recite the preamble
32 at meetings and 2,906 members have it memorized.
33 Districts and units alike report knowing the importance of
34 utilizing the Department, District and Unit Constitution &
35 Bylaws and Standing Rules when conducting Auxiliary
36 business. They also realize the role of Roberts Rules of
37 Orders Newly Revised and use it to clarify what is not in
38 the governing documents.

39 This chairmen encouraged members to learn the
40 content of their Constitution & Bylaws and challenged
41 District Constitution & Bylaw chairmen to invent a game
42 encouraging the learning of the Constitution & Bylaws
43 while at the same time keeping it fun. One district
44 participated and won the \$50 cash prize for entering the
45 contest.

46 And now, Madam President, with your year coming
47 to an end, I can say this has truly been a rewarding
48 experience for this chairman as I did my best to fulfill
49 my responsibilities and duties as Constitution & Bylaws
50 chairman as outlined in our governing document and

1 department code. You will no longer be receiving large
2 envelopes in the mail from me, however I do have one more
3 set of Constitution & Bylaws for your signature, and I can
4 take Diane DeLashmit off my speed dial. However, I am
5 sure I will still make many calls to her and have lots of
6 questions as I learn and grow in my Auxiliary experience.

7 At close of this convention I will be relieved of
8 my Constitution & Bylaws duty and I can retire my Port
9 Authority badge. In closing, Madam President, as stated
10 in Clovis, I promised at end of year to inform you if I
11 still loved Constitution & Bylaws as I always have. The
12 conclusion is yes, more so now than ever.

13 Thank you, Madam President, for your confidence
14 in me and for this appointment that I have no thoroughly
15 enjoyed.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
17 You had did an outstanding job.

18 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: I have a
19 good mentor. She's in our district and she can be put on
20 speed dial. Yes. That number on my cell phone is wearing
21 off. Now may I proceed with my first and second
22 supplemental?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

24 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: First
25 Place Unit Supplemental, Rizal Unit 598, Pilar Reyes.
26 (Applause.)

27 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: First
28 Place District Supplemental, District 10, Pilar Reyes.
29 (Applause.)

30 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIRMAN DURON: Madam
31 President, this concludes my report.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
33 Okay. We're going to have both of these young ladies
34 come. Junior Conference Director Ann Philcox and Junior
35 Activities Chairman Mindy Sinclair.

36
37 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CONVENTION REPORT

38
39 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Good
40 afternoon. The statistical report of this chairman
41 appears on page 53 of the Book of Reports. The Junior
42 Activities/Junior Conference Pre-convention committee
43 meeting was held in room Raincross F on June 22nd.

44 The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.
45 Robin Falkenberg, District 28, was appointed Secretary,
46 DeNyse Laugeson, District 18, offered prayer, and Susan
47 Romero, District 21, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. Roll
48 call showed 13 district delegates and ten visitors which
49 included six juniors in attendance.

50 The committee agreed upon eight code changes.

1 Awards were presented to members. We recognized our
2 juniors who earned patches this year. Miley Ann Culp from
3 District 6 received nine patches.

4 (Applause.)

5 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: And Sara
6 Johnson received the National President Special Patch.

7 (Applause.)

8 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Awards for
9 Junior Conference tickets. Junior Auxiliary member, Zoe
10 Dulle, age 7, sold 14 books.

11 (Applause.)

12 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Auxiliary
13 Member Ann Philcox, Junior Conference Director, Unit 377,
14 District 20, sold 112 books. Since she was Junior
15 Conference Director I also awarded one to the general
16 membership. Christine Evans from Unit 755, District 18,
17 sold 34 books. And we had a Legionnaire, Al Hill, Post
18 684, District 27 who sold 14 books.

19 Closing prayer was offered and the meeting was
20 adjourned at 9:59 a.m. Shall we proceed with the code
21 changes?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Code changes.

23 Yes, you can.

24 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: The code
25 reads right now as number 4: "Junior members are
26 encouraged to participate in all contests sponsored by the
27 National organization, following all rules pertaining to
28 these contests. The Department Chairman shall advise the
29 units of contest, rules, and deadline dates."

30 If adopted the code will read: "Junior members
31 are encouraged to participate in all programs and contests
32 sponsored by the National organization, including the
33 Junior Patch Program and attendance to Junior Mission
34 Training, following all rules pertaining to these programs
35 and contests. The Department Chairman shall advise the
36 districts of contests, rules, programs, deadline dates and
37 Junior Mission Training location, dates and registration
38 information."

39 I move for the adoption of this code change.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion
41 on the floor for number 4 of the Junior code: "Junior
42 members are encouraged to participate in all programs and
43 contests sponsored by the National organization, including
44 the Junior Patch Program and attendance to Junior Mission
45 Training, following all rules pertaining to these programs
46 and contests. The Department Chairman shall advise the
47 districts of contests, rules, programs, deadline dates and
48 Junior Mission Training location, dates and registration
49 information."

50 Any discussion?

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
3 those in favor, say aye.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
8 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: The current
9 code reads as follows. Number 11: "The Department shall
10 sponsor a scholarship from donated funds for Junior
11 members completing their senior year. Minimum awarded
12 shall be \$300, maximum \$1,000 if funds permit.
13 Applications and rules will be available through the
14 Department Office and/or the Department Website prior to
15 January and will be mailed to Units upon request.
16 Completed applications must reach the Department Junior
17 Activities Chairman by April 30th of the current year.
18 Applicants shall be judged by three Past Department
19 Presidents appointed by the Junior Activities Chairman."
20 If adopted the code will read: "The Department
21 shall sponsor a scholarship from donated funds for Junior
22 members completing their senior year. Minimum awarded
23 shall be \$300, maximum \$1,000 if funds permit.
24 Applications and rules will be available through the
25 Department Office and/or the Department Website prior to
26 January and will be mailed to Units upon request.
27 Completed applications must reach the Department Junior
28 Activities Chairman by April 30th of the current year.
29 Applicants shall be judged by three Past Department
30 Presidents appointed by the Junior Activities Chairman,
31 when more than one application is received. The
32 Department Chairman shall provide the name of the
33 scholarship recipient to the Department
34 Secretary/Treasurer no later than June 1st when a
35 scholarship is awarded."
36 I move for the adoption of this code change.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The motion is for
38 number 11: "The Department shall sponsor a scholarship
39 from donated funds for Junior members completing their
40 senior year. Minimum awarded shall be \$300, maximum
41 \$1,000 if funds permit. Applications and rules will be
42 available through the Department Office and/or the
43 Department website prior to January and will be mailed to
44 Units upon request. Completed applications must reach the
45 Department Junior Activities Chairman by April 30th of the
46 current year. Applicants shall be judged by three Past
47 Department Presidents appointed by the Junior Activities
48 Chairman, when more than one application is received. The
49 Department Chairman shall provide the name of the
50 scholarship recipient to the Department

1 Secretary/Treasurer no later than June 1st when a
2 scholarship is awarded."
3 Any discussion?
4 (No response.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
6 those in favor, say aye.
7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
9 (No response.)
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
11 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: The code
12 currently reads: Number 15: "Annual report forms shall
13 conform with standard time frames. Unit report forms are
14 to be sent to the District Chairman the second Friday in
15 April. District report forms are to be sent by May 1st."
16 If adopted the code will read: "Annual report
17 forms shall conform with standard time frames. Unit
18 report forms are to be sent to the District Chairman the
19 second Friday in April. District report forms are to be
20 sent by May 1st. The completed Patch Program paperwork
21 shall be forwarded to the Department Chairman by May 1st
22 so the patches can be ordered from National."
23 I move for the adoption of this code change.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The motion is for
25 number 15: "Annual report forms shall conform with
26 standard time frames. Unit report forms are to be sent to
27 the District Chairman the second Friday in April.
28 District report forms are to be sent by May 1st. The
29 completed Patch Program paperwork shall be forwarded to
30 the Department Chairman by May 1st so the patches can be
31 ordered from National."
32 Any discussion?
33 (No response.)
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
35 those in favor, say aye.
36 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, nay.
38 (No response.)
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carries.
40 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Under
41 Junior Conference, Appendix A. Number 11: "Junior groups
42 will be formed and housed according to age groups,
43 combining large and small communities statewide. Assigned
44 Senior Advisors will serve as group counselors and as
45 chaperones on the conference grounds."
46 If adopted the code will read: "Junior groups
47 will be formed and housed according to age groups,
48 combining large and small communities statewide. Assigned
49 Senior Advisors will serve as group counselors and as
50 chaperones on the conference grounds. Senior Advisors

1 will not have Junior members that are relatives assigned
2 to their room, unless there are extenuating circumstances,
3 and it has been approved by the Junior Conference Director
4 and Department President."

5 I move for the adoption of this code change.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Motion on
7 -- oh, okay. Motion for number 11 to be changed to:
8 "Junior groups will be formed and housed according to age
9 groups, combining large and small communities statewide.
10 Assigned Senior Advisors will serve as group counselors
11 and as chaperones on the conference grounds. Senior
12 Advisors will not have Junior members that are relatives
13 assigned to their room, unless there are extenuating
14 circumstances, and it has been approved by the Junior
15 Conference Director and Department President."

16 Any questions? Any further discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
19 favor, say aye.

20 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, nay.

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.

24 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: The code
25 currently reads, number 13: "Eligibility for attendance
26 at the conference shall be limited to Juniors ten to 18
27 years of age. If a Junior member is elected to an office
28 or serving as a chairman at any level and attains the age
29 of 18 during her term, she may complete her year in office
30 and attend Junior Conference. In addition to age
31 requirements, she shall have given at least five hours
32 during the current fiscal year to her Unit. If any Unit
33 does not provide the opportunity for the Junior to serve
34 the required hours, five hours of service to a community
35 organization may be substituted."

