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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

5

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

6

102nd ANNUAL CONVENTION

7

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2022

8

VISALIA, CALIFORNIA

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

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FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2022; 9:01 A.M.

5

VISALIA, CALIFORNIA

6

7

CALL TO ORDER

8

9

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: This convention

10

session is now reconvened. I request everyone to have

11

their cell phones off. If your phone rings, there will be

12

a \$5 fine and our Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant

13

Sergeant-at-Arms will grab that \$5 from you which will go

14

to guess what? My special project. So turn them off loud

15

and we and our veterans will thank you generously.

16

Department Chaplain will offer the invocation.

17

18

INVOCATION

19

20

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: We come together

21 this day to conduct business and promote programs for the  
22 good of our country and Auxiliary. May each of us seek  
23 your wisdom and guidance in what we do, in what we say, in  
24 how we act. For God and country we are in this meeting.  
25 May we discuss all matters with open arms. Amen.

3



1 DELEGATES: Amen.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: May we observe a  
3 moment of silence for our loved ones gone on to be with  
4 our Heavenly Father.

5 (Moment of silence.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I wrapped it. Sit  
7 down. Department Secretary Elizabeth will call the roll  
8 of Officers, Chairmen, and District Presidents.

9

10 ROLL CALL

11

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: There we go.  
13 President Dee Ann Graham.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I got my bikini on.  
15 I'm heading to the beach.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you. Vice  
17 President Gloria Williams.

18 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Good

19 morning.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

21 Secretary Doidge. I am here. I'm ready for a nap.

22 Treasurer Susie Tozier.

23 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: Can I have a nap

24 too?

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: NEC Joan Cannon.

4

↑

1 NEC WOMAN CANNON: Present.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: NEC Kathie

3 Martinez.

4 ALTERNATE NEC WOMAN MARTINEZ: Good morning.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

6 Chaplain Grace Huston.

7 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: Present.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Historian Jean

9 Cooley-Desmeules is excused. Parliamentarian Anita Biggs.

10 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Good morning,

11 Liz.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning,

13 Anita. Sergeant-at-Arms Karen Herrera.

14 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS HERRERA: Here.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Alternate

16 Sergeant-At-Arms Rochelle Billet-Smith.

17 ALTERNATE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS BILLET-SMITH:  
18 Present.  
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Finance Committee  
20 Linda Workman.  
21 FINANCE COMMITTEE WORKMAN: Here.  
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Katherine  
23 Tellyer.  
24 FINANCE COMMITTEE TELLYER: Here.  
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Advisory Committee

5



1 Susie Tozier.  
2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE TOZIER: I'm here still.  
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Loretta Marsh.  
4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MARSH: Here.  
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Joan Cannon.  
6 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CANNON: Present.  
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Department  
8 Chairmen. Americanism Maureen O'Brien-Sacco.  
9 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Good morning,  
10 Liz.  
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning,  
12 Maureen. Auxiliary Emergency Fund Valerie Hill. Children  
13 & Youth Tamra Duron.  
14 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: Good morning.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.  
16 Community Service Judie Tabacchi.  
17 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR TABACCHI: I'm here.  
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Constitution &  
19 Bylaws Gloria Williams.  
20 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIR WILLIAMS: Present.  
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention Chairman  
22 Genieca Risner.  
23 CONVENTION CHAIR RISNER: Here.  
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention  
25 Co-Chairman Gloria Sinopoli.

6

↑

1 CONVENTION CO-CHAIR SINOPOLI: Present.  
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention  
3 Commission Chairman Anita Biggs.  
4 CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIR BIGGS: Still here.  
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention  
6 Commission Two Year Linda Fercho.  
7 CONVENTION COMMISSION FERCHO: Here.  
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention  
9 Commission Gloria Sinopoli.  
10 CONVENTION COMMISSION SINOPOLI: Present.  
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Credentials Debra  
12 Hurado.

13 DEPARTMENT CREDENTIALS CHAIR HURADO: Present.  
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Distinguished Guest  
15 Chairman Linda Fercho.  
16 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN FERCHO: I'm here  
17 with my great girls. We're ready to do our duties,  
18 whatever they are.  
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Editor Nancy  
20 Heinisch.  
21 EDITOR HEINISCH: Here.  
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Education Chairman  
23 Robin Falkenberg.  
24 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Hi, Liz.  
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

7



1 Elections Kathy Newlen.  
2 DEPARTMENT ELECTIONS CHAIR NEWLEN: Present.  
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Girls State  
4 Chairman Allyn Kau. Girls State Advisor Nancy Brown-Park.  
5 Girls State Director Tammy Sollazzo. Girls State  
6 Assistant Director Sherry Core. Girls State Committee  
7 Three Year Member Jan Fletcher. Girls State Two Year  
8 Member Maggie Taylor.  
9 DELEGATE: They're all busy.  
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah. One Year

11 Member Caitlin Voss. Girls State Nurse Elizabeth Tomlin.

12 Girls State President Alternate Karen Herrera.

13 GIRLS STATE PRESIDENT ALTERNATE HERRERA: Here.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Girls State Vice  
15 President Alternate Kimberly MacKinney. And Girls State  
16 chief counselor Kimberly MacKinney. Junior Activities  
17 Chairman Ann Philcox.

18 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIR PHILCOX: I'm here with  
19 all the Junior Worker Bees.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Junior Conference  
21 Director Jackie Cleveland.

22 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR CLEVELAND: Good  
23 morning, Liz.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning. I  
25 just realized my kids are still sitting in the restaurant.

8

↑

1 Yeah, yeah, would somebody mind grabbing my kids out of  
2 the restaurant? Thank you, Zana. Zana is going to go.  
3 Thank you. They wanted breakfast. They were told to eat  
4 before.

5 Junior Conference Committee Two Year Bernice  
6 Brown. Junior Conference Committee One Year Valerie Hill.

7 JUNIOR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE HILL: Here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Junior Conference

9 Nurse Ann Sanchez.

10 JUNIOR CONFERENCE NURSE SANCHEZ: Here.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Leadership Tracy  
12 Varnell Fercho.

13 LEADERSHIP CHAIR VARNELL: Beach Balls are still  
14 bouncing.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Legislative  
16 Chairman Kathie Martinez.

17 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: Flexing our muscles  
18 on the beach.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Chairman  
20 Susan Baker.

21 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR BAKER: Heading straight for  
22 gold.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Support  
24 Area 1 Suzanne Winters.

25 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 1 WINTERS: Catching the

9



1 wave in Visalia.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Support  
3 Area 2 Teresa Canonizado.

4 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 2 CANONIZADO: Here by  
5 the Bay.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Area 3 Danielle

7 White.

8 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 3 WHITE: To goal to  
9 self.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Area 4 Alice  
11 Coleman. Area 5 Donna Mattox.

12 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 5 MATTOX: Good morning,  
13 Liz.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning. Area  
15 6 Linda Fercho.

16 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 6 FERCHO: Number one in  
17 Department.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And on that note,  
19 we only need 118 more to get National or Department goal,  
20 you guys. Let's do this.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Music Chairman  
23 Donna Smith is excused. National Security Chairman  
24 Roseann Vicky Bean.

25 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR BEAN: Security is here.

10

↑

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Past President  
2 Parley Loretta Marsh.

3 PPP CHAIR MARSH: Here.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Poppies Linda

5 Hayes.

6 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Good morning.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Public Relations

8 Patty Galatioto.

9 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: Present.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Resolutions Cece

11 Harvey.

12 RESOLUTIONS CHAIR HARVEY: Good morning, Liz.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

14 Rules Sharon Moore.

15 RULES CHAIR MOORE: Good morning, Liz.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

17 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Glenda Schultz.

18 VA&R CHAIR SCHULTZ: Here. I was just getting

19 membership news ready to pass forward.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Ways & Means Marion

21 Rocha-Carlos.

22 WAYS & MEANS CHAIR ROCHA-CARLOS: Present.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning. Ways

24 & Means Committee Terry Oclaray.

25 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE OCLARAY: Good morning.

11



1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Tami Wilkening.

2 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE WILKENING: Present.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Personal Page Zana  
4 Chaney. She's running my errand. Personal Page Brenda  
5 Preston.

6 PERSONAL PAGE PRESTON: Present.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Mid-Year Chairman  
8 Anita Biggs.

9 MID-YEAR CHAIR BIGGS: Went home.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Co-Chairman Sharon  
11 Moore.

12 MID-YEAR CO-CHAIR MOORE: Good morning again,  
13 Liz.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.  
15 Clovis Workshop Sandra Urban-Felix? Co-Chairman is Gloria  
16 Sinopoli.

17 CLOVIS WORKSHOP CO-CHAIR SINOPOLI: Present.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Northern California  
19 Workshop is Glenda Schultz.

20 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WORKSHOP CHAIR SCHULTZ:  
21 Still here.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Southern  
23 California Workshop was Donna Smith. Did I get that  
24 right?

25 District Presidents. District 1 Alana Nicklas.



1 District 2 Mary Sanders.

2 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT SANDERS: Here.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 3 Lola

4 Ramey.

5 DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT RAMEY: Here.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 4 Nancy

7 Brown.

8 DISTRICT 4: We're here and we're surfing to

9 serve our servicemen and women.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 5 Lynn

11 Jewell.

12 DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT JEWELL: We're here.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 6 Suzanne

14 Winters.

15 DISTRICT 6: (Singing.)

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 7 Melise

17 Munroe.

18 DISTRICT 7: Hang 10, Madam President, from

19 District 7.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 8 Teresa

21 Canonizado.

22 DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT CANONIZADO: District 8 Hang

23 5, Hawaii 5-0.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 9 Vicky

25 Bean.



1           DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT BEAN: Good morning, Madam  
2 President.

3           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. You guys got  
4 really loud. District 10 Susan Mar.

5           DISTRICT 10: Good morning, Madam President, from  
6 District 10.

7           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Good morning.

8           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 11 Marcia  
9 Munroe.

10          DISTRICT 11: Aloha from District 11.

11          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 12  
12 Elizabeth Estavillo.

13          DISTRICT 12: District 12 is here.

14          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 13 Cindy  
15 Newlen.

16          DISTRICT 13: Good morning, Madam President.  
17 Hang 10.

18          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 14 Debbie  
19 Hurado.

20          DISTRICT 14: Looking tan, turning heads, and  
21 making waves.

22          DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 15 Genieca  
23 Risner.

24 DISTRICT 15: Good morning, Dee Ann. We're all  
25 here for you.

14



1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 16 Terry  
2 Oclaray.