36 If adopted the code will read number 13:

37 "Eligibility for attendance at the conference shall be
38 limited to Juniors eight to 18 years of age. It is
39 understood that Junior members sent to Junior Conference
40 are comfortable with staying away from home over night and
41 able to enjoy to away from home experience. If a Junior
42 member is elected to an office or serving as a chairman at
43 any level and attains the age of 18 during her term, she
44 may complete her year in office and attend Junior
45 Conference. In addition to age requirements, she shall
46 have given at least five hours during the current fiscal
47 year to her Unit. If any Unit does not provide the
48 opportunity for the Junior to serve the required hours,
49 five hours of service to a community organization may be
50 substituted."

1 I move for the adoption of this code change.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The motion
3 for number 13 is: "Eligibility for attendance at the
4 conference shall be limited to Juniors eight to 18 years
5 of age. It is understood that Junior members sent to
6 Junior Conference are comfortable with staying away from
7 home over night and able to enjoy to away from home
8 experience. If a Junior member is elected to an office or
9 serving as a chairman at any level and attains the age of
10 18 during her term, she may complete her year in office
11 and attend Junior Conference. In addition to age
12 requirements, she shall have given at least five hours
13 during the current fiscal year to her Unit. If any Unit
14 does not provide the opportunity for the Junior to serve
15 the required hours, five hours of service to a community
16 organization may be substituted."

17 Any questions?

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Linda Fercho,
19 Past Department President. I have been to Junior
20 Conference many times and I acted as Junior Conference
21 Director and I love the girls and I love Juniors. And if
22 anyone knows me, they know that's my passion, but I do
23 believe eight-year-olds are a little young. It's hard
24 even working with the ten year olds sometimes. They're so
25 cute and they're so darling and they're so hyper and
26 usually it's an all-night affair sometimes.

27 I know my own granddaughter cried all night and
28 Bonnie Christner called my daughter Tracy and said "Jackie
29 is crying." And Tracy gets on the phone and says: "Knock
30 it off and go to bed." Jackie asked: "Can I go horseback
31 riding?" "Not if you don't go to bed." She went to bed.

32 And those who have been to Junior Conference know
33 that I would love to see more girls go. I mean, and this
34 would be a way to get more girls to go, but my daughter
35 wouldn't have been ready at eight, I can tell you that.
36 So I just really feel that we need to consider that and
37 get more girls between ten and 18 to go. Thank you very
38 much.

39 (Applause.)

40 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: I
41 understand that a lot of people are thinking that eight is
42 too young and, yeah, it would bring up our numbers, but
43 the main reason for this is I had 15 telephone calls from
44 parents whose children have fulfilled all their
45 requirements and when they turn six to ten, they're doing
46 everything that a Junior Auxiliary member does, but
47 they're not getting their reward for it.

48 The little girl that got all the certificates, I
49 can't remember what unit, she's seven years old. She's
50 seven years old. And she did all that work by herself.

1 And she went to one of our workshops and she was just
2 like: Come on; I want to go. And I think even if we try
3 it for one year, you know. I mean, I got 15 phone calls.
4 That's a lot of phone calls.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Chair
6 recognizes Tracy.

7 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Hi. Good
8 afternoon. I'm Tracy Varnell Fercho, Past District
9 President. I have been to Junior Conference. Jackie and
10 I had a great time. Where is she? My girl. I understand
11 about wanting juniors to go; I definitely get that. And
12 yes, they do do a lot, but personally I do have to agree
13 with Linda Fercho. Eight years old does seem a little
14 young to me.

15 And the problem is that if you haven't gone to
16 Junior Conference and you have to deal with that
17 eight-year-old and then you have a big span -- in my
18 opinion a big span between 18 and eight and you have to
19 find different activities. Because eight-year-olds are
20 not going to be dancing like the 16- to 17-year-olds
21 because I personally wouldn't want my eight-year-old to
22 dance like my 16-year-old.

23 So I personally have to agree that eight I feel
24 is a little young just because of the difference of their
25 maturity levels. Thank you.

26 (Applause.)

27 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madam
28 President, Anita Biggs, District 23, Unit 252. I've been
29 going to Junior Conference I believe for the last five,
30 six years consistently. And I understand the rationale
31 for lowering the age. I kind of don't like the word
32 "understood" because I don't know what that means. It
33 says "understood." I like the word "required" more so
34 only because it would have to be -- "understood" is a good
35 word in a way, but a requirement that -- it has to be
36 required that the child understands that they're going to
37 like a camp. It's only a weekend. I'm for the lowering
38 of the age only because I think it would improve and
39 increase the number of girls.

40 The direction of the conference by whomever is in
41 charge, that is where the tone is going to be set so that
42 they get enough counselors to monitor these children, the
43 youngsters. You know, I call them youngsters. So as long
44 as they have enough supervision and they're in a situation
45 where they're together, they can comingle with the other
46 girls and it wouldn't be -- it's not a -- it's not --
47 there's no dirty dancing done anymore. I mean, maybe when
48 you were there, Tracy, you were dirty dancing.

49 Okay. But I think it is -- I think it would be a
50 good thing to maybe increase our Junior Conference

1 attendance. I mean Juniors grow up. That's the problem.
2 They grow up and out, and so we just have to keep them and
3 to keep the program alive to keep our Juniors going. This
4 might be an opportunity -- if it doesn't work for -- try
5 it out. If I doesn't work, change the code next year.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.

7 DISTRICT DELEGATE GREETI: Madam Department
8 President, Susie Carrow-Greeti. I am a Past Junior
9 President. And I agree with lowering the age for several
10 reasons. One, I think it's great. The younger that we
11 can get our children involved to learn our programs at a
12 younger age, the better we are. It is up to the parents
13 to make sure that their daughters are eligible and
14 understand the validity before allowing them to go.

15 So a parent also has a little more responsibility
16 as well, but to allow these children -- because children
17 are having children and I think as long as the child is
18 willing to do the job and go out and be a part of our
19 family, allow them to do it at the age of eight and older.
20 I enjoyed my time being a Junior. I also enjoyed my time
21 being the Department President as far as the Juniors and I
22 enjoy being involved with my family here. Thank you.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Go ahead.

24 DISTRICT 16 DELEGATE REID: Good afternoon, Madam
25 President. My name is Geneivere Reid and I'm with
26 District 16, Unit 48. I have gone to Junior Conference
27 for the last three years. I am also the mother of three
28 daughters and I personally feel that eight-year-olds is
29 too young. We've had -- I have I think eight active
30 Juniors right now and they all want to go to conference,
31 but they're just not ready.

32 I agree maybe lowering it one year would be a
33 good start, but I think jumping two years is just going
34 too much for these kids. And unless they're doing other
35 activities that are overnight away from their parents
36 first, it's too much.

37 I mean, what are we going to do about counselors
38 with the younger kids? Because they're going to require
39 so much extra attention and care. I think nine years old
40 would be a good place to start, but jumping two years is
41 just too much.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.

43 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Sharon Moore,
44 District 23, Unit 252. I've been a room mom for the past,
45 what, seven, maybe eight years. This was the first year
46 that I did not have kids in my room, but I agree that
47 eight-year-olds -- there are many mature eight-year-olds
48 and it's up to the parents to decide if they're mature
49 enough to say that eight-year-old is okay to go. That's a
50 choice. Okay. That gives us more opportunity to be able

1 to get more girls out.

2 So if you know your child is not mature enough at
3 eight, then, you know, maybe they can wait until the next
4 year. But I think we should open it up for them to have
5 that opportunity. And I agree with the young lady that
6 indicated about teaching them, you know, early on. Junior
7 Conference is a great way to bring them up in the
8 organization. And we need the young folks. Look at our
9 convention here. This is the smallest convention I've
10 ever seen since I've been coming. We need to get these
11 young girls started at an early age, as early as we can
12 and it's up to the counselors to choose the age that they
13 want. And we have -- we had so many counselors this year.
14 So that's my opinion. Thank you.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.

16 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ARTIS: Deloris Artis,
17 District 24. I have been a counselor -- a director of the
18 Junior Conference several times through the years and I
19 think my opinion is we need to change the program back to
20 when we had younger children and adopt the program. We
21 can't have eight-year-olds if we're having meetings --
22 setting meetings all day like they were the last time that
23 I was director. So let's revamp the program and have our
24 eight- and nine-year-olds come because there's so many
25 things we can teach them.

26 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam
27 President? Madam President?

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, ma'am.

29 DISTINGUISH GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam
30 President, Linda Workman, Past Department President. I
31 move for the previous question.

32 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Second.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There's a
34 motion on the floor to discontinue the conversation and
35 call for the question. Yes. This is only for to stop
36 talking about it. All those in favor -- or excuse me.
37 Any discussion?

38 (No response.)

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
40 favor, say aye.

41 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.

43 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: No.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Motion
45 carried to not talk about it anymore. So now we're going
46 to call for the vote. And the vote for the motion is for
47 number 13: "Eligibility for attendance at the conference
48 shall be limited to Juniors eight to 18 years of age. It
49 is understood that Junior members sent to Junior
50 Conference are comfortable with staying away from home

1 over night and able to enjoy to away from home experience.
2 If a Junior member is elected to an office or serving as a
3 chairman at any level and attains the age of 18 during her
4 term, she may complete her year in office and attend
5 Junior Conference. In addition to age requirements, she
6 shall have given at least five hours during the current
7 fiscal year to her Unit. If any Unit does not provide the
8 opportunity for the Junior to serve the required hours,
9 five hours of service to a community organization may be
10 substituted."

11 All those in favor, say aye.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those opposed,
14 say no.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: No.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. I think the
17 nays and ayes are too close to count. So could we have
18 all those that agree and say aye stand up, please. Okay.
19 Fine. Sit down. And all those against, please rise.
20 Yes, the ayes have it. Motion carried.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Madam President?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, ma'am.

24 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: My granddaughter, she
25 was a Past Junior Officer and stuff just had a baby girl
26 three weeks ago, and the first thing she said is, "I can't
27 wait until she can go to Junior Conference."

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Well, now she has
29 to wait a few years.

30 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Madam
31 President, someone at the podium took the rest of my code
32 changes. I don't have them.

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Welcome to
34 the -- okay. Whoever came up --

35 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Did you
36 want me to stop? Is that it, Anita? Okay. The code
37 currently reads number 27: "The Junior Activities
38 Chairman, Junior Conference Director and the Committee
39 will choose two Department Junior representatives to
40 Junior National Convention or Junior Mission Training at
41 Junior Conference. The representatives may or may not be
42 the Honorary Junior Department President or Honorary
43 Junior Department Vice President but must exhibit
44 leadership qualities. If the representative turns 18
45 prior to or during the Junior National Convention or
46 Junior Mission Training, she will be eligible to attend
47 junior National Convention or junior mission training but
48 will not be eligible to hold a National Office."

49 The code change for this is taking out Junior
50 National -- or the Junior National Convention since it has

1 been discontinued. So the new code if accepted would
2 read: "The Junior Activities Chairman, Junior Conference
3 Director and the Committee will choose two Department
4 Junior representatives to Junior Mission Training at
5 Junior Conference. The representatives may or may not be
6 the Honorary Junior Department President or Honorary
7 Junior Department Vice President but must exhibit
8 leadership qualities. If the representative turns 18
9 prior to or during the Junior Mission Training, she will
10 be eligible to Junior Mission Training but will not be
11 eligible to hold a National Office."

12 I move that we accept this code change.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The motion
14 for number 27 is: "The Junior Activities Chairman, Junior
15 Conference Director and the Committee will choose two
16 Department Junior representatives to Junior Mission
17 Training at Junior Conference. The representatives may or
18 may not be the Honorary Junior Department President or
19 Honorary Junior Department Vice President but must exhibit
20 leadership qualities. If the representative turns 18
21 prior to or during the Junior Mission Training, she will
22 be eligible to Junior Mission Training but will not be
23 eligible to hold a National Office."

24 Any discussion? The chair recognizes Susie
25 Tozier.

26 NEC MEMBER TOZIER: I just have one question.
27 Mission training is open to all Juniors. Does this mean
28 that just those two juniors are going to get a per diem?
29 Is that the only reason for this change --

30 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes.

31 NEC MEMBER TOZIER: -- or is it -- I know you're
32 talking about Mission Training. The one that's before us
33 right now says instead of being National Convention,
34 Mission Training. So are these Juniors going to get per
35 diems?

36 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes.

37 NEC MEMBER TOZIER: Okay. That's what I needed.
38 Mission Training is open to any Junior who wishes to
39 attend whether or not -- okay.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We are on 27, and
41 the only thing that was being taken out is the National
42 Convention. Correct, ladies?

43 PAST NAT'L EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAYLOR: Yes.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Any other
45 discussion?

46 (No response.)

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
48 favor, say aye.

49 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, where's the

1 question? Oh, okay. I'm sorry. The floor recognizes
2 Linda Dieble.
3 DISTRICT DELEGATE DIEBLE: I just have a
4 question. On the bottom of that you say "National
5 Office." If there's no more National Juniors, why would
6 you have National Office?
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There is a
8 National Office.
9 DISTRICT DELEGATE DIEBLE: There is? Okay.
10 That's fine.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Any other
12 questions?
13 (No response.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
15 favor, say aye.
16 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Those opposed say
18 nay.
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
21 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: The code
22 currently reads for number 28: "Airfare, \$100 per diem
23 for two days and the registration fee will be paid for by
24 the Department Office for the first representative to
25 Junior National Convention or Junior Mission Training.
26 Should the first representative not be able to attend, the
27 second representative will move up to first
28 representative. The Department President, Junior
29 Activities Chairman, Junior Conference Director and Junior
30 Conference Committee will select a Junior that attended
31 the current year Junior Conference to attend as the second
32 representative. In the event that both the
33 representatives are unable to attend Junior National
34 Convention or Junior Mission Training, the Department
35 President, Junior Activities Chairman, Junior Conference
36 Director and Junior Conference Committee will select two
37 Junior members that attended the current Junior Conference
38 to attend as the first ask second representative."
39 If adopted the code change would read -- it would
40 be taken out, the airfare and per diem, but we heard that
41 they didn't need the airfare anymore so it was reading --
42 number 28: "Should the first representative not be able
43 to attend, the second representative will move up to first
44 representative. The Department President, Junior
45 Activities Chairman, Junior Conference Director and Junior
46 Conference Committee will select a Junior that attended
47 the current year Junior Conference to attend as the second
48 representative. In the event that both the
49 representatives are unable to attend Junior Mission
50 Training, the Department President, Junior Activities

1 Chairman, Junior Conference Director and Junior Conference
2 Committee will select two Junior members that attended the
3 current Junior Conference to attend as the first ask
4 second representative."

5 I move that we accept this code change.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The motion
7 is for 28: "Should the first representative not be able
8 to attend, the second representative will move up to first
9 representative. The Department President, Junior
10 Activities Chairman, Junior Conference Director and Junior
11 Conference Committee will select a Junior that attended
12 the current year Junior Conference to attend as the second
13 representative. In the event that both the
14 representatives are unable to attend Junior Mission
15 Training, the Department President, Junior Activities
16 Chairman, Junior Conference Director and Junior Conference
17 Committee will select two Junior members that attended the
18 current Junior Conference to attend as the first ask
19 second representative."

20 Any questions?

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madam
22 President, Anita Biggs, District 23.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I disagree with
25 airfare allowance. It should be more than that, but
26 that's what we have in the budget for them to go to the
27 two days for Mission Training because who's going to pay
28 for them to go? Otherwise they'll have -- there's a
29 problem. They were going to National Convention now they
30 have to go to Las Vegas at this point and there is a cost.
31 So I disagree with deleting that line. The only agreement
32 I have is take out anything referencing National
33 Convention.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay.

35 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Can I move to
36 amend? Can I move to amend to state: "Airfare \$100 per
37 diem for two days and the registration fee will be paid
38 for by the Department Office for the first representative
39 to Junior National Convention" -- excuse me. Strike that.
40 "To Junior Mission Training." Where are we at? So that's
41 the first sentence, and then the rest of the code would be
42 the same as read.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There's a
44 motion on the floor to amend the motion for number 28 --
45 to amend 28 to read: "Airfare, \$100 per diem for two days
46 and registration fee will be paid for by the Department
47 Office for the first representative to Junior Mission
48 Training. Should the first representative not" --

49 Okay. That's okay. So we're voting on putting
50 that back into the new code. So any discussion on that?

1 (No response.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Not hearing any,
3 all those in favor, say aye.
4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
6 (No response.)
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The motion
8 carries. Now 28 will read -- we'll vote on that.
9 "Airfare, \$100 per diem for two days and the registration
10 fee will be paid for by the Department Office for the
11 first representative to Junior Mission Training. Should
12 the first representative not be able to attend, the second
13 representative will move up to first representative. The
14 Department President, Junior Activities Chairman, Junior
15 Conference Director and Junior Conference Committee will
16 select a Junior that attended the current year Junior
17 Conference to attend as the second representative. In the
18 event that both the representatives are unable to attend
19 Junior Mission Training, the Department President, Junior
20 Activities Chairman, Junior Conference Director and Junior
21 Conference Committee will select two Junior members that
22 attended the current Junior Conference to attend as the
23 first ask second representative."
24 Any discussion?
25 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Madam
26 President Wendy?
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The chair
28 recognizes Terry.
29 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Terry
30 Mikesell, Finance Chairman. In the budget, line GF62506,
31 National Junior Training, two delegates, they budgeted
32 \$750. So I don't understand this \$100 problem because the
33 Junior Conference approved this budget, \$750 for two
34 delegates.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Any other
38 discussion? Right, right. Okay. All those in favor, say
39 aye.
40 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?
42 (No response.)
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Mission -- motion
44 carried.
45 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: And the
46 last one.
47 (Applause.)
48 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: The code
49 currently reads, 29: "It shall be the responsibility of
50 the Junior Conference Director to contact the

1 parents/guardian of any Junior member that is selected as
2 a representative to attend the Junior National Convention
3 or Junior Mission Training to ensure they will have a
4 chaperone while traveling to, from and during the Junior
5 National Convention or Junior Mission Training. The
6 outgoing director shall coordinate with the Department
7 Secretary to ensure all necessary paperwork is complete
8 and forwarded to National."

9 If accepted the new code would read, number 29:
10 "It shall be the responsibility of the Junior Conference
11 Director to contact the parents/guardian of any Junior
12 member that is selected as a representative to attend the
13 Junior Mission Training to ensure they will have a
14 chaperone while traveling to, from and during the Junior
15 Mission Training. The outgoing director shall coordinate
16 with the Department Secretary to ensure all necessary
17 paperwork is complete and forwarded to National."

18 I move that we accept this code change.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. And the
20 motion is for 29: "It shall be the responsibility of the
21 Junior Conference Director to contact the parents/guardian
22 of any Junior member that is selected as a representative
23 to attend the Junior Mission Training to ensure they will
24 have a chaperone while traveling to, from and during the
25 Junior Mission Training. The outgoing director shall
26 coordinate with the Department Secretary to ensure all
27 necessary paperwork is complete and forwarded to
28 National."