3 DISTRICT 16: The surfer girls have been surfing  
4 all year at Kahuna Beach waiting to catch the waves to  
5 convention. Here we are. Have a great convention, Madam  
6 President.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 17 Teresa  
8 Nunez.

9 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT NUNEZ: Here.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 18 Judy  
11 Tabacchi.

12 DISTRICT 18: Let's go surfing now. Everybody  
13 show you how. Come on and have a party with us.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 19 Linda  
15 Diebel.

16 DISTRICT 19: Surfing girls are here for you.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 20 Jackie  
18 Landan.

19 DISTRICT 20: Catching the wave. Riding along  
20 with our veterans.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 21 Ellen

22 Federowski.

23 DISTRICT 21: Cowabunga.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 22 Gigi

25 Manno.

15



1 DISTRICT 22: We are here to catch a wave and  
2 wishing you all a good morning.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 23 Ellah  
4 Wallace.

5 DISTRICT 23: Gentle wave, gentle wave, where can  
6 you be? The teaming 23rd District is where you will see  
7 how we can catch the wave.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 24 Martha  
9 Romano.

10 DISTRICT 24: Proud to be Auxiliary.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 25 Sandy  
12 Kurkoske.

13 DISTRICT 25: We are catching the surfboards and  
14 heading to the beach to see how many veterans are within  
15 our reach. And as we left them one by one, the strong,  
16 the proud, the brave, we knew it was our mission to help  
17 them catch the wave.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 26 Peggy  
19 Toye.

20 DISTRICT 26: Twenty-six is in the mix.  
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 27  
22 Danielle White.  
23 DISTRICT 27: Catching the wave.  
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 28  
25 Elizabeth Doidge.

16



1 DISTRICT 28: Whoo-whoo.  
2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Too many hats.  
3 District 29 Carol Borgman.  
4 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: We're here.  
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And District 30 we  
6 don't have any representation.  
7 Past Department Presidents. 1971-1972 Odette  
8 Cuccaro. She is excused. '89-'90 Beverly Sparks.  
9 '92-'93 Willy Burke. '95-'96 Judith Lloyd. '96-'97 Ruby  
10 Kapsalis. '98-'99 Linda Workman. '99-2000 Diane  
11 DeLashmit. 2001-2002 Madeline Lee. 2002-2003 Nancy  
12 Brown-Park. 2003-2004 Linda Caples. 2004-2005 Melanie  
13 Taylor. 2005-2006 Bonnie Christner. 2006-2007 Sandy  
14 Jacob. Is Sandy Jacobs here?  
15 NEC WOMAN MARTINEZ: Yes.  
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you.  
17 2007-2008 Shelby Hitch. 2008-2009 LuAnn Capazzi.

18 2010-2011 Pilar Reyes. 2011-2012 Linda Fercho. 2013-'14  
19 Anita Biggs. 2015-'16 Susie Tozier. 2016-'17 Wendy  
20 O'Brien. 2017-'18 Loretta Marsh. 2018-'19 Joan Cannon.  
21 2019-'21 Kathie Martinez.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Hospital reps and  
24 depts. Fresno Representative Cynthia Oliphant. Fresno  
25 Deputy Barbara Novack. Fresno Deputy Sandra Dowell.

17

↑

1 Loma Linda Representative Sandra Kurkoske.

2 HOSPITAL REP KURKOSKE: Present.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Loma Linda Deputy  
4 Leslie Vondra. Long Beach Representative Pat Alvarez.

5 Long Beach Deputy Becky Bullard. Long Beach Deputy

6 Cynthia Mayfield. Long Beach Deputy Debbie Butler.

7 Villages of Cabrillo CBOC Deputy Jean

8 Cooley-Desmeules. Los Angeles Representative Ellah

9 Wallace. Los Angeles Deputy Vi Walquist. LA VA Op Clinic

10 Patricia Jackson-Kelley. West Los Angeles Ambulatory --

11 these names are getting too long. West Los Angeles

12 Ambulatory Care Center Deputy Diana Williams. Downtown

13 East LA OPC Deputy Pam Hicks. Downtown East LA Mary OPC

14 Deputy Mary Chaba.

15 San Luis Obispo Susie Johanson. Bakersfield OPC

16 Deputy Barbara Goodlow. Santa Maria Community Based OPC  
17 Deputy Dorothy Davis. Sierra Nevada Deputy Bonnie  
18 Chavoya. Northern California Mavis Representative Suzanne  
19 Winters.

20 HOSPITAL REP WINTERS: On the beach in Visalia.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good luck. Redding  
22 OPC Deputy Barbara Dailey. Redding -- or Fairfield OPC  
23 Deputy Kelli Germeraad. Palo Alto Representative Connie  
24 Raya. Palo Alto Deputy Arlene Muller. Menlo Park Deputy  
25 Joyce Henderson-McLeod.

18



1 HOSPITAL DEP HENDERSON-McLEOD: Here.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Livermore  
3 Representative Grace Huston. San Diego Representative  
4 Susie Tozier.

5 HOSPITAL REP TOZIER: I'm still here.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: San Diego Dep Irma  
7 Manthai. San Diego Deputy Donna Smith. WAVE Clinic/Poppy  
8 Production Manager Lois Cornish. And San Francisco Fort  
9 Miley Representative Laurie Sullivan. Barstow Veterans  
10 Home Representative Angie Acosta. Barstow Veterans Home  
11 Deputy Judy Samples.

12 VETERAN HOME DEP SAMPLES: Good morning.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

14 Fresno Veterans Home Rep Gloria Sinopoli. Lancaster  
15 Representative Linda Hayes. Ventura Rep Madeline Lee.  
16 West LA Rep Deloris Artis. And West LA Deputy Marisa  
17 Naylor-Jones.

18 Do you want me to call -- we don't have  
19 any Juniors. No. I'm done with that part. Do you want  
20 me to stay here for anything?

21 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: Madam  
22 President, I've been going on for 22 years. You forgot  
23 me.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I had you as Poppy  
25 Production Manager so I didn't call you. I'll put you

19

↑

1 down though. Is that a veterans home?

2 VETERANS HOME REP CORNISH: It's a 400-bed  
3 facility.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I will add it to my  
5 list and make sure you're on there for next time, Lois.  
6 I'm sorry.

7 VETERANS HOME REP CORNISH: Thank you much.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Rules Chairman  
9 Sharon Moore will now read convention rules.

10

11 READING OF CONVENTION RULES

12

13

DEPARTMENT RULES CHAIR MOORE: Good morning,

14

Madam President and guests. At this time I will present

15

the convention rules. Your convention rules can be found

16

on pages 14 through 16 of the Book of Reports. I will

17

hesitate after each rule, and if there's a question or an

18

amendment, it may be presented at that time.

19

Number 1: All meetings of the Convention shall

20

be called to order at the designated time or as soon

21

thereafter as a quorum is present.

22

Number 2: A quorum shall exist when one-third of

23

the units in good standing are partially or wholly

24

represented by duly elected delegates and alternates. And

25

that's under Article IV, Section 3, Department

20



1

Constitution.

2

Number 3: The audience shall remain seated

3

during the business of the Convention. The Department

4

President shall designate certain doors to accommodate the

5

delegates who find it is necessary to enter or leave the

6

convention hall during reports of the committee or when a

7

speaker has the floor. Cell phones must be turned off or

8

in vibrate mode. And an addendum, or you'll be charged

9

\$5.

10                   Number 4: The Chairman may deviate from the  
11 printed program when necessary or expedient.

12                   Number 5: The Credentials Chairman shall report  
13 registration as directed by the Chair.

14                   Number 6: The registration of delegates and  
15 alternates shall close at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, June 25th,  
16 2022.

17                   Number 7: Only qualified delegates shall have a  
18 voce -- a voice and vote.

19                   Number 8: It shall be the responsibility of each  
20 District President to see that only accredited delegates  
21 and alternates serving as delegates are seated in her  
22 district delegation during the business meetings of the  
23 Convention.

24                   Number 9: If a delegate expects to be absent  
25 from the Convention, except for purpose of attending a



1 committee meeting, she shall relinquish her delegate's  
2 card to her alternate. The alternate shall then take her  
3 seat in the voting section in the event the delegate does  
4 not have the opportunity of reporting to the District  
5 President the absence of the delegate and the presence of  
6 the alternate or the absence of both the delegate and  
7 alternate.

8                   Number 10: A delegate voting the privilege of  
9 the floor shall rise, address the Chair as Madame  
10 President, give her name, unit, district numbers, pause,  
11 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

12                   Number 11: A member speaking in debate on a  
13 question shall be limited to three minutes. No one shall  
14 speak more than twice on the same question without consent  
15 of the assembly.

16                   Number 12: Delegates attending called committee  
17 meetings shall be notified when the Convention is  
18 considering and voting upon adoption of any change in  
19 policy or matters affecting finance.

20                   Number 13: Reports of committees which do not  
21 appear to be controversial in nature may be adopted by  
22 general consent if there is no objection. If there is  
23 objection, a vote shall be taken. Following the  
24 acceptance of a report of a committee, recommendation or  
25 resolution may be presented for consideration and

22



1 adoption.

2                   Number 14: Any committee whose proposed changes  
3 in the policy might conflict with that of the American  
4 Legion shall confer with the American Legion before  
5 presenting said change to the Convention.

6                   Fifteen: A committee recommending an  
7 appropriation of funds for any purpose shall consult with  
8 the Department Finance Committee before presenting the  
9 recommendation or resolution to the Convention.

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

12                   Number 17: Committees may amend resolutions and  
13 recommendation referring to them before favorable  
14 reporting the same. Resolutions or recommendation  
15 rejected by a committee shall be marked rejected, signed  
16 by the chairman of the committee, and returned to the  
17 department resolution chairman immediately following the  
18 committee meeting.

19                   Number 18: A unit, district, or member  
20 presenting a resolution or recommendation shall have the  
21 privilege of explaining the same to the committee to which  
22 it was referred.

23                   Number 19: Committee shall report to the  
24 Convention all resolutions properly submitted and accepted  
25 by a majority of the Convention committee.

23



1                   Number 20: A resolution rejected by a committee  
2 may be brought before the Convention by a two-thirds vote.

3                   Number 21: Emergency resolution which may arise

4 during the Convention or after the date for submitting  
5 resolution may be presented no later than noon of the  
6 second day of the Convention. And this is Article IV,  
7 Section 4b, Department Standing Rules.

8           Number 22: Nomination of Officers, Junior Member  
9 of Finance, Department Delegates and Alternates to the  
10 National Convention shall be held Friday afternoon, June  
11 24th, 2022.

12           Number 23: Endorsement of candidates for  
13 National Office shall follow the nomination.

14           Number 24: Nomination speeches shall be limited  
15 to three minutes. There shall be no second -- seconding  
16 speeches.

17           Number 25: Election of Department Officers,  
18 Junior Member of Finance, National Candidate, Department  
19 Delegates, and Alternates to the National Convention shall  
20 be held on Saturday morning, June 25th, 2022.

21           Number 26: The doors of the Convention hall  
22 shall be closed during the entire election procedure and  
23 no one shall leave or enter the hall until the Chair  
24 states that election is concluded. The exception to this  
25 shall be in an emergency, a member may leave, and if her



1 absence affects the voting strength, the district

2 president shall immediately notify the presiding officer.

3           Number 27: When there is but one nominee for all  
4 department officers and but one nominee for Junior Member  
5 of Finance, the nominees shall be elected viva-voce. And  
6 that's from Article V, Section 3, Department Constitution.  
7 Upon roll call, the District President shall report the  
8 number of units partially or wholly represented by duly  
9 elected delegates or alternates present in the delegation  
10 at the time of roll call. This is to determine that there  
11 is a quorum of units present at the time of the election.

12           Number 28: When there is more than one nominee  
13 for the Department Officer, Junior Member of Finance, or  
14 endorsement for National Office, election shall be by  
15 written ballot. The District President shall, when they  
16 are instructed by the Chair, take a roll call of their  
17 respective delegations to ascertain the total voting  
18 strength of their district for the election reporting the  
19 same to Chair.

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



1 ballot.

2           Should have brought some water up here. Almost  
3 done. Number 30: All members seeking National Office  
4 shall be endorsed at a Department Convention by a majority  
5 vote more than three years prior to the date they are to  
6 be a candidate for office. Vote shall be by viva-voce  
7 unless there is more than one candidate, then a majority  
8 vote shall be by ballot. And that's Department Convention  
9 Committee 2J Department Standing Rules.

10           Number 31 --

11           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: The floor  
12 recognizes Anita.

13           DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Madam  
14 President, Madam Rules Chairman, I think you stated -- my  
15 bad. I act like I'm just somewhere talking to Sharon, my  
16 roommate.

17           Madam Chairman, 30, I think you -- I didn't hear  
18 you say "not more than three years." You said "more than  
19 three." Because the word is written wrong. It says  
20 "note." It should state "not."

21           DEPARTMENT RULES CHAIR MOORE: Oh, I'm sorry I  
22 missed that. Let the record reflect it should say "not  
23 more than three years." And that's just a housekeeping  
24 issue.

25

Okay. We'll go to number 31. Each District

26



1 President and district member of elections committee shall  
2 distribute and collect the votes cast by the district  
3 delegation and deliver them to the department chairman of  
4 elections.

5 Number 32: Department Officers, Chairmen,  
6 Committee Members, and Past Department Presidents shall  
7 vote with their representative district.

8 Number 33: Each delegate shall be entitled to  
9 one vote, the vote of an absent unit is not represented by  
10 the alternate shall be casted by the majority of the  
11 delegates from the unit. When two delegates represented  
12 three votes, the chairman of the unit delegation shall  
13 cast the third vote.

14 Number 34: A majority of the votes cast shall  
15 elect, except that in the election of national delegates  
16 and alternates, a plurality shall elect.

17 Number 35: These Convention rules may be amended  
18 during this Convention by two-thirds vote.

19 Number 36: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly  
20 Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all  
21 points not covered by these rules, the Department  
22 Constitution and Bylaws and the Convention Mandates.

23                   This concludes the reading of the Convention  
24 rules. I move that the Convention rules be considered as  
25 read and be adopted as a whole.

27



1                   NEC WOMAN MARTINEZ: Second.

2                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: It has been moved  
3 and seconded to accept the 2022 Convention rules in  
4 seriatim. Any discussion?

5                   (No response.)

6                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
7 in favor say aye.

8                   ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

9                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Those opposed say  
10 no.

11                   (No response.)

12                   DEPARTMENT RULES CHAIR MOORE: Madam Dee Ann,  
13 Madam President Dee Ann, rule number 3 indicates it is  
14 your responsibility to designate concern doors to  
15 accommodate delegates entering or leaving the convention.

16                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I'm sorry. I  
17 didn't say motion carried.

18                   DEPARTMENT RULES CHAIR MOORE: Did you designate  
19 the doors?

20                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: At this time I

21 will. Please use this center door over here. There's  
22 restrooms to the end of the hall here and restrooms all  
23 the way to the other side, so these are closer.

24 DEPARTMENT RULES CHAIR MOORE: Madam President  
25 Dee Ann, thank you for this opportunity and for the

28

↑

1 opportunity to serve you and the Department of California.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Sharon.  
3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Debbie Hurado, do  
5 you want to do your Convention report?

6

7 CREDENTIALS CONVENTION REPORT

8

9 CREDENTIALS CHAIR HURADO: Good morning, Madam  
10 President. As of 6:00 p.m. on June 23rd, 2022 there are  
11 104 units registered for this convention and you do have a  
12 quorum.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Gloria, will you  
15 assume my chair?

16

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT

18

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Wow. That's all I  
20 can say. What a year for all of us. Changes throughout  
21 the Department and we've found new ways and unique ways to  
22 promote our programs and our organization. Our website  
23 gave us up-to-date membership reports, bulletins, events,  
24 and more while the HUB highlighted districts, units, and  
25 members in keeping us in the know and in touch with each

29

↑

1 other.

2 This President could not have asked for a more  
3 dedicated department. Our officers, chairman, and members  
4 still serving our mission, honoring our vets, military and  
5 their children. We continue to brand our name in our  
6 communities letting them know who are and what we do.

7 This President is really ecstatic. Our  
8 membership, the last time I read it, was 99.34 percent.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: My special project  
11 has a grand total of a little over 15,000. So thank you  
12 so, so much from my heart. Of course my husband isn't  
13 here to hear this, but I want to thank my Big Gopher David  
14 and Little Gopher Junior for getting me to my destinations  
15 and reporting me to my wonderful once-in-a-lifetime  
16 journey.

17                   Our organization will continue to evolve.  
18 Remember to embrace new ways with enthusiasm and  
19 appreciate each member of our organization. Remember why  
20 we joined. We are all volunteers.

21                   Now I need to hurry. I'm going out. Please  
22 catch the wave with me. Thank you.

23                   (Applause.)

24                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I want to remind  
25 the Department Officers -- I have a love note. Love

30



1 letters in the sand or one of those two.

2                   Okay. I was just reminded that if you are going  
3 to speak on an issue, step out in the aisle and a Page,  
4 one of our little Junior ladies, will bring you a floor  
5 mic.

6                   We will have the reports of the Department  
7 Officers. Will all the officers get ready on the stage to  
8 please come up quietly and give your reports. Just a  
9 reminder to Department Officers and Chairman, all reports  
10 excluding Americanism, Education, Membership, Children &  
11 Youth, Poppy, Resolutions, Veterans Affair &  
12 Rehabilitation, per the department policy code are limited  
13 to five minutes. This includes your committee reports,  
14 supplementals, and first place awards.

15 We're going to hear from Gloria now.

16

17 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT

18

19 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Madam

20 President, being on the beach and catching waves has been  
21 an eye-opening experience. Moana is more patient and  
22 understanding than Salty Sister would have ever been. Our  
23 working together has developed a friendship which I will  
24 always cherish.

25 It was an honor to present last -- it was an

31

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1 honor to be present last November for your official visit  
2 at my District 23. Even though it was my birthday, I was  
3 honored to present to you and welcome you.

4 January we were ready for DEC boardwalk. As  
5 usual, representatives, deputies meeting was informing and  
6 conversing with our special guest, National Western Vice  
7 President, and most enjoyable. Madam Surfing Queen, your  
8 banquet was a beach hit with us all.

9 After Mid-Year I began to read the guidelines and  
10 duties of Vice President for the department. Thank you,  
11 Anita, in making sure I was well-informed. I was invited  
12 and attended the 24th District installation at Post 46 and

13 I was graciously welcomed where I brought greetings on  
14 behalf of Department.

15 January was a busy month. Along with Madam  
16 President and others, including my granddaughter Kailie  
17 and I were in attendance at the National Workshop in Las  
18 Vegas. I attended the celebration of life service of  
19 Yoko, wife of Past Commander Hugh Crooks and loyal member  
20 in this department and District 17 and cherished friend of  
21 mine.

22 In April I put up beach gear and flew into Indy,  
23 Indiana. I attended a three-day National workshop for  
24 Department Vice President and membership chairs. I  
25 received a great deal of information about the National

32



1 programs and how to govern effectively. I attended the  
2 reception for the incoming president Lisa Williamson and  
3 Trish Ward, candidate for vice president. We were  
4 provided a light breakfast and dinner each day. Most  
5 importantly was the personal dialogue we developed.

6 These last couple months have been extremely  
7 busy, but I could not have gotten through it and to this  
8 stage without my advisors and you. This concludes my  
9 report. Much love and respect, Moana.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Will Vice President  
12 assume the chair while I send greetings to the Legion?

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: We will now  
14 proceed with the reports of the Department Chairmen and  
15 officers. We'll now hear a report from National Executive  
16 Committeewoman Joan Cannon.

17

18 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT

19

20 NEC WOMAN CANNON: As in the last several years,  
21 communication between the National Legion Auxiliary  
22 leadership and ALA departments continues with weekly  
23 briefings mailed to departments. This information is  
24 shared with our department leadership to allow information  
25 to reach our unit members. In the last half of the year I

33



1 attended two National Executive Committee NEC events.

2 On January 31st, 2022 NEC leadership held a Zoom  
3 webinar on the topic of dues increase. Dues increase  
4 narrative proposal for FY24 through FY30 was sent to  
5 NEC/Alternate NEC plus National and Department leaders.  
6 First line of the proposal, "It is a widely known fact  
7 that all ALA membership peaked in 1995 at 982,000 members  
8 and has been on the decline for the last 25 years."

9                   The proposed dues structure \$6 increase -- the  
10                   proposed dues structure \$6 increase in National dues.  
11                   Current dues is \$12, would be 18 in FY24 membership year  
12                   with an increase of \$1 in FY26 \$19, FY28 \$20, and FY30  
13                   \$21. National Junior dues remain \$2.50 until FY26 with an  
14                   additional 50 cents increase in FY26 \$3, FY28 3.50, and  
15                   FY30 \$4.