29 Any discussion?

30 (No response.)

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all
32 those in favor?

33 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?

35 (No response.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.

37 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Madam
38 Department President, may I continue with my supplemental
39 report?

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Very brief.

41 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Very
42 quickly. While I'm reading this, Juniors if you want to
43 come stand in front so everyone can see you. This has
44 been a great learning experience and this chairman has
45 enjoyed working with the Juniors along with the committee.

46 I'd like to introduce Ann Philcox, the Junior
47 Conference Director, and the Junior Conference Committee
48 members Robin Falkenberg, Susan Romero and Patricia
49 Jackson-Kelly. Thank you to all who have helped in
50 different ways this year. Teamwork made the Junior

1 program a success. Thank you to the entire Legion Family
2 for your participation with Junior Conference tickets, the
3 Sand Dollar Jars, T-shirts and caps and other fundraising.
4 With tickets and additional fundraising we were able to
5 raise over \$10,000 this year.

6 (Applause.)

7 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Exceeding
8 this Chairman's goal. Thank you to all of you for helping
9 make that happen.

10 We held three Junior Leadership workshops in
11 southern, central, and northern California. We appreciate
12 the Department Chairmen and District Chairmen who
13 participated in teaching the girls about our major
14 programs in hands-on learning. And thank you to the units
15 who hosted these workshops. We had a total of 34 girls
16 attend between the three workshops.

17 So many girls earned patches last year. There
18 was over 50. This Chairman only received paperwork for
19 two girls this year. If your Juniors did the work for
20 their patches, please make sure you get the paperwork in
21 so that they are -- they can be awarded their
22 well-deserved Patches. Please continue to encourage your
23 Juniors to continue to work on the Patch Program.

24 I know our are Juniors busy. They had facials
25 and membership parties. They helped with dinners,
26 fundraising with bake sales, parties, placing flags on
27 Memorial Day, and care packages to send overseas.

28 At this time, Madam President, may I proceed with
29 my first place awards and scholarship winner?

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

31 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: First place
32 Unit Supplemental is Palisades Unit 283, District 24.

33 (Applause.)

34 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: First Place
35 District Supplemental goes to Bea Foster from District 29.

36 (Applause.)

37 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: We have a
38 Past Department President Junior Scholarship being awarded
39 this year to Jabrese Staton for \$1,000.

40 (Applause.)

41 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Jabrese is
42 from Unit 252, District 23. At this time I was going to
43 introduce Ann so she can introduce our Juniors.

44 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: Good
45 afternoon, ladies. I'm going to be quick. First of all,
46 would everybody that acted as a counselor at Junior
47 Conference this year please rise.

48 (Applause.)

49 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: This is not
50 everybody. We had 21 counselors this year. Okay. Your

1 officers for 2007 were President Jolina Freeman, 2016-'17.

2 (Applause.)

3 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: I'm sorry.
4 Vice President Le La Dooley.

5 (Applause.)

6 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: Secretary
7 Alyssa Hurtado is not here. Chaplain Teresa Pouliot.
8 Historian Asia Williams. Sergeant-At-Arms Aliya Combs.
9 Marshal Amanda Favella. Americanism Aubrey Wardrip.
10 Children & Youth Magenta Stubs. Community Service Desiree
11 Gibbens. Education Taylor Houser. Poppy Erykalyynn
12 Santana and VA&R Jabrese Staton.

13 (Applause.)

14 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: Now officers
15 for the 2007-'18 team. President Le La Dooley.

16 (Applause.)

17 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: Vice
18 President Asia Williams. Secretary Alyssa Hurtado.
19 Chaplain Teresa Pouliot. Historian Aliya.
20 Sergeant-at-Arms Alyssa Hurtado. Marshal Cassandra
21 Cardenaz. Chairmen. Americanism Kaylee Fox. Children &
22 Youth Taylor Sinclair. Education Casey Fox. Poppy Kinzee
23 Davis. VA&R Vanessa. Community Service Raquel Suzette,
24 and Leadership Monica Hernandez.

25 I would also like to thank Sharon Moore for
26 putting together the adult talent show. We had fun. And
27 I would also like to make the statement that no children
28 got hurt, but my beloved assistant fell and broke her
29 ankle. So we don't have to worry about the horses. We
30 just have to worry about high heel shoes and grass. Thank
31 you.

32 (Applause.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
34 ladies.

35 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Okay. May
36 we approach the podium real quick?

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Really, really
38 fast because we have a guest here so we have to hurry.
39 He's been patiently waiting.

40 (Applause.)

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Before --
42 without further adieu, and I have to give him a lot of
43 kudos for waiting patiently, will the Sergeant-at-Arms and
44 Marshal with the Distinguished Guest Chairman please bring
45 to the podium John Ellis from the California American
46 Legion Press Association.

47 (Processional.)

48 C.A.L.P.A. PRESIDENT ELLIS: Well, good
49 afternoon. Well, you probably have seen us out in the
50 expo hallway. My name is John Ellis, United States Marine

1 Corps veteran.

2 (Applause.)

3 C.A.L.P.A. PRESIDENT ELLIS: Thank you very much.
4 Post 739 in Indio, California. Is our Commander Mary
5 Riser here? How about our District President? That would
6 be Susan Romero from District 21. There she is.

7 (Applause.)

8 C.A.L.P.A. PRESIDENT ELLIS: The California
9 American Legion Press Association works with Auxiliaries
10 across the state, Legionnaires, Riders and Sons. And our
11 mission is simple. Our mission is to work with you in
12 elevating your program visibility. What we do is we
13 create flyers. Now if you stop down near our booth,
14 you'll see examples of flyers including one that we did
15 for a no bake sale. I don't know what Auxiliary member
16 thought that up where you've got to pay money for pie and
17 cake that you never get and can eat, but they raised like
18 700 bucks for that. I created a flyer for that. I could
19 create one for you. And it doesn't cost a dime. We
20 create flyers, we create Facebook pages. We can help you
21 with a press release. We can help you with your website.
22 We can help you with your newsletter.

23 And, look, here's what it comes down to. When we
24 can elevate the visibility of The American Legion across
25 every unit, membership increases. Attendance at our
26 events becomes greater because word is getting out. It's
27 getting out in many different forms, you know, in the
28 newspaper, in the media. And when we do that, what's
29 going to happen; right? Membership increases, more
30 fundraising comes in, and greater community recognition
31 occurs. And that is what C.A.L.P.A. does for you at
32 absolutely no cost. Now there's a membership fee. Oh,
33 gosh. It's ten bucks a year. That's it, ten bucks a
34 year.

35 Now you do not have to be a media professional to
36 be a member of C.A.L.P.A. You don't have to be a press
37 member, but what you do get, excuse me, is a press card.
38 You can see that right there. And it shows that you
39 represent the community. And the fact that you are here
40 at this convention sitting in those chairs showing that
41 you care that you represent your individual posts, you
42 represent your district, you represent your area and we
43 want to help you make it even better.

44 Now right now how many of you out there are
45 currently C.A.L.P.A. members? Raise your hand. Okay.
46 This is -- there you go. Now an interesting thing about
47 C.A.L.P.A. is I made a pitch to the Legionnaires at a
48 district meeting and a small number of them joined
49 C.A.L.P.A. That's okay, but the Auxiliary did in mass.
50 The women got it because who are the movers and shakers in

1 the post? Who gets things done? Who puts the flyers out
2 there; right?

3 (Applause.)

4 C.A.L.P.A. PRESIDENT ELLIS: You know, a little
5 bit of a story. Here's kind of how we work. We had a
6 young man in our community at the local high school from
7 the band, the high school band and he played Taps for the
8 funerals of our veterans. Well, we created a flyer.
9 Actually it was free. It was a certificate of
10 appreciation to present to this young man at his local
11 high school in front of his band members. And he didn't
12 know we were coming. The principal was there, his
13 grandparents were there, his mom and dad were there, but
14 we got ABC and CBS television to be there and it was on
15 the local news that evening and the next morning. We can
16 help you do that.

17 Don't think that you can't get that type of
18 publicity for your local post. They will answer if we
19 knock, and that's what we're doing. We're helping you to
20 do the knocking. We're here to point the direction.
21 Here's how you get the article in the newspaper. Here's
22 how you get the local TV station to come into your unit.
23 So maybe you don't know how to do it, but we do. We're
24 C.A.L.P.A. We've got a whole group of professionals
25 waiting in the wings just for you.

26 So I would like to invite each and every one of
27 you to join the California American Legion Press
28 Association. Represent your post. Represent your
29 district. Represent your area. And when this convention
30 closes for today, myself and/or some staff members,
31 there's Ryan Bagley, we'll have applications when you file
32 out that door. It's just ten bucks a year. So join with
33 us because we need you just like you need us. And you
34 know why? Because it's for the good of the Legion. Thank
35 you very much.

36 (Applause.)

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Okay.
38 We're now going to hear -- okay. From the Americanism
39 Chairman Kathy Smith and --

40 (Processional.)

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And if the
42 Education Chairman Linda Fariss and Kathie Martinez --
43 Kathie Martinez and Linda Fariss, could please come up and
44 be prepared to give your talk?

45
46 AMERICANISM CONVENTION REPORT

47
48 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: There's lipstick on
49 the microphone. Ahoy. The Convention Committee on
50 Americanism met on Thursday, June 22nd, 2017 in the -- in

1 Raincross C in the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside,
2 California. The statistical report of this chairman
3 appears in the Book of Reports on page 46. With the
4 consent of the delegates, Linda Fercho was appointed
5 Secretary, Donna Scott offered prayer, and Joan Cannon was
6 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 21 delegates
7 answered roll call. There were nine visitors present.

8 The code was read and the committee agreed on two
9 housekeeping items that we handled during the committee
10 meeting. It was just punctuation.

11 The delegation asked a question about the
12 increase in the cash award for Group V. With the input of
13 the delegates on the floor, we concluded that this was due
14 to the age of the essay students competing in that
15 category. Many of the Group V students are in the same
16 age bracket as the students in Group IV.

17 It was stressed for the unit and district
18 chairmen to ensure that all information requested in the
19 instructions are provided on the back of the essays. The
20 student addresses were needed when the Department Chairman
21 is processing the awards.

22 100 percent reporting certifications were given
23 to Districts 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, 24, 25, 28.
24 Citations were awarded to units and districts.
25 Americanism essay certificates and checks for second and
26 third place awards were announced and presented to the
27 District Chairmen. First place awards will be announced
28 on the convention floor.

29 Two items were discussed as follows: It was
30 noted that a person from another country reciting the
31 Pledge of Allegiance should not salute the flag, but
32 instead stand with their hands at their sides. The second
33 is a remainder that the line, "One nation under God"
34 should not include a pause and that we should train all
35 citizens to recite the pledge correctly.

36 New business. The delegates discussed some of
37 the challenges related to the Americanism titles this
38 year, noting that we need to ensure that each title is
39 phrased correctly with the proper punctuation. Many
40 teachers and chairmen have offered suggestions to
41 alleviate ongoing frustration and streamline the
42 instructions to enhance the Americanism program. The
43 committee would like to recommend that the incoming
44 chairman form a committee to revise the instructions with
45 several past chairmen and bring recommendations to the
46 membership at next year's convention. Meeting closed at
47 10:50 a.m.

48 Madam President, may I continue with my
49 supplemental report and first place awards?

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you can.

1 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Judy Henderson
2 -- is this on? Judy Henderson, District 2 President.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Chair
4 recognizes Judy.
5 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: I did
6 Americanism last year for Group V and we had an issue with
7 the part about the addresses. Because with special ed,
8 there's a real high confidentiality and with that with the
9 confidentiality issue, you cannot reveal the names and
10 addresses because of the confidentiality thing. My
11 teacher told me that I was not allowed to put the
12 addresses of the children's names on it because of the
13 confidentiality issue.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, Judy. It's
15 just a recommendation for next year's chairman.
16 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Well, I'm
17 just --
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So it's a point --
19 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Well, I'm just
20 mentioning that because she said it's a recommendation and
21 I'm saying that my teacher is well versed --
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Right, right.
23 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: -- in that issue
24 of confidentiality told me that you cannot -- I personally
25 could not put the addresses on there because of the
26 confidentiality issue with special ed children which is in
27 Group V.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes. Thank you
29 very much. Go ahead.
30 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you. Madam
31 President Wendy, your nautical theme brought extraordinary
32 opportunities to strength and patriotism at ports of call
33 from sea to shining sea. Our Manta Ray Patti has grown
34 up. She's become very mature. I don't know if you saw
35 her when she was little at the beginning of the year. And
36 she has become a mom and there are at least 30 babies
37 playing on the decks of the cruise line. Can those babies
38 stand up? Anybody that has babies. That's it. Come on.
39 Where is our babies?
40 Okay. The Americanism Manta Rays have made us
41 very proud and inspired us with many tales of the sea,
42 assisting veterans, military troops, and family. The
43 Manta Rays have been hard at work reminding members and
44 the community of proper flag etiquette and demonstrations
45 on the proper way to dispose of the American flag. The
46 American Legion Auxiliary Junior Conference participated
47 in an inspiring flag disposal ceremony led by Kim Vincent.
48 We were amazed by the reactions and the questions from the
49 Junior members. Over one hundred pocket flags were folded
50 to be sent to active duty military. The ALA members are

1 doing a great job grooming our future leaders.

2 Members continue to pass out flag etiquette
3 brochures, sharing personal feelings of patriotism, and
4 participating in legislation to ensure that we maintain
5 the laws that protect our veterans.

6 Chairmen reported the efforts made on Get Out the
7 Vote. Many members led campaigns to get citizens
8 registered to vote, worked at the polls, and walked
9 precincts. One of the essays stated that they had
10 participated with grandparents in working the polls.

11 Patriotic holidays are celebrated sharing food,
12 participating in parades, and honoring veterans by all
13 ports of call across the state. Members continue to watch
14 the condition of flags to ensure that worn and tattered
15 flags are replaced when needed, sponsor Stand Downs, hold
16 job fairs for events and provide support for community and
17 children and youth.

18 The Americanism Essay Contest was a great success
19 and it was enlightening to read the profound ideas that
20 the students shared in their grade levels. It is a great
21 exercise to help children think about American ideals and
22 in honing writing skills and the ability to follow
23 instructions. The essays clearly show that the students
24 have great understanding of patriotism and the pride and
25 benefits of being an American. Their insights are
26 profound. They really love helping veterans and one
27 student stated he really likes helping old people over the
28 age of 50.

29 Members decorate military and veteran-based
30 facilities at holiday time, sponsor bingo, make cards and
31 spend time reading them with veterans in the hospital.
32 One unit supports a local Fisher House providing meals and
33 support for families experiencing catastrophic illnesses.
34 One unit had kids participate in a scavenger hunt looking
35 for patriotic icons and symbols in and around the post.
36 Units present Blue Star Banners to local families, present
37 patches to the children scripted with, "We honor those who
38 served."

39 There is never a shortage of patriotic pride
40 among ALA members. We love to show our spirit by
41 supporting our red, white, and blue, our pins and
42 patriotic gear. Members also take every opportunity to
43 share the importance of our mission within their
44 communities. ALA members are proud to belong to the
45 world's largest women's patriotic organization,
46 participating in local city government meetings, speaking
47 at community events, taking every opportunity to share the
48 importance of caring for our veterans and reminding them
49 of the ultimate sacrifice that was made for our freedom.

50 Participation in the promotion of The American

1 Legion Americanism programs includes the Oratorical
2 Contest and supporting American Legion Baseball.

3 Total dollars reportedly spent by the Department
4 of California members was \$17,207. I'm sure that we
5 didn't get all the costs in there. And total volunteer
6 hours donated, 141,383. This Chairman is honored to
7 report to you the wonderful activities and accomplishments
8 of the Manta Rays throughout the 2016-2017 year in order
9 to fulfill our mission to service veterans, active duty
10 service members, their families, and the children and
11 youth in our communities.

12 In closing I offer a quote from one of the
13 District Chairmen: "Americanism isn't a pill that someone
14 can take and suddenly become filled with patriotism. It
15 is a seed that needs to be planted early in a child's
16 life."

17 Over the past year as the Americanism Chairman, I
18 have seen the efforts that The American Legion Auxiliary
19 makes to ensure that seeds are planted. We are developing
20 the future leaders of America through units, districts,
21 Girls State, Junior Conference, and in our daily lives.
22 When my granddaughter and I left Junior Conference, she
23 was inspired stating, "I want to distribute Poppies and
24 help veterans." She said, "I know I did that in the past,
25 but I thought it was because I was cute, but now I
26 understand the real meaning."

27 When I dropped her off, she went to her room and
28 made a poster with all the things she collected at Junior
29 Conference. It said, "I am proud to be an American." She
30 sent me a picture on my phone before I even had time to
31 drive home.

32 I witnessed the meaning of proud to be an
33 American as we worked to promote Americanism this year.
34 ALA members truly exude pride and show love for our
35 country, veterans and communities.

36 Now for my first place awards. Okay. These are
37 the essay awards. First Place, Mary Powers, Group IV
38 Veronica Spence of Unit 249, District 11.

39 (Applause.)

40 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: I forgot the most
41 important thing, the money. How could I have forgot that?

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Kathy, was that
43 the Veronica Spence Award?

44 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: Mary Powers. Did I
45 say that?

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, I think you
47 did.

48 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: Okay. First place
49 in Group I, Grades 4 and 5, go to Georgia Sinicar, Unit
50 221, District 29.

1 (Applause.)
2 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: First place in Group
3 II, Grades 6 and 7, goes to Riley Argularias, Unit 118,
4 District 27.

5 (Applause.)
6 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: First place in Group
7 III, Grades 8 and 9 goes to Dylan Jagaliski. Okay. Unit
8 475, District 18.

9 (Applause.)
10 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: First place in Group
11 IV, Grades 10, 11, and 12 goes to Christina Corles,
12 District 14. And I didn't have your unit number. Oh,
13 it's you, Gloria.

14 (Applause.)
15 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: Congratulations.
16 First place in Group V, children with exceptional needs,
17 goes to Thomas Walker, Unit 118, District 27.

18 (Applause.)
19 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: And now for my unit
20 and district supplementals. First Place Best Overall Unit
21 Supplemental goes to Hollywood Unit 43, District 24.

22 (Applause.)
23 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: First Place District
24 Best Overall District Supplemental goes to District 24,
25 Martha Romano.

26 (Applause.)
27 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: All winners will be
28 posted in the Department Convention office. Madam
29 President Wendy, thank you for this appointment. I am
30 honored to serve you and the Department of California.
31 Madam Department President, this concludes my report.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
33 (Applause.)

34 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: May I approach?
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Really quickly.
36 We'll set it up here with all of the other creatures.
37 Okay. Next we will hear from Linda Fariss,
38 Education.