16                   The 2022 Mid-Year NEC virtual meeting was held on  
17                   March 5th, 2022. The consent agenda items: charter  
18                   cancellations, National President's appointments,  
19                   financial policies, contract approval and signature  
20                   authority policy, prepaid expense policy, reserve fund  
21                   policy, solicitation and acceptance of donations, grants,  
22                   or gift policy. Documentation for all items was sent in  
23                   advance for review before virtual meeting.

24                   Other items on the agenda: external auditor's  
25                   letter to governance, ALA and ALAF, FY21 consolidated

34



1                   audited financial report, ALA quarterly budget report,  
2                   dues increase documents, National Security and National  
3                   Treasurer report, ALA foundation reports, Parliamentary  
4                   sheet and constitutional authority statement. I am sure  
5                   you don't want me to go over the 75 pages that I read.

6                   The NEC accepted the external auditor's report as

7 presented. The NEC consented to be listed as co-sponsor  
8 with the National Finance Committee on the dues increase  
9 proposal which will be presented and debated at 2022  
10 National Convention. The actual acceptance of the dues  
11 increase is voted on by the delegates at National  
12 Convention. The delegates can vote to accept the proposal  
13 to amend Standing Rules X11 Dues and Assessments as  
14 written or vote no change or amend the amounts and years  
15 increase.

16 NEC also voted to approve changes to the contract  
17 and signature authority policy. The National Secretary  
18 and Executive Director are now allowed to enter multiyear  
19 agreements if the results of cost saving, within approved  
20 budget and amount is no greater than \$150,000, changed  
21 wording for ALA Girls Nation pin/charms to General Program  
22 Expenses, approved a title change of the solicitation and  
23 acceptance of donations, gifts, or grants policy to  
24 solicitation and acceptance of funds policy to include  
25 sponsorship as solicited and accepted defined policy fund

35



1 and add specifications of acceptable sponsorships, lastly  
2 approved reviewed reserve policy without changes.

3 It has been -- it has been enjoyable to me to  
4 have the last two meetings virtual with an added benefit

5 of saving monies on travel, food, and hotel costs for a  
6 one-day NEC at ALA National headquarters. Our ALA  
7 National leaderships has been hosting many more meetings  
8 virtual to save the cost to support the reduced revenue.  
9 I look forward to serving my last year of NEC for the  
10 Department of California 2022-2023.

11 Madam President, this concludes my report.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: All right.  
14 There's a comment.

15 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: We don't have  
16 much stage back here.

17 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: I have a comment  
18 about the proposed way they're going to do the dues  
19 increases. The last time it was brought up, the  
20 delegation did not want them to do a dollar more, one  
21 dollar every year. My whole thing is they should have  
22 their rates figured out, calculated with those dues  
23 increase what those monies they need over the few years.  
24 Because how can the Auxiliary plan their budgets and keep  
25 their members within financial every year they're going to

36



1 up it.

2 If you have your dues in your Standing Rules,

3 it's no big deal. If you have them in your constitution  
4 and bylaws, you're going to need to amend your  
5 constitution and bylaws every year. So, I mean, you can  
6 move your dues. It says see standing rules in your  
7 constitution and bylaws, but how can you plan this. You  
8 know, your members are on limited income and stuff. So I  
9 don't like it. Susie Tozier, District 22. Sorry about  
10 that. Unit 255.

11 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
12 Susie. Can you hear me? No one can hear me. Now you can  
13 hear me?

14 Okay. We will go on with our reports and ask for  
15 the Secretary, Elizabeth Doidge.

16

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY'S CONVENTION REPORT

18

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Welcome everyone to  
20 our 102nd Convention. For some of you this is your first  
21 convention and for others it might feel like your  
22 hundredth. Thank you for -- yeah, thank you for -- I  
23 can't even read my own writing. Thank you each and every  
24 one of you for being here today. It is wonderful to see  
25 so many of you in person especially after the last year



1 when we couldn't meet like we normally do and a year of no  
2 meetings.

3 Our organization has faced a lot of adversity in  
4 the past couple of years, but we've also proven our  
5 resilience and shown we can continue to accomplish great  
6 things despite the circumstances. I'm especially proud of  
7 everyone's ability to adapt to the situation and it's  
8 exciting to see how we've been able to digitize so many of  
9 the department records in order to make it easier for  
10 members to get what they need online.

11 We've rolled out a new website, and in the coming  
12 year I'm hoping to do more to reduce paperwork and make it  
13 easier on all the -- easier to do things on the website.  
14 We will try to save you all some money on stamps and  
15 filling things -- by filling things electronically. And  
16 filling things electronically should speed things up so  
17 we're not all waiting on the post office. We do a lot of  
18 that and it's frustrating.

19 We're planning on implementing a portal system  
20 this coming year to help better notify the units and  
21 districts of what is due and when and to share department  
22 information with more people. The goal is to have the  
23 portal replace the monthly mailings so that they'll be  
24 going -- so they'll be going out to anyone and everyone  
25 that I have an email for or that I can get my hands on.



1           Please continue to submit your forms before the  
2           deadline. That was a big issue this year was getting  
3           things late. I received unit data forms two weeks ago.  
4           They're due March 31st. I have to give that information  
5           to National so they can print cards in April. If I don't  
6           have your information, it's wrong with National. I have  
7           data forms that we still have not received. Delegate  
8           forms I received Tuesday. Poppy financials I received  
9           Tuesday. How do we have proper information for Convention  
10          for your delegates for sitting here if I don't have that  
11          information on time. When documents come in late or all  
12          at once, it's very difficult to keep up.

13                 If you're calling the department office and you  
14                 go to voicemail, please leave a message. If you see me  
15                 running around in the past few days, you can see a small  
16                 glimpse of how many things I juggle in the department  
17                 office. Oftentimes if your phone call goes to voicemail,  
18                 I'm helping someone else or I'm trying to grab a quick  
19                 bite of food during the break. If you leave a message  
20                 letting me know what you need, I can get back to you often  
21                 with the answer you need.

22                 Please let your unit members know that they can  
23                 always email the department office. I can usually get

24 through four to five emails in the same amount of time as  
25 I can one phone call.

39



1 In summary, thank you for being here. Reach out  
2 if you need anything. Get in line, but not all at once.  
3 Let's have a great convention and have a great year ahead  
4 of us.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
7 Liz.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you.

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Next we're  
10 going to -- are you ready, our Treasurer?

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: We have like two  
12 feet behind us behind the chairs.

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: And it's a  
14 long drop. And it's a two-foot drop off the stage.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So I hope nobody  
16 falls and gets hurt.

17

18 DEPARTMENT TREASURER CONVENTION REPORT

19

20 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: Being the Treasurer  
21 for this great organization has been a wonderful

22 experience with lots of challenges. Since I was not  
23 familiar with QuickBooks, I enrolled in a class two nights  
24 a week for six weeks to learn the software. It was a  
25 great class that gave me the skills to do the job. With

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1 the help of Kathy Tellyer, Junior Member of Finance, I can  
2 see the light of day.

3 Lots of changes are happening. With the help of  
4 Liz Doidge, we have worked to streamline expenses to save  
5 money. Since 2018 we have been renting a copier for about  
6 \$1100 a month. There was no lease. With the hard work of  
7 the Department Secretary, getting the new copier for just  
8 about \$200 per month with a lease.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: She has streamlined  
11 the cost of the phone and the Internet. Next year we will  
12 save money on postage with electronic bulletins. I  
13 attended Zoom meetings with the Finance Committee  
14 interviewing the new auditors. We also did the budget  
15 with Zoom, and that was great because no matter where we  
16 were, we could meet.

17 Madam President Dee Ann Graham asked me to put  
18 together an audit team to review two units' books. Thanks  
19 to Tamra Duron, District 25, she gathered members from her

20 District to assist. Thank you, ladies, very much. It was  
21 very eye opening.

22 This year ended with a big bang. The laptop  
23 died. With one week to go, off to the store for a new  
24 laptop. Missing some files from the download, I moved on.  
25 I have to go back and get those files.

41



1 There is a list of those that are getting mileage  
2 over on the table. If your name is not on that list, fill  
3 out the form and I'll have a check for you on Sunday.

4 Thank you, Madam President, for this challenging  
5 year.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
8 Susie.

9 Grace, our chaplain.

10

11 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN CONVENTION REPORT

12

13 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: It's my first year  
14 sitting up here, and when you're getting cramps, it's much  
15 easier to get a cramp back there when nobody is seeing  
16 you.

17 The convention committee on Chaplains met at

18 10:00 o'clock Thursday --

19 DELEGATE: You have to speak up.

20 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: So we've got some  
21 short people.

22 Okay. The convention committee on Chaplains met  
23 at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 23rd in the Redwood Room  
24 of the Wyndham Hotel, Visalia. The statistical report is  
25 on page 18. And I want to tell you that there's an error

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↑

1 there and it's my fault. It's my fault. Where it says  
2 how many units rate their charter, it should say 18 and it  
3 only says eight.

4 So our Soul Surfers, chaplains, are a dedicated  
5 and a supporting group. Some have served as chaplains for  
6 many consecutive years, some are brand-new, and some say  
7 they are what is referred to as Recycled Chaplains.

8 It's just been in the last few months that many  
9 units and districts have closed their Zoom accounts and  
10 started meeting in person, but for the last year in small  
11 groups carefully spaced and masked, our mighty chaplains  
12 have attended and offered prayers at memorial services,  
13 draped charters, helped make funeral arrangements and  
14 attend 4th of July and 9/11 memorials, Veterans' Day  
15 observations and Stand Downs.

16                   They have participated in and attended four  
17 chaplains memorials. And I would just like to say if you  
18 have never been to one, please go to one. They are  
19 beautiful. We attended one here earlier this year.  
20 Beautiful.

21                   We have districts that have participated with  
22 food banks, Operation Snowflake to assist military  
23 families at Christmastime, and they have almost single  
24 handedly kept the U.S. Post Office working with cards and  
25 more cards, over thousands and thousands from districts.

43



1                   But in the past two years with little and in some cases no  
2 social outlet, how precious a card from a chaplain that  
3 says thinking of you.

4                   We did not have any changes at our meeting. We  
5 did have a lot of lively discussion about the delay that  
6 it seems -- like I mentioned yesterday, if you didn't see  
7 somebody on your program, keep in mind if they don't get  
8 them to National, we don't get them in the report. I  
9 don't think somebody on the list just because somebody  
10 told me they died, I believe you, but it's got to match  
11 up.

12                   Madam President, may I present my first place  
13 supplemental district and my first place supplemental unit

14 awards?

15 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Yes, you  
16 may.

17 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: And they're both  
18 from the same district. Did you get the message, Madeline  
19 and Isabel? You see, this is the first time I've done it.