39
40 EDUCATION CONVENTION REPORT

41
42 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: I always follow tall
43 people. Can everyone hear me? I've got the mic right?
44 The Convention Committee on Education met on June 22nd,
45 2017 in room Raincross E at the Riverside Convention
46 Center, Riverside, California. The statisti- -- the
47 numbers report of this chairman appears on page 51 in the
48 Book of Reports. Gigi Manno was appointed Secretary,
49 Christine Williams offered prayer, and we had a wonderful
50 Sergeant-at-Arms and I couldn't read their name. Is the

1 person who acted as Sergeant-at-Arms at the preconvention
2 committee here? She was very good.

3 A total of 19 district delegates answered roll
4 call and there were 14 visitors present. The committee
5 agreed to the following report: Basically that we would
6 like to see the Children of Warriors award be awarded \$500
7 scholarship if they do not receive the National. I think
8 this is just because this is a fairly new scholarship,
9 National scholarship that it was not incorporated into our
10 programs. So when I'm not -- anything that has to be
11 voted on, I am just going to suggest to the next Education
12 Chairman that she look into making this a part of the
13 department code.

14 We discussed Veterans in the Classroom, Welcome
15 Home For Vietnam Veterans, and units that offer
16 scholarships. Delegates were urged to encourage donations
17 to Department Education Program and purchase Poppy Seals.
18 The meeting adjourned at 12:02.

19 Madam President, may I continue with my
20 supplemental?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

22 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: And I want to say I
23 choose School of Tuna for the name of our education
24 program because it takes a lot of people to get us
25 educated. It takes a lot of us working with our young
26 ones that we have to protect and keep around, keep them
27 toward the middle of the pack. And so we are proud to say
28 that we've been doing that.

29 From the information provided by 19 districts,
30 California accomplished a great deal this past year. We
31 provided scholarships at the unit, district, and
32 department levels. We donated generously to the
33 department scholarship program both through monetary
34 donations as well as the Poppy Seals program. In fact, it
35 was gratifying to see reports come to me with Poppy Seals
36 on the envelopes. I'm one of those that buys the Poppy
37 Seals, puts them away and forgets to put them on anything.

38 Many of us participated in a Give 10 to Education
39 benefiting numerous schools that needed supplies. We
40 honored our teachers, educators, and staff with school
41 supplies, refreshments, Girl Scout cookies, thank you
42 cards and certificates during National Education Week and
43 among other forms of recognition. One unit held a paint
44 and sip party for the teachers of a local school. They
45 were sipping tea. That's what their report said.

46 Our most recent program of Veterans in the
47 Classroom is growing in popularity as more units and more
48 veterans are embracing the method of reaching out to our
49 children. As veterans related their experiences in the
50 military, all could see how favorably the students

1 reacted. The children were so thrilled that they asked
2 the veteran how to join the service after graduation.

3 We were able to reach children in kindergarten
4 through sixth grade, eighth grade, and 11th grade.
5 Earlier in the school year one unit provided meals at a
6 local junior college with a large veteran enrollment. At
7 the request of the school they are now donating \$50 a
8 month to the food pantry. One of our units has an annual
9 fundraising event where they sell meat pies. They raised
10 enough for four \$1,000 scholarships at this four-day
11 festival. Pretty neat to do all your fundraising in four
12 days.

13 We had volunteers who read to children, mentored
14 those children who were below the level they should be.
15 One member works with the learning dynamics reading
16 system. Another unit provided two ladies to read to six
17 children of four mothers whose first language is not
18 English.

19 We were pleased to report that The American
20 Legion Auxiliary joined with other organizations in Read
21 Across America and 211 Call to Courage that works with
22 wounded military personnel that want to further their
23 education. The volunteers work to find community
24 colleges, trade schools, and adult schools that can fill
25 the needs of the veterans.

26 We continue to collect Box Tops and Campbells
27 labels. Many units made direct donations to local schools
28 in addition to the Give 10 Program. A couple of units
29 donations -- a couple of the unit donations were
30 particularly interesting. Remembering those in need --
31 what did I write? Remembering those most in need, one
32 unit donated \$400 to a class for autistic children and
33 another made a large donation to a local school district
34 to purchase backpacks, sweaters, umbrellas, and school
35 supplies for the homeless students that live in the
36 district's junior high and high school areas.

37 It is fascinating to learn of all the different
38 ways that our members further the education program, such
39 as one unit adopted a teacher to whom they presented
40 school supplies and a stipend. A luncheon was held for a
41 Head Start Program. Donations to Junior ROTC and 15
42 backpacks were filled with school supplies for a dual
43 language class. Many of our members volunteered in
44 classrooms and as playground monitors. We distributed
45 literature regarding some of our other programs: I Pledge
46 Allegiance, Light of Liberty, Our Country's Veterans, and
47 Say No to Drugs.

48 One of those units who hoped to keep our children
49 from trying drugs gave out antidrug literature as well as
50 100 book -- 100 bookmarks at the Mule Day Parade, an

1 important event that draws people from long distances.

2 Our department is large and varied. Some units
3 are in tall mountains, others are below sea level. Some
4 are near sunny beaches, while others are in desolate
5 deserts. No offense. We have units in bustling urban
6 areas and peaceful farmland. However, all are interested
7 in the education of our children and youth. We all know
8 that only through better education can we assure better
9 lives for our next generation.

10 The recipient of the Education Assistant
11 Scholarship is James Ziebell --

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ziebell.

13 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: I got confused.

14 James Ziebell sponsored by Monterey Cypress 694, District
15 28. He received \$2,000.

16 (Applause.)

17 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: And the recipient of
18 the Connie Settles Re-entry or Continuing Education
19 Scholarship is Beatrice (Bea) Jansen sponsored by Cecil M.
20 Anderson Unit 589, District 28 for \$5,000.

21 (Applause.)

22 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: Madam President, may
23 I present my first and -- first place winners? That's
24 what they are.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

26 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: That's what they are.
27 I learned so much. I learned so much from being the
28 Education Chairman. I'm especially proud of \$50,000 in
29 total amount that we Californians presented in
30 scholarships.

31 (Applause.)

32 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: Give yourself a big
33 hand. At the president level, at the unit level, up to
34 the department level. I have first place certificates for
35 these folks. And I made two copies because if they're
36 like my president, they always try to take my certificate.
37 So I made a plain one to give to them and a fancy one for
38 you to keep for yourself. For you to keep for yourself.
39 Okay. I have a special award for Molly Smith, District
40 28, Education Chairman.

41 (Applause.)

42 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: For the district at
43 the most scholarships won in the Education program.

44 (Applause.)

45 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: She was so great
46 because she was afraid that James' scholarship wouldn't
47 get to me in time, so she scanned it and emailed it and
48 then mailed it and she wanted to make sure that he had an
49 opportunity.

50 The First Place Education Program at the unit

1 level is presented to Chula Vista Unit 434, Chairman. I
2 love this. The unit members, everyone pitched in and
3 worked on the Education.

4 (Applause.)

5 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: Presented to District
6 22 Gigi Manno, Department -- from the Department Education
7 Chairman First Place for District Education and
8 scholarship program with a supplemental.

9 (Applause.)

10 EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FARISS: Madam President, that
11 is my presentation.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
13 much, Linda. I appreciate it.

14 (Applause.)

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Next we're going
16 to hear from our Children & Youth Chairman Kathie
17 Martinez. And she is going to speed right threw it, I'm
18 sure of it.

19 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: You betcha.
20 Yeah, it's getting late, ladies.

21
22 CHILDREN & YOUTH CONVENTION REPORT

23
24 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good
25 afternoon, ladies.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good afternoon.

27 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: We've got to
28 get the paperwork done. Half a second here. The
29 Convention Committee on Children & Youth met on June 22nd,
30 2017 in the Raincross C room of the Riverside Convention
31 Center, Riverside, California. The statistical report of
32 this Chairman appears on page 49 of the Book of Reports.
33 C.J. Reyes, District 19, was appointed Secretary. Gloria
34 Williams, District 23 offered prayer, and Dee Ann Graham,
35 District 15 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 20
36 district delegates answered roll call. There were seven
37 visitors and one junior present.

38 Meeting opened according to ritual. The code was
39 read, and with the exception of a minor housekeeping
40 change to Code 14, there were no changes to the code.

41 (Applause.)

42 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good job.
43 There was discussion on the purpose of the Children &
44 Youth with questions being answered by this chairman and
45 delegates in attendance. Certificates for second and
46 third place unit and district supplemental reports and for
47 the 100 percent reporting were presented, along with a
48 token of appreciation to all delegates from this chairman.

49 This concludes my committee report. May I
50 continue with my supplemental and first place awards?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.
2 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Madam
3 President, as we strive to serve our veterans from sea to
4 shining sea, I am amazed at the work our units and
5 districts have done during this past year. The Angel Fish
6 truly showed their dedication to the Children & Youth of
7 our military families and those of non-military but still
8 in need. Units work as a family with their post,
9 squadrons, and Riders and also reached into their
10 communities for the partnership -- for partnership from
11 other philanthropic and community organizations to meet
12 the needs within their areas.

13 Most units sponsored Halloween parties, Christmas
14 parties, Thanksgiving dinners, Easter parties, but it was
15 the uniqueness of some of them that made them special.
16 Realizing there are many needs within a community and
17 putting into practice our mission is what makes our
18 members.

19 Many of the units reached out to their local
20 fire, police, and community resource centers to find those
21 families that were in need of our assistance. One such
22 family was a victim of a tragic auto accident which took
23 the lives of a mother and two daughters. The unit hosted
24 a car wash and raised \$150 to help with final expenses.