20 The First Place District Award for supplemental  
21 goes to Madeline Lee.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: Thank you. And the  
24 First Place Unit goes to Patricia Isbell.

25 (Applause.)

44

↑

1 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: Oh, okay. Thank  
2 you, Marion. All right. So the name of the unit is  
3 William Bill Proud Unit 211, District 16.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN HUSTON: Lovely. Thank you,  
6 Marion.

7 Madam President Dee Ann, it has been a pleasure  
8 serving you the past year. Thank you.

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Our  
10 Parliamentarian is always ready to give her report.

11

12 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN'S CONVENTION REPORT

13

14 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Little people.

15 Tall people have to hold a microphone.

16 Good morning. Good morning, Madam President.

17 While I would love to report that since our Mid-Year DEC  
18 all the units are operating with the ALA mission in mind  
19 with service to active duty military, veterans, and their  
20 families being the forefront of their activities,  
21 unfortunately we still have a few units that need  
22 leadership assistance.

23 Most units are operating as they should,  
24 upholding the ALA mission, following their bylaws and  
25 standing rules and when in doubt, adhering to Robert's

45



1 Rules of Order. Units can govern themselves, handle their  
2 own business, and discipline members if they break the  
3 rules. Pages 22 and 23 of the Department Standing Rules  
4 state, "The unit has the responsibility for the discipline  
5 of its members. Members have the right to appeal to the  
6 Department Executive Committee. Upon review of the  
7 appeal, the DEC action is final. There is no appeal to  
8 the National organization."

9 Now here is the clincher that many unit members

10 do not understand. "A Department may discipline a unit  
11 for failure to discipline a member." Get that? The  
12 Department can do that --

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: -- if the unit  
15 doesn't take the action they need. So let that sink in.  
16 Bad behavior, disrespect, incivility, bullying, lack of  
17 protocol is just a few of the instances that are being  
18 reported. If the unit allows or cannot control these  
19 misdirected members, the Department may need to step in.

20 The District President is available to offer  
21 guidance and assistance with these situations, however, if  
22 the unit is unable to handle the situation, the Department  
23 President must be notified. Okay? You may also contact  
24 your unit, district, or Department Parliamentarian for  
25 assistance. We are not a social club. I know we act like

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1 it is, but we have business to take care of. We have  
2 parliamentary procedures, rules, and guidelines to follow.

3 One good way to be consistent with disciplinary  
4 steps is to have them listed in detail in your Standing  
5 Rules. Unit members are less inclined to break rules if  
6 they know and have voted on the consequences. I'm a firm  
7 believer that and if our unit has adopted that, we don't

8 have problems. We'll put you out. Out the room, calm  
9 down, and then you can come back in.

10 It is my recommendation that all units in this  
11 department prepare Standing Rules to accompany your  
12 bylaws. You may tailor your rules to fit your unit  
13 whether it is large or small. Rules are necessary. The  
14 Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman is available for  
15 your assistance.

16 Let us remember the active duty military,  
17 veterans, and their families are our mission. Remember  
18 service, not self? Anybody remember that motto? That is  
19 our motto. Hopefully there will be more training at our  
20 upcoming program and leadership workshops. I've heard  
21 from our leading candidate that we will be having these  
22 type of workshops and training.

23 And let me leave you with this. As Maya Angelou  
24 said, "Do the best you can until you know better. Then  
25 when you know better, do better." We can do this; right?

47



1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: I want the  
3 record to note that even though she is not here, I want to  
4 thank Madam President Dee Ann for her kindness, her  
5 patience, and her steady hand. And as she always says,

6 "That's my story and I'm sticking to it." This concludes  
7 my report. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: I know our  
10 Historian is absent. Other people are doing it.

11 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: I'm right here.

12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Take your  
13 time.

14

15 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN CONVENTION REPORT

16

17 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: Jean Cooley is  
18 sorry she could not be here. She was so looking forward  
19 to it, but with her husband being in the hospital she felt  
20 that that's where she needed to be. So she does apologize  
21 and she wishes you all a wonderful, wonderful convention.  
22 I was honored for her to ask me to step in for her, so we  
23 shall now begin.

24 The convention committee on Historian met on June  
25 23rd in the Plaza Room at the Wyndham Hotel at 11:05 a.m.

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1 There was no statistical report for this chairman. Since  
2 the chairman, Jean Cooley-Desmeules, could not attend the  
3 convention, she asked me to conduct the meeting and to

4 present her report on the floor today.

5           The following amendments were made at this  
6 meeting. Secretary was Danna Hamling from District 29.  
7 And please excuse me if I mispronounce your name. I am  
8 not good with names. Chaplain was Estella Torres-Sequist  
9 from District 18, and the Sergeant-At-Arms was Marion  
10 Rocha-Carlos from District 16.

11           The meeting was called to order by our Chaplain  
12 Estell and Sergeant-at-Arms Marion lead us in the Pledge  
13 of Allegiance to our flag. The secretary called roll and  
14 there were 16 members and two guests present.

15           The Department code for the Historian was read  
16 and the committee agreed that there were no changes  
17 needed. The meeting was then opened for questions. And I  
18 have to say there was some very interesting questions  
19 asked regarding the rules and when does the fiscal year  
20 start and when does the fiscal year end and when do we  
21 close our history book. All those questions were answered  
22 and I hope the 16 members and two guests that were there  
23 will take that information back to their units.

24           Madam President, may I continue with my floor  
25 presentation?

49



1           DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Yes, you

2 may.

3 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: Thank you. Our  
4 year started out with the installation of Officers,  
5 Chairmen, Districts 1 and 2 -- excuse me. District First  
6 and Second Vice Presidents with a mixture of virtual and  
7 in-person. But as the new -- as the year progressed and  
8 the health requirements were lifted, we were able to start  
9 meeting more in person. Our districts and units did not  
10 let this stop them from completing their goals of serving  
11 our veterans and their communities. Throughout the year  
12 each unit was Catching the Wave to continue to serve and  
13 making an impact while doing so.

14 They opened up their posts to be able to serve  
15 breakfast, lunch, and dinners. They were able to start to  
16 collect their items for baby showers, packages for active  
17 troops overseas, and Education for Military Bases.

18 All districts and units reported that the theme  
19 this year was a fun and enjoyable one that helped to spark  
20 up the events. With the surf boards, starfish, seashells  
21 and netting, it was a breath of fresh air to the past few  
22 years of not being able to do anything.

23 Some of the events that were accomplished were  
24 throughout the past year units attended Stand Downs giving  
25 out socks, gloves, hats, scarves for both men and women.



1 They also gave tumblers, sneakers, toiletries and masks to  
2 keep each one safe, sent out and welcomed back three Honor  
3 Flights which included 50 to 75 veterans each trip, took  
4 part in the Wreaths Across America which they placed on  
5 veterans' graves.

6 On Veterans' Day they served breakfast, took part  
7 in parades, and then served lunch for all the veterans  
8 that attended. On Memorial Day flags were placed on each  
9 veterans' grave site and then after dusk removed the flags  
10 according to instructions of the cemeteries, took part in  
11 drive-by veteran birthdays who were all over a hundred  
12 years of age, this way keeping the veterans healthy and  
13 safe.

14 Many units and districts supported the National  
15 Sons of American Legion Commander Michael Fox's special  
16 project. His goal was to place one million American flags  
17 at veterans' graves. With the help of many this goal was  
18 met and surpassed. It was reported that the units placed  
19 over 1200 flags to support this project. Congratulations  
20 to the Auxiliary members who took part of the most  
21 worthwhile project in showing that we are truly a family  
22 that works together.

23 Even though most VA facilities were closed to  
24 outside visitors, some units still delivered much needed

25 support to our hospitalized veterans. Unit 496 in the

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1 19th District made donations to the PIER, Fisher House,  
2 and VA. Monthly donations were given to PIER to help any  
3 homeless veteran or veteran that qualified for PIER who  
4 needed water, snacks, jackets and personal supplies. They  
5 also made regular donations to the Fisher House at the  
6 Long Beach VA Hospital. Even if there were no residents  
7 they still needed supplies.

8 In fact while during the COVID lockdown, several  
9 of the VA doctors stayed at Fisher House when there were  
10 no other residents. They have also joined in with the  
11 19th District to host ice cream parties, pizza parties,  
12 and movie nights at the Long Beach VA Medical Center.  
13 Even if we could not personally attend, at least the  
14 hospitalized veterans could still have fun.

15 Unit 302, District 17 housed homeless veterans,  
16 assisted them to get them their benefits, paid their rent  
17 when they were behind, brought them food, clothes, and  
18 whatever they needed for their apartments, bedding,  
19 towels, pots and pans, et cetera. They made and donated  
20 survivor backpack kits. They were able to hold a  
21 Christmas fun night with a horse carriage ride, free  
22 cookies and brought a truck to serve free hot chocolate.

23 They had toys for the kids given out by Santa himself.  
24 They go down to skid row twice a week to feed the homeless  
25 too.

52



1 Unit 13, District 18, even not being able to meet  
2 in person, they were able to accomplish their goals too.  
3 They worked their Education program by donating over \$300  
4 of school supplies to Fort Irwin Army Base children. They  
5 collected items for female veterans, toiletries, and  
6 personal items worth over \$350. They held their annual  
7 Trunk Or Treat event on Halloween, gave out candy to over  
8 150 local kids. They had cars lined up and members  
9 cooking hotdogs for the kids. They also had young ladies  
10 selling popcorn and candy apples who then donated their  
11 entire profit of \$100 to buy more items for women  
12 veterans.

13 In honor of Poppy Month they donated 100 poppy  
14 books as well as 250 poppies to attach to the poppy story.  
15 This is just a mention of a few events they have had.  
16 More will be included in the department written history.

17 Smaller units like Unit 694 due to the  
18 restrictions of COVID got a slow start, but they still  
19 survived by doing community service at the Thomas Carman  
20 Food Pantry preparing Thursday dinners, kids' drive

21 through Christmas party. But as soon as their post  
22 opened, this unit did something new for the first time.  
23 They held a paint and sip fundraiser. I wasn't invited to  
24 have wine, which they had 56 painters participated. They  
25 were able to bring in a profit of \$650 which went to the

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1 unit's scholarship. Good job, ladies.

2 (Applause.)

3 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: This event was  
4 such an enormous success, they are planning to hold  
5 another one. Spring brought back their annual spring  
6 bunco games which raised \$649 which went into their  
7 general fund. These are just a few example of what has  
8 been accomplished by all our outstanding members,  
9 districts and units. If you put your mind to it, it can  
10 be done.

11 If I did not mention your district or unit here  
12 in this report, please know that it will be in the  
13 complete written history that National will be receiving  
14 in July. This report only has a few minutes and the  
15 written history is much longer and more detailed.

16 With that said, I am reminding all officers and  
17 chairmen please give to the personal page either a printed  
18 copy of your floor report or please email me your report

19 as soon as possible. These are a requirement for the  
20 written history and you all want to toot our horns to  
21 National on what we have accomplished as a department.

22 I would like to give my apologies for not being  
23 here to do this report myself, but I am home taking care  
24 of husband who just last week was admitted to the hospital  
25 for breathing problems. After many tests taken, the

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1 results came that he now has COPD and onset of Alzheimer's  
2 -- excuse me. Asthma. Emphysema -- Lord, I've got all  
3 that -- which now has him on oxygen 24/7. We will be  
4 collaborating with his doctors to have him able to travel  
5 in the future with larger oxygen tanks or a portable one.  
6 He is resting comfortably at home.

7 I would like to thank -- oh, she doesn't have to  
8 thank me.

9 One last thing to all that are taking pictures  
10 here at this convention, please post them on Facebook and  
11 tag me or email them to me so I can include them into  
12 Madam President Dee Ann's memory book. Also anyone that  
13 is attending the National Convention, if you could please  
14 take pictures of Madam President there too it would be  
15 greatly appreciated. I want to have a complete report of  
16 her year.

17                   Madam President, this now completes my history  
18 reports. It has been really a great pleasure to serve  
19 under your leadership. As we discussed, I will have your  
20 books ready at the Clovis workshop, minus the National  
21 pictures which will be printed and then sent to you to  
22 insert into your book.

23                   I would also like to let Past President Joan  
24 Cannon and Kathie Martinez, your books will also be  
25 delivered there too. I am terribly sorry for the delay.

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1                   Thank you. Jean Cooley-Desmeules, Department of  
2 California Historian 2021-2022.

3                   (Applause.)

4                   DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
5 Linda.

6                   DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: Madam President,  
7 with your permission I would like to hand out the first  
8 place winners. If you received a note for me, please come  
9 up. First Place Unit Supplemental goes to Beth Jensen or  
10 Johnsen? Johnsen, Chairman, Unit 222 Laguna Beach  
11 District 29.

12                   (Applause.)

13                   DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: First Place  
14 District Supplemental goes to Patricia Burr, Chairman 29th

15 District.

16 (Applause.)

17 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: First Place

18 Written History goes to Rodica, Rodi, Andreescu, District  
19 17, Unit 302.

20 (Applause.)

21 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: First place

22 District Written History Book goes to Susan Morgan,  
23 District 17.

24 (Applause.)

25 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: And the last award

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1 to go out is for the Best Picture Books of the District.

2 First place goes to Judy Simpson, District 25.

3 (Applause.)

4 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT DIEBEL: Madam President, I  
5 thank you for allowing me to step in for Jean, and that  
6 concludes the Historian report.

7 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
8 Linda.

9 Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms  
10 Karen Herrera and Rochelle Billett-Smith. Rochelle, would  
11 you like to give your report? What did she say? No.

12 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Karen is not

13 here and she would like to do it.

14 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Okay.

15 That's fine. We'll go on to the Convention Chairmen.

16 Legislative Kathie Martinez.

17 CONVENTION CHAIR RISNER: Gloria, if you can--

18 I'm on the agenda. I don't know why.

19

20 CONVENTION CHAIR CONVENTION REPORT

21

22 CONVENTION CHAIR RISNER: Ladies, I do have some

23 comments. If you purchased blue tickets, those are for

24 Ways & Means and those are the ones in the corner. The

25 ones for the Convention Committee are on this side, and if

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1 you put some of your tickets in those, you will not win

2 those prizes if you put your blue tickets in those

3 buckets. So when we have a break, you're going to need to

4 go look and see if that's where you put your tickets and

5 pull your tickets out. If you put tickets in the buckets

6 for the Convention Commission -- or the Convention

7 Committees buckets, walk over. We do have people there.

8 They will help you get your tickets out and you can put

9 them in the bucket that you wanted. If you want that,

10 you're going to have to purchase red tickets to put in

11 those buckets. The red is from the wood over. The wood  
12 that way is Ways & Means. There are blue tickets and red  
13 tickets.

14 And something else, ladies, I was going to wait  
15 until Dee Ann got back, but if you could please turn off  
16 your phones and not sit in the delegation and play games.  
17 We've had some issues with people playing their games.

18 Okay. Thank you, Madam President.

19 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Genieca, is  
20 it possible that you can give your convention report?

21 CONVENTION CHAIR RISNER: That's my convention  
22 report.

23 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: That's it?  
24 Well, thank you. Short and easy. Thank you, Genieca.

25 We'll proceed with the Department Chairmen.

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1 Kathie. She can hear me. I'll get closer. Can everyone  
2 else hear me? You do hear me. Now do you hear me?

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Oh, Lord.

5 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: All right. Can  
6 everyone everybody hear me? Awesome.

7

8

LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION REPORT

9

10                   LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: Good morning, Madam  
11 President. The convention committee on Legislative met on  
12 June 23rd, 2022 in the Birch Room at the Wyndham Hotel  
13 Visalia. The statistical -- statistical report of this  
14 chairman appeared on page 22 of the Book of Reports.

15                   Judy Samples of District 25 was appointed  
16 secretary, Joyce Patton of District 23 offered prayer and  
17 served as Sergeant-at-Arms. There was a total of 12  
18 district delegates answering roll call and one visitor was  
19 present. Meeting opened according to ritual. The code  
20 was read and there were no code changes.

21                   (Applause.)

22                   LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: Let's start these  
23 reports off on a good note, ladies. Second and third  
24 place district awards were given in committee and will be  
25 posted in the office until the secretary tells me I can't.

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1 She's got it. 100 percent certificates were given to  
2 Districts 2, 12, 13, 17, 20, 23, 24, and 27.

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

6                   DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Yes, you

7 may.

8 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: Thank you. Thank  
9 you. Madam President, once again we come to the end of  
10 another Auxiliary year, a time to look back and reflect on  
11 all that we have done for our veterans. In a legislative  
12 world, there are many accomplishments and a few defeats  
13 that we endure, but we continue on for our veterans.

14 Your theme, "Catching the Wave, Service to Our  
15 Veterans Continues" inspired the members of this  
16 Department to get involved, stay encouraged, and be  
17 enthusiastic in our commitment to our veterans, active  
18 duty military, and their families, along with the  
19 community involvement. With your Legislative committee  
20 being Muscle Beach of our department, muscles were flexed  
21 and our units and members got involved and stayed  
22 involved.

23 As our previous year came to an end, we had  
24 embarked on new legislation. There was still unfinished  
25 business. The committee that had been formed consisting

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1 of Legionnaires, Sons, and the American Legion Auxiliary  
2 members to oppose SB363, which directly affected our Girls  
3 State program, continued with their efforts with the state  
4 legislature and were able to amend the bill to meet the

5 requirements of the State Equality Opportunity Act without  
6 jeopardizing the goals and purposes of our programs.  
7 There is still work to be done to meet all of the  
8 requirements, however, I have faith that both the Girls  
9 State and Boys State programs will be served and protected  
10 for the future.

11 Statistical reports show that 31 units  
12 participated in rallies, town hall meetings, candidates  
13 nights throughout the department. 348 letters were sent  
14 to U.S. senators, representatives, the White House, and  
15 local officials with 122 replies being received. 267  
16 personal contacts and visits were made to our U.S.  
17 senators, representatives, White House and local  
18 officials. We were all over the place.

19 There were 75 subscriptions to the Dispatch, 63  
20 to the Legislative E-News, and 58 subscriptions to the  
21 Auxiliary -- I haven't had enough coffee this morning  
22 apparently. Fifty-eight subscriptions to the Auxiliary  
23 Legislative E-News, 58 members have developed personal  
24 legislative relationships with their elected officials.  
25 Units have promoted both state and federal bills to

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1 benefit our veterans and active duty military and their  
2 families.

3           Many of the members of our department -- you all  
4           didn't forget, did you? Many of the members of our  
5           department sit on local committees and congressional  
6           groups as veterans and family advisors and serve as  
7           members of the their local Chamber of Commerce to change  
8           zoning and safety regulations with the communities.

9           One district within our department is focused  
10          solely on the homeless veteran population and primarily  
11          the female homeless veterans within their community. The  
12          statistical information provided this chairman was  
13          astonishing. Only 40 percent of the veteran population is  
14          VA connected. One in four women and one in three men were  
15          sexually assaulted by someone in their chain of command.  
16          That's -- that's unacceptable. And 83 percent of the  
17          victims never report it due to fear of retaliation.  
18          Again, unacceptable.

19          58 percent of the women and 60 percent of the men  
20          that do report suffer retribution, and of those 30 percent  
21          are discharged typically within seven months of reporting  
22          the assault.

23          Members focused on key issue -- excuse me.  
24          Members focused on key issues which support the passage of  
25          VAWA, Violence Against Women Act, supporting legislation



1 for service members, both men and women dealing with  
2 sexual assault, suicide, and homelessness, legislative  
3 change to help and assist these veterans is the driving  
4 force for that district.

5 Buddy Check Week, S-5444, Save the Troops For  
6 Teachers, FY2022 Section 573 of the NDAA, honoring the  
7 PACT Act, Citizenship For Honorable Service, Pay the Coast  
8 Guard, Military Awards For Minority Veterans, Peer  
9 Support, Global War on Terrorism Memorial, SB 667 Disabled  
10 Veteran Property Tax Exemption AJR 10, memorial service to  
11 be provided to our veterans who were citizens of the  
12 Republic of Korea and Vietnam were a few of the efforts  
13 taken this year.

14 To quote one chairman, "The mission statement of  
15 the Legislative world is to advocate open communication  
16 with local, state, and nationally elected officials to  
17 ensure our members are aware of and informed on issues  
18 central to the support and wellbeing of our veterans and  
19 their families and to promote grass root levels of  
20 advocacy and action."

21 All of this and much more has been accomplished  
22 by the amazing, resourceful and dedicated members of our  
23 department.

24 Madam President, this concludes my report. May I  
25 continue with first place awards?



1 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Yes, you  
2 may.

3 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: All my ladies are  
4 here. First Place Unit Supplemental presented to Gigi  
5 Manno, Alpine Unit 258.

6 (Applause.)

7 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: First Place  
8 Legislative District Supplemental presented to Danielle  
9 White, District 27, Chairman.

10 (Applause.)

11 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR MARTINEZ: And I'd like to add  
12 that Gigi's report has been forwarded to National for  
13 consideration.