25 Another unit has committed to buying groceries
26 year-round to help the families in their community. Units
27 partnered with their local schools hosting spaghetti
28 dinners, Texas Hold-em tournaments to raise funds for the
29 band, and cheerleading uniforms as the school district did
30 not have a budget for these items.

31 Stuff a Stocking, six-foot stocking, was a big
32 fundraising partnership for one unit. Unit members along
33 with other groups donated many gifts and sold tickets for
34 their stocking. The winner of the stocking was a female
35 veteran with two children, and upon winning the stocking
36 this family took one gift each for the children and then
37 took the remaining gifts to their local fire department
38 for their Toys-for-Tots events and helped pass out their
39 remaining gifts along with other gifts and toys that had
40 been donated to the families in the community.

41 Backpacks were filled by many of our units, some
42 for school, where they were stuffed with necessary items
43 for the upcoming year. One unit was made aware that many
44 of the children in the schools received free breakfast and
45 lunch, but had nothing to eat when they got home, so there
46 were backpacks filled with snacks to send home. Another
47 unit filled backpacks with clothes, pajamas, and robes to
48 be given to foster children. A total of 800 backpacks
49 were filled and distributed.

50 Education of our children was a very -- was very

1 evident as units gave and gave and gave to their local
2 schools. School supplies, art supplies, and four \$1,000
3 scholarships were given by one unit. Another unit
4 recognized the teachers by having goodie packs which were
5 presented to their local teachers in teacher appreciation
6 night.

7 Units are promoting Veterans in the Classroom,
8 and as a result of that many of the children made thank
9 you cards to be sent to those serving in other countries
10 as well as those in the local -- as well as those in the
11 local veteran facilities. Operation Valentine found unit
12 members back in the classroom with K through 2 students
13 making Valentine's cards to send to those serving
14 overseas.

15 The U.S. Vets Long Beach Cabrillo, a transition
16 facility for female veterans with children, has become the
17 main focus for one unit. Donations of clothes, household
18 items and other essentials are made on a monthly basis.
19 Children there were treated to a special carnival in
20 addition to other holiday parties and festivals.

21 Day of the Child Program held by one unit
22 operated a booth handing out pamphlets on child safety,
23 drug and alcohol abuse and suicide prevention. Crayons
24 and pictures of the flag and Liberty Bell were handed out.
25 McGriff Child Safety materials were utilized at elementary
26 school assemblies by this same unit. Mini workshops were
27 held with and for our Juniors promoting Star Spangled
28 Kids. Units celebrated Constitution Day by promoting and
29 providing information on our constitution and how our
30 democracy works. Make-A-Difference Day saw our Senior and
31 Junior members placing over 300 yellow ribbons in the
32 windows of merchant stores in their community.

33 Children & Youth celebrations in the month of
34 April showed just how dedicated our units are in their
35 communities for both military and non-military children.
36 Units held outings in the park where children were treated
37 to ice cream social, triathlons were held for the kids,
38 ducky pond races. Foster children were the guest of honor
39 at luncheons, Easter egg decorating, ducky pond races.
40 All participants in every event were awarded prizes --
41 excuse me -- and no child went home without a gift.

42 Josh Dogs were purchased by one unit and donated
43 to their local children's hospital to help those in need.
44 There were 18 Youth Good Deed awards presented by the
45 units in California. These young citizens worked in a
46 variety of areas from erecting a wall for fallen K-9
47 officers, slowing down traffic in their residential
48 streets, painting Legion halls, assisting in fire
49 evacuations, donating to Locks of Love, rescuing lost
50 animals, assisting with house/yard work for senior

1 citizens, transporting veterans when called upon,
2 promoting, organizing, and working food banks for their
3 community.

4 Temporary financial assistance was stretched to
5 the max. A total of six families needed our assistance
6 this past year cases for a total of -- cases for a total
7 of \$7,900. And I am proud to say that no request went
8 unanswered. Thank you, ladies. Thank you, Finance
9 Committee.

10 (Applause.)

11 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Many units
12 stepped up and made sure groceries were purchased,
13 utilities remained on, cars were repaired, in addition to
14 many other needs were met. Thank you all for your
15 generosity.

16 The units with the help of the Post, Squadron,
17 Riders, and community organization volunteered over 44,000
18 hours utilizing 1800 volunteers, collected over \$90,000
19 and \$35,000 in in-kind donation to help over 20,000
20 children and their families throughout the year.

21 Madam President, may I present my first place
22 awards?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

24 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Thank you.
25 First Place Unit Supplemental Children & Youth presented
26 to John M. Armitage Unit 684, LuAnn Capazzi, Chairman.

27 (Applause.)

28 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Thank you.
29 First Place District Children & Youth Supplemental
30 presented to Ann Marie Brown, District 22.

31 (Applause.)

32 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: In closing I
33 can only restate a line from one of the reports I
34 received. "The Children & Youth program encompasses the
35 true meaning of the Legion Family and community working
36 together jointly to promote programs to protect, care for
37 and support children and youth, especially those of our
38 military veterans."

39 Madam President, thank you for this appointment.
40 It was an honor to serve. This concludes my report.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
42 Kathie.

43 (Applause.)

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We'll now hear
45 from the Membership Chairman Loretta Marsh.

46
47 MEMBERSHIP CONVENTION REPORT

48
49 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Okay. The convention
50 committee on Membership met on June 22nd in room Raincross

1 D in the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside,
2 California. The statistical report of this chairman
3 appears on page 55 of the Book of Reports.

4 Ann Philcox was appointed secretary, Pat
5 Sinibaldi offered prayer, and Maureen Guacalone was
6 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 16 district
7 delegates answered roll call. There were 14 visitors
8 present.

9 The committee agreed upon the following report.
10 Code was read and no changes were made. Awards were
11 presented for 14 -- March 14th goal accomplishment date,
12 100 percent goal, 100 percent reporting, Recruit 1, Rejoin
13 1, and second and third place supplementals. Floor opened
14 to a productive discussion time. Meeting adjourned at
15 11:15 a.m.

16 Madam President, this completes the report of the
17 committee. May I continue with my report?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

19 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Madam Department
20 President Wendy, the Auxiliary Sea Turtles, as the
21 membership team was called this year, has worked very hard
22 from hatching after last year's convention and making
23 their way to the ocean representing their ultimate goal of
24 100 percent. Some made it with great speed and
25 determination, some a little slower but with great
26 determination, and others are still struggling to get
27 there before the close of books for Nationals in July.
28 Some are so close that their feet are getting wet, so just
29 a little push or one more step will get them there. You
30 can still do it. After all, turtles rule.

31 In spite of the outstanding work of many units, I
32 have a little gloom to add to my report. The Department
33 Membership statistics showed us at 94.89 percent on June
34 14th. One may think that almost 95 percent doesn't sound
35 all that bad, but that is a loss of 853 members for one
36 year. This week that went down to 124. So we did gain.
37 This is as of June 14th.

38 One may -- oh, this trend has been ongoing for a
39 few years now. The impact of this is far reaching. Not
40 only does it diminish our influence over congressional
41 issues for veterans, it is detriment tremendously to the
42 health and vitality of our units and has a tremendous
43 financial impact from the unit all the way to the National
44 coffers. Based on \$25 per year dues, loss of 853 members
45 represents a \$6,824 financial loss to the units and also
46 to the department annually. Multiply that over five years
47 and you have over \$34,000 lost of funding to the units and
48 the department.

49 And of course on the National level, the loss is
50 even more significant because they've got so many --

1 they've got the whole nation. So there is much to
2 motivate us to bring in new members and find ways to
3 overcome negative attitude and apathy to renewing
4 memberships.

5 Okay. Enough negative stuff. Let's talk about
6 the praises the units have deserved. Units have worked
7 very hard. And we realize some units do not have the
8 resources others do. They have worked many tools to bring
9 in new members. Free breakfasts, lunches, teas and
10 dinners have been offers to stimulate dues payments.
11 Letters, cards, phone calls and social media have been
12 utilized. Graduation and free dues for a year have been
13 given to juniors to keep them interested in staying
14 involved. Women veterans are still offered the first year
15 of membership for year. Members are involving their
16 Legion members by encouraging them to help them recruit
17 their wives, daughters, and granddaughters as members.
18 Units are initiating new members and preparing new member
19 packets.

20 District 29 Chairman reported a new member
21 suggested that new member packets should include a summary
22 of what a new member can expect when she attends her first
23 meeting so she is aware of protocol and expectations to
24 make getting acquainted with the Auxiliary a more
25 comfortable experience.

26 Social functions such as community events and
27 fairs, various holiday observances and parades and joining
28 with other organizations in their functions are all being
29 used to promote membership. And hard work has produced
30 results. A total of 486 citations were presented for
31 reaching goal on the first three comparison dates. One
32 hundred citations were given for 100 percent of their
33 goal. Of those 23 were over 110 percent. Four were over
34 120 percent. San Luis Obispo, Unit 66 District 16 reached
35 130.99 percent.

36 (Applause.)

37 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Herman Granados Unit
38 739, District 21 reached 131.82 percent.

39 (Applause.)

40 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Richard M. Nixon Unit
41 679, District 29 reached 161.54 percent.

42 (Applause.)

43 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: And Hoopa Unit 415 in
44 District 1 reached 166.67 percent.

45 (Applause.)

46 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Congratulations,
47 ladies. Well done. Sixty units earned the Josie Melgard
48 award. Congratulations, ladies. Well done.

49 Madam President, this concludes my report. May I
50 continue with my awards?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.
2 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you. Awards
3 for second and third place district and unit supplemental
4 reports were presented in committee. Third Place District
5 Supplemental went to District 18, Betty Ramos, Chairman.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Second Place
8 District Supplemental was awarded to District 29, Carol
9 Goss Holmes, Chairman. Third Place Unit Supplemental was
10 awarded to Colton Unit 155, District 25, Donna Michnowicz,
11 Chairman. I almost just called her Donna so I didn't have
12 to try to say the name because I can't.