14 Madam President, that concludes my report.

15 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT WILLIAMS:  
16 Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, will you  
17 bring our Department President up.

18 (Processional.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Community Service  
20 Chairman Judie Tabacchi. Then we'll go to Gloria. Next  
21 will be Tammy Sollazzo for Girls State.

22

23 COMMUNITY SERVICE CONVENTION REPORT

24

25

COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR TABACCHI: Madam

64



1 President, the Community Service met in the Redwood Room  
2 at -- we started a little bit late because I was at the  
3 other end waiting for another meeting to get over with,  
4 but we had 22 -- 22 districts and -- attending and I think  
5 there were 14 guests.

6 I'm going to tell the story first because,  
7 believe it or not, it was the first time in my life I made  
8 a mistake. I was so -- I got everything ready to go and I  
9 packed my van and I ran in and I grabbed my box that I had  
10 everything put together nicely. When we got up here to  
11 convention, I was in my room and I opened the box and it  
12 was all the bread for the sandwiches. So all of my  
13 reports and everything are at home, but they will be  
14 mailed to everybody. I was going to have somebody email  
15 them, so --

16 For our reports we had 73 districts participated  
17 in the national recognized Day of Service. We also had 23  
18 districts reporting of which seven were 100 percent.  
19 Those districts were 9, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, and 29.  
20 Congratulations. Fifty-three units participated in  
21 homeless veterans' activities. Sixteen units participated

22 in job or career fairs. The number of families that were  
23 aided -- that aided veterans or active duty was 1,025 who  
24 contributed 1,036,443 hours.

25 Veterans and military members promoted

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1 homelessness preventions, 1,569. They donated coats,  
2 heavy blankets, attended Stand Downs, made stockings for  
3 Christmas, collected clothing, food supplies, feminine  
4 hygiene products. I didn't mean it the way I put it in  
5 here. Others walked out handing -- handing out food,  
6 clothing, and such. It was they handed out.

7 Okay. Others collected food and water at post  
8 functions. Many supported Transition House. Cost to  
9 units were \$47,240.97 and in kind were \$163,265.65.  
10 Thirty-six units donated to the California Disaster Fund  
11 for a total of 5,159 dollars -- no. Yeah, and three --  
12 three cents. The only three units reported sending a  
13 senior member and nobody is sending or nominating a junior  
14 member.

15 Individual projects. Food banks, the number of  
16 volunteers were 279. They donated \$7,354.85. The value  
17 of the donations were \$16,824 with 830 hours. Senior  
18 centers had a total of 185 volunteers, \$4,300 that was  
19 donated, and the value of the donation was \$3,177 and the

20 hours for that were 1,590.

21 Senior centers -- no, I just did that. Homeless  
22 shelters were 277 volunteers, \$5,484. In kind was  
23 \$59,677.65. The total hours was 2583 dollars -- hours.  
24 I'm sorry. Medical clinics had 45 volunteers for \$1600  
25 donated and the value was \$3,450. The hours were 840.

66



1 Women's programs was 125 volunteers, \$31,285  
2 donated, \$67,831 in values, and \$4,348. Blood donations  
3 were 108 volunteers. No monies donated. The value was  
4 \$2,790 and 297 hours. Nursing homes were 51 volunteers,  
5 \$950 donated. \$13,169 with total hours of 358. Libraries  
6 and museums were 18 volunteers, donated \$740 and the value  
7 was 13,000 -- \$1,350 and that was 340 hours.

8 Recycling -- this threw me, but they had 144  
9 volunteers, donated \$257. In kind was \$1,255 with 20 --  
10 2,076 hours. How do you figure that? I'm a recycler and  
11 I don't keep track of any of that. I never thought of it.  
12 It just threw me.

13 For beautification, 73 members donated \$3,820  
14 with an in kind value of \$2,975 and the hours were 917.  
15 Cancer awareness we had 110 volunteers, donations of  
16 \$16,064. In kind was 3,000 -- yeah, \$3,258 and the hours  
17 were 3367. I have one here -- may I -- that concludes my

18 report, but I'm going to have to mail them all when I get  
19 home. For that I apologize, but the code was read and  
20 approved as read.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you. Do you  
22 know who your first place winners are?

23 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR TABACCHI: I'm sorry?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Do you know who  
25 your first place winners are?

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1 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR TABACCHI: No.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Everybody is going  
3 to get a prize.

4 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR TABACCHI: Everybody is  
5 going to get a prize. Everything was organized so I could  
6 just come here.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Judie.

8 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR TABACCHI: Thank you all.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Judie.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Tammy.

12

13 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR CONVENTION REPORT

14

15 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR SOLLAZZO: Good morning,

16 everyone. Hello, Madam President and membership. I'm  
17 going to talk about Senate Bill 363, SB363, and its  
18 impacts to us. It was signed into California legislation  
19 on October 8th, 2021. All changes made by this bill need  
20 to be completed and will go into effect 1/1/23.

21 There have been many questions about what exactly  
22 SB363 means and how it will impact ALA Girls State. Here  
23 is what it mandates: We must provide substantially  
24 similar access to officials and facilities. This was a  
25 major driving force for our move to Sacramento.

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1 ALA CAGS must have substantially similar  
2 programming except where the program relates to the role  
3 of gender in public service specifically and public  
4 service specifically.

5 An equal number of opportunities for girls to  
6 participate in the conferences as there are for boys.

7 Any limitations on the number of pupils that can  
8 be nominated to attend the conferences from a single high  
9 school apply equally to boys and girls, unless the high  
10 school is a single gender high school.

11 Nonbinary students can select which program they  
12 want to attend, and we must comply with all other  
13 nondiscrimination laws.

14                   With the inception of this new bill, TAL CABS and  
15 ALA CAGS began working together in March of 2021. Members  
16 of the counseling team on both sides have met often to  
17 determine where there are dissimilarities. Allyn, Sherry,  
18 and I have met with the TAL CABS Director and Chief  
19 Counselor to come together on a number of delegates  
20 allowed per school.

21                   While both entities agree on the major goal of  
22 having a similar number of delegates, the facts are we,  
23 CABS and CAGS, are very close in the number of schools  
24 that we currently sponsor. If we worked together to  
25 sponsor schools one program does not currently sponsor and

69



1 the other program does, we could have representation from  
2 over 700 schools.

3                   CAGS leadership provided specific reasons why our  
4 organization believes in one candidate for per school.  
5 CABS leadership offered a tier solution where the number  
6 of delegates would increase based off the population of  
7 the high school. ALA CAGS rejected this proposal.

8                   CAGS proposed increasing the number of delegates  
9 to two per school if the nine to 12 year population was  
10 over 3,000 students. CABS rejected this proposal and did  
11 not provide any further counterproposals.

12                   At this point in time we are focusing on our  
13                   current session coming up and will proceed after session  
14                   is over to come up with mutual agreement with TAL CABS.

15                   TAL CABS and ALA CAGS counseling teams have been  
16                   working together to harmonize the two programs to be  
17                   significantly similar. Through the drafting of a common  
18                   mission statement and the identification of six key  
19                   pillars, the group is making great progress. Each program  
20                   has things to add and things to tweak but will also  
21                   maintain its unique design. Both programs believe that  
22                   the experience for delegates must include: The California  
23                   elections process, California government operations,  
24                   community building, patriotism/Americanism, personal  
25                   development, self-advocacy, public speaking and

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1                   networking.

2                   The assistant director, Sherry Core, and I made a  
3                   trip to Sacramento to tour both campuses in February of  
4                   2022, U.S. Davis and Sacramento State. When we met with  
5                   Sacramento State, we were introduced to the president and  
6                   his staff who were most accommodating and welcoming. We  
7                   received potential quotes from both colleges. Sherry and  
8                   I went back to the committee to make an informed decision  
9                   on the choice campuses. As you all know, Sacramento State

10 suited all our needs financially and logistically.

11           Some of the adjustments to the program will be  
12 happening at our 79th session next week along with the  
13 logistical move to Sacramento from Southern California.  
14 Along with the move came the decision to help the units  
15 and districts with transportation and to contact the  
16 senate and assembly for certificates for each of the  
17 delegates. We have had to move our storage from So. Cal  
18 to No. Cal via a POD company.

19           Because of this move we have started a new  
20 relationship with the State Senate and Assembly. Sherry  
21 sent them a list of all of our delegates and they provided  
22 us with beautiful certificates for each delegate, one from  
23 the Senate and one from their own assemblyperson. These  
24 certificates have been passed out to each district to take  
25 back and give to each unit. Our goal with the certificate

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1 is for each unit to establish a mutual relationship with  
2 their own representatives as well as to increase  
3 networking for the delegates and the unit.

4           Some adjustments made to the program for this  
5 year that are specific to SB363 will include Model City  
6 and County Recognition, opportunities for structured  
7 recreation to include intramural competitions, and

8 recognition by state legislators. However, this year, we  
9 are not able to visit the Capitol due to ongoing  
10 construction throughout the summer.

11 Changes expected for next year's session include  
12 the addition of a law enforcement forum, an in-person  
13 college and career fair, and the return of filing fees as  
14 part of running for office.

15 TAL CABS and ALA CAGS continue to work together  
16 to ensure that by January 1, 2023 we will be substantially  
17 significantly similar. Three of our experienced  
18 counseling staff are attending this year's session of Boys  
19 State as counselors. Changes and tweaks will continue to  
20 happen as we navigate the new waters bestowed upon us. As  
21 a great person said, "While this appeared to be an affront  
22 on ALA Girls State, it really has become a blessing in  
23 disguise."

24 As you all know, ALA CAGS will persevere,  
25 continue to grow, and learn and continue to ensure that

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1 every single delegate that attends ALA Girls State has the  
2 best experience we can provide.

3 Thank you to all the volunteers that have helped  
4 supply items needed to run ALA Girls State this year,  
5 donations that we have received, and to the ones that have

6 offered to attend for a week to help us teach the  
7 delegates the functions that ensure their growth in the  
8 government processes and ability to find their voice.  
9 Because of all of you our delegates will ensure that our  
10 future is well taken care of. Thank you, everyone.

11 (Applause.)

12 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR SOLLAZZO: Madam President,  
13 that concludes my report.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Tammy.  
15 Maureen, are you ready?

16 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: I am ready.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Maureen  
18 O'Brien-Sacco, our Americanism Chairman.

19

20 AMERICANISM CONVENTION REPORT

21

22 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Good morning.  
23 The convention committee on Americanism met on June 23rd  
24 in the Redwood Room. The statistical report of this  
25 chairman appears on page 17 of the Book of Reports.