13 Second Place Unit Supplemental was awarded to
14 Glacier Unit 457, Judy Castleberry, Chairman. The first
15 place district supplemental goes to District 21, Cathaleen
16 McCoy, Chairman.

17 (Applause.)

18 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: First Place Unit
19 Supplemental goes to Jackie Robinson Unit 252, District
20 23, Ellah Wallace, Chairman.

21 (Applause.)

22 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: And we have the Ethel
23 Flynn award that goes to the unit with the greatest
24 numerical increase. It's not the percentage, but the
25 greatest numerical increase from the previous year's close
26 of books from this year's close of books. The Ethel Flynn
27 Award this year goes to East Pasadena Unit 280, District
28 18.

29 (Applause.)

30 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: And the Estella
31 Hannell Memorial Award is presented to the district with
32 the largest numerical increase from the close of books
33 last year to this year, and that is being presented to
34 District 13.

35 (Applause.)

36 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: For a gain of 35.
37 Okay. Now we're going to do the Josie Melgard awards.
38 And Josie's daughters are here to help us with that. This
39 year I have some districts and I have asked the district
40 president to just come up and pick up the awards for the
41 district so that we don't have 60 people parading through.
42 So I'll read them off and they're here to hand them to
43 you.

44 District 1, Sequoia Unit 96, Willits Unit 174,
45 Hoopa Unit 415. And these are goal plus two in case you
46 don't know what that Josie Melgard is. I have dyslexia.

47 District 2, Glen L. Wilson Sr. Seawolf Unit 746.
48 District 4, Mount Lassen Unit 167. District 5, Mare
49 Island Navy Yard Unit 550. District 6, Citrus Heights
50 Unit 637. District 7, Stella Van Dyke Johnson Unit 795.

1 District 11, Calaveras Unit 376. District 12, James V.
2 Pernetti Unit 66. District 13, Willow Glen Unit 318 and
3 Santa Clara Unit 419.

4 District 14, Kingsburg Unit 191. District 15,
5 Tehachapi Unit 221. District 16, Corporal Marshal M.
6 Braden Unit 56, San Luis Obispo Unit 66, Vandenberg Unit
7 125, Arroyo Grande Unit 136, Ventura Unit 339, Cambria
8 Unit 432.

9 District 18 Pasadena Unit 13, Canyon City Unit
10 180, East Pasadena Unit 280. District 19, South Bay Unit
11 184. District 20, Palmdale Unit 348, Newhall-Saugas Unit
12 507, Panorama City Unit 817. District 21, Mira Loma Unit
13 500. Morrison Memoria Unit 574. Perris Unit 595. Herman
14 Granados Unit 7 39.

15 District 22, Dewitt C. Mitchell Unit 201, La Mesa
16 Unit 282, Alvin Myo Dunn Unit 365, Albert J. Hickman Unit
17 460, Lincoln Deming Unit 468, Pacific Beach Unit 552,
18 Larry E. Holmberg Unit 731.

19 District 24, Palisades Unit 283. District 25,
20 Redlands Unit 106, Stella Van Dyke Johnson Unit 795,
21 Richard Arnold Griffith Unit 324, Yucaipa Valley Unit 426,
22 Paul F. Diekmann Unit 466, Steele-Towne Incorporated Unit
23 772. District 26, Coastside Unit 474. District 27, Boron
24 Unit 636. District 28, Carmel Unit 512, Cecil M. Anderson
25 Unit 589, Prunedale Unit 593.

26 District 29, Orange Unit 132, Huntington Beach
27 Unit 133, Mayhew-Vincent White Cane Unit 266, Placentia
28 Unit 136, Leisure World Unit 327, Albert E. Schwab Unit
29 555, Richard M. Nixon Unit 679. And District 30,
30 Calipatria Unit 135, Bradley-Keffer Unit 138, and Quechan
31 Unit 802.

32 That's 60 Josie Melgard awards. I have -- oh, I
33 want to introduce the membership team. I was hoping they
34 would come up. You're here. Carol Fuqua, Area 5. Area 6
35 -- what's her name over there? Doreen Adams. Area 1 is
36 Terry Mikesell. Area 2 is Michelle Soares. I don't
37 remember if I get all these right throughout my list. I
38 can't remember without it written in front of me. Area 3
39 was Diana Livas and Area 4 was Vella Meyers.

40 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: No. Three
41 was Vella Myers.

42 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Three was Vella
43 Meyers.

44 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: I got it turned
45 around?

46 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yes.

47 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: I knew I would do
48 that. Thank you very much for all of your help.

49 (Applause.)

50 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you. And we

1 have a couple more things to go through. We'll do them
2 really, really quick.

3 MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE: The 5th Area has a
4 special presentation they wanted to do very quickly. I
5 would like to have all of Area 5 to stand up. District
6 21, District 22, 25, 29 and 30. President Wendy touched
7 over a little bit on our 5th Area gathering when she
8 attended in Brawley. So let me tell you just a little bit
9 about her. Our Auxiliary members get together at our 5th
10 Area members when the Legionnaires are busy discussing
11 their items and we talk about membership. We bring
12 suggestions to one another how to do something, maybe we
13 do something better, maybe they have a better idea. And
14 it has really paid off. Not to mention the camaraderie we
15 have when we come to convention.

16 Anyway, the funds this year were won by District
17 30.

18 (Applause.)

19 MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE: We have an
20 opportunity drawing at each one of our meetings and we
21 have a little bit of money and she gets to make the
22 presentation. And that will be to Pat.

23 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE SINBALDI: We want to give
24 this check to TFA Children & Youth. I usually talk pretty
25 loud for everybody. TFA Children & Youth for \$384.

26 (Applause.)

27 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: One more item. You
28 remember at the beginning of the year I said every time
29 you met your goal your unit would go in a drawing. So
30 this box is full of all of the year every time you reached
31 goal, it went in here or every unit that reached a goal.
32 And the unit gets \$100 and the chairman gets 50. Now I
33 don't know who the chairmen are. I'll have to look that
34 up. So pick one that I can find the chairman for. Okay.
35 Downey Unit 270, District 19.

36 (Applause.)

37 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: This will be \$100 and
38 whoever the chairman is can find it out. Okay. Madam
39 President, that concludes my report.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
41 Loretta. Congratulations all of you.

42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Secretary Ruby, do
44 we have any communications or messages?

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam Department
46 President, for my phone going off -- it was an emergency;
47 I want you to know.

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: It has a nice
49 tune.

50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Here's 20 bucks

1 for your special project.

2 (Applause.)

3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Linda's Rodeo
4 Queens will meet at closed of session today, Friday. Also
5 the Department Gophers meeting is at 5:30 tonight at the
6 Marriott lobby for dinner at Post 79.

7 Would the Past Department Presidents please meet
8 with -- in the Department President's room at 6:00 p.m.,
9 Room 1228.

10 Department Secretary, please make an announcement
11 for all district presidents to meet in front of the stage.
12 (Singing.)

13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Danielle White.
14 Okay. All the District Presidents -- now this is your
15 punishment. Now you have to meet with Danielle at 7:00
16 a.m. in the morning. That's to go over the district
17 delegates, so you better be there.

18 A message from the Royal Turtles of Treasures,
19 aka Ways & Means. Please have all your white raffle
20 tickets and green 50/50 tickets turned in by close of
21 Saturday session, but they will still be selling more if
22 you want more. Winners will be notified Sunday morning.

23 Harriet's Quilters will meet in Room 202 in the
24 Marriott hotel tomorrow, Saturday, at 7:00 a.m. Pajamas
25 are okay.

26 Bev's Stars, Madeline Love Princesses, Norma's
27 Birds of Paradise will meet today after close of session
28 in the area next to the Poppy displays. Sue's
29 Lighthouses, Melanie's Balloon Pilots and LuAnn's Ship
30 Captains will meet for lunch Saturday noon in the Marriott
31 hotel restaurant.

32 Bonnie's Prom Princesses and Sandy's Colonels
33 will meet in Room 415 here for lunch on Saturday. Please
34 RSVP to Bonnie in District 20 or Sandy in District 13.

35 Anita's Team Captains will meet for breakfast
36 Saturday, June 24th at 7:00 a.m. at the Marriott
37 restaurant. Please send a note if you can or cannot
38 attend.

39 Peachy Performers and -- who's the Penguins? Oh,
40 Classy Penguins. Thank you, Odette. Peachy Performers
41 and Classy Penguins will meet for lunch at the Saturday
42 noon break at the Marriott in Room 921.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The session is not
44 over yet, ladies.

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Goldie's Golden
46 Links, Geri's cards, Ruby's All Stars, Margaret's Dream
47 Catchers, Shelby's Actresses, and Pilar's Musicians will
48 meet in the Marriott for lunch Saturday in Room 612.

49 There has been a change for the banquet. The
50 banquet is now in the Ballroom A and B.

1 Susie's Farmers, please meet at the stage
2 following the adjournment for lunch Saturday. 624.
3 And I believe that is all your communication.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
5 Okay. The session is in recess and we'll reconvene -- I'm
6 so sorry.
7 DISTRICT DELEGATE: The district presidents meet
8 at 7:00 a.m. where?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: When is it going
10 to be?
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: In front of the
12 stage at 7:00 a.m. Saturday to go over the district
13 delegates.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
15 Nothing else? All right. We're in recess until 8:30 a.m.
16 tomorrow.
17 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention
18 was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.)
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