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1 Marcia Munroe was appointed secretary, Marion Rocha-Carlos  
2 offered prayer, and Francis Boseman was appointed  
3 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 14 delegates and two guests

4 were present. The committee read the code and there were  
5 no changes on it. I like to follow rules.

6 May I proceed with my floor presentation?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

8 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: The Department  
9 of California kites and flags shops have been very busy  
10 this year. We have been promoting Americanism through our  
11 30 districts in many ways. I am happy to share some of  
12 our success stories.

13 We had 15 districts participate in the Get Out  
14 the Vote Campaign. We had members drive others to the  
15 polls, as well as helping at the polls. Our members spent  
16 a total of \$165 and 300 hours. Excuse me.

17 Eleven districts participated in our department  
18 essay contests. Members spent a total of \$2,650 and 394  
19 promoting the -- sorry. I should have brought my water up  
20 here. Promoting the essay contests in schools. We had  
21 units partner actually with a VFW post to help judge their  
22 essays as well. We had members teach classrooms about  
23 flag etiquette, hand out flag brochures and Americanism  
24 coloring books.

25 Districts were able to partner with ROTC programs

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1 as well as Boy Scout troops. One district had a youth

2 event for ages 4 through 15 introducing the pledge and  
3 promoting flag history. Junior members led the pledge at  
4 school, Auxiliary events, and at unit meetings.

5 We had over 350 flags donated to businesses,  
6 spending more than \$3,000 in our communities. We spent  
7 over 1390 hours promoting patriotism and flying flags. We  
8 also had a district help with a citizen program. Once new  
9 citizens were sworn in, they received a flag along with  
10 the Poppy story and a Poppy.

11 The Auxiliary worked with the American Legion to  
12 promote both Legion Baseball and the oratorical contest.  
13 Members spent over \$1800 and 273 working alongside the  
14 American Legion. It was a great way to serve. 145 Gold  
15 and Blue Star banners were given out. Districts spent  
16 \$721 and 560 hours presenting these banners to their  
17 communities. One district also presented five purple  
18 banners. Purples banners are presented for military  
19 members that commit suicide.

20 Districts also participated in Wreaths Across  
21 America. 2,000 wreaths were placed in honor of our  
22 deceased military members. We also had members volunteer  
23 their time placing the wreaths on the gravesides.

24 We had members place 500 flags for 9/11 memorial.  
25 This year a special 13 flags were placed to represent the



1       fallen from Afghanistan. The ALA also continues to bring  
2       lunches and goodies to first responders on 9/11. This  
3       year one district presented first responders with stick  
4       flags and a poem on the flag.

5               One district shipped care packages to servicemen  
6       and women serving on the Ronald Reagan. Each package  
7       included flag pins for the veterans currently serving.

8               The Department of California ALA joined in with  
9       the SAL National Commanders' project, Flying Flags for  
10      Heroes. You might have heard me talking about it.  
11      Members came in full force to help clean neglected grave  
12      sites of our fallen heroes. The Department members placed  
13      more than 6500 flags in several cemeteries. The grave  
14      sites included World War I veterans all the way to present  
15      day. As of this week, over one million three hundred  
16      flags were placed on graves across the country. Great job  
17      everyone.

18              (Applause.)

19              AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: For those of  
20      you that were at the DEC, I have presented a wreath that  
21      was donated for me to present anyone that was putting  
22      flags at grave sites. We did a second one for convention.  
23      I pulled the winner at our caucus meeting, but I'm happy  
24      to say she is a Gold Star mother. She said to me:

25 Maureen, please present it to the Department President, so

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1 we're going to give the wreath to the Department President  
2 in her honor.

3 (Applause.)

4 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: So I certainly  
5 thank all of you who participated. The American Legion  
6 Auxiliary is continuing to show the community how we  
7 support our veterans, their families, and our communities.  
8 We will continue to show our support for this great  
9 organization and this great country. I would like to  
10 thank the eight districts and four units for their great  
11 supplemental reports.

12 The essay contest winners -- I'm sorry. Can I  
13 get the winners? The essay contest winners as well as  
14 supplemental awards for second and third place were given  
15 at the preconvention meeting, so I would ask the districts  
16 to come up. So Group 1 first place is Gunner Parris from  
17 Unit 16, District 11.

18 (Applause.)

19 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: So Group 2,  
20 first place Rainer Solis, Unit 830 from District 18.

21 (Applause.)

22 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Group 3 first

23 place Liam Alsbury from District 15, Unit 211.

24 (Applause.)

25 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Group 4,

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1 Charlotte Wilson, Unit 221, District 15.

2 (Applause.)

3 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: And then Group  
4 5, first place Adrian Barajas-Magana, Unit 98, District 4.  
5 I apologize if I butcher people's names.

6 (Applause.)

7 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: And then for  
8 the Best District Supplemental, you might recognize her,  
9 District 28 Elizabeth Doidge.

10 (Applause.)

11 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: And Best Unit  
12 Supplemental, Unit 211 Ruth Kane out of the 16th District.

13 (Applause.)

14 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Madam  
15 President, this concludes my report. And thank you for  
16 this honor to serve you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Maureen.  
18 Sergeant -- excuse me. Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant  
19 Sergeant-at-Arms Karen Herrera and Rochelle Billett-Smith.

20

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS and ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

22 CONVENTION REPORT

23

24 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS HERRERA: Good morning. Madam  
25 President -- let's see. I'm short. Bring it down. Madam

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1 President, it has been a privilege and an honor to be your  
2 Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms. We would  
3 like to thank President Dee Ann Graham for these  
4 positions. We love so much -- we learned so much from our  
5 Distinguished Guest Chairman Linda Fercho. We truly love  
6 working with her.

7 Skateboarding down the aisles, that's our theme,  
8 well, we really don't skateboard because we would break  
9 our leg, but supporting all the wonderful people has been  
10 a great experience. We would also like to thank all the  
11 Junior Pages and Pages. They're doing such a wonderful  
12 job. Thank you very much.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Vicky Bean. She's  
15 National Security. Are you ready?

16 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR BEAN: No.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Patty G, are you  
18 ready? Patty is coming. Patty G is Public Relations.

19

20

PUBLIC RELATIONS CONVENTION REPORT

21

22

PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: Can you hear

23

me? The preconvention committee for Public Relations met

24

on June 23rd, 2022 in the Maple Room at the Wyndham Hotel.

25

The statistical report for Public Relations appears on

79



1

page 24 of the Book of Reports.

2

Barbara Toth from District 25 was appointed

3

secretary, Allison Bobo from District 23 was appointed

4

chaplain, and Lisa Giodano from District 11 was appointed

5

sergeant-at-arms. The chaplain offered prayer and recited

6

the Pledge of Allegiance. We had a total of 15 delegates

7

that answered roll call and we had two visitors.

8

The code was read -- the code was read and the

9

committee wishes to implement words to code number 3 on

10

page 62. Code number 3 now reads, "To promote better

11

community coverage utilizing the same media, Units and

12

Districts shall be encouraged to cooperate fully on areas

13

of common interest. The Chairman shall inform units and

14

districts of all information and instructional material

15

relative to publicity furnished by the National

16

Organization and encourage operation for special projects

17 or questionnaires."

18 We wish to implement all forms of media including  
19 the platforms of social media such as Facebook, Twitter,  
20 and Instagram, therefore, code number 3 would be read as:  
21 "To promote better community coverage utilizing all forms  
22 of media including the platform of social media such as  
23 Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, Units and Districts  
24 shall be encouraged to cooperate fully on areas of common  
25 interest. The Chairman shall inform Units and Districts

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↑

1 of all information and instructional material relative to  
2 publicity furnished by the National Organization and  
3 encourage cooperation for special projects or  
4 questionnaires."

5 Madam President, by the direction of the  
6 committee I move that these changes be accepted.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion on  
8 the floor to change the Public Relations code number 3.  
9 It now reads: "To promote better community coverage  
10 utilizing the same media, Units and Districts shall be  
11 encouraged to cooperate fully on areas of common interest.  
12 The Chairman shall inform units and districts of all  
13 information and instructional material relative to  
14 publicity furnished by the National Organization and

15 encourage operation for special projects or  
16 questionnaires."

17           The code would now read: "To promote better  
18 community coverage utilizing all forms of media including  
19 the platform of social media such as Facebook, Twitter,  
20 and Instagram, Units and Districts shall be encouraged to  
21 cooperate fully on areas of common interest. The Chairman  
22 shall inform Units and Districts of all information and  
23 instructional material relative to publicity furnished by  
24 the National Organization and encourage cooperation for  
25 special projects or questionnaires."

81

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1           Any discussion?

2           (No response.)

3           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
4 in favor?

5           ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

6           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

7           (No response.)

8           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, the  
9 motion carried.

10           PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: Madam  
11 President, may I -- oh, excuse me. Unit and District  
12 Certificates and 100 percent reporting awards were

13 presented in committee. May I continue with my  
14 supplemental report?

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

16 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: Madam  
17 President Dee Ann, it's been my pleasure and honor serving  
18 as Department Public Relations Chairman. It's been an  
19 amazing year and I would like to thank the district  
20 chairmen for their end-of-the-year reports. Public  
21 Relations Chairmen were known as Sound Waves. We started  
22 out as a ripple and we became a wave throughout this  
23 Golden State of California.

24 The American Legion Auxiliary Public Relations  
25 program provided a positive image of who we are and what

82



1 we do and why we matter. I'm proud to report the work  
2 that has been done this past year. I received 21 district  
3 reports with a total of 128 units reporting. Our  
4 Districts and Units showed outstanding work from Public  
5 Relations supporting our veterans, military, their  
6 families and our communities.

7 Units and Districts reported promoting our  
8 programs through old and new media such as newspaper,  
9 cable TV, radio, and social media. Branding was promoted  
10 by wearing ALA jewelry, apparel and appearing on national

11 TV by District 23, Unit 252 Color Guard.

12 District 13 promotes their community events such  
13 as Memorial Day, Veterans' Day, Four Chaplains Day, and  
14 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day through social media and  
15 emails.

16 District 18, superb job. For Christmas Units in  
17 District 18 donated 2,218 toys for the children at Fort  
18 Irwin Army Base. They also held a book drive donating  
19 1,013 books for the children at Lewis Elementary School at  
20 Fort Irwin Army Base.

21 District 16 sent out over a thousand fliers.  
22 District 24, Unit 283 Pacific Palisades does exceptional  
23 work in their community with their libraries, Historical  
24 Society, and Fire Fighting Station 69.

25 District 30 promotes ALA events through local

83



1 newspaper. Since they don't have their own Facebook page,  
2 they use the post Facebook page to promote their events.

3 District 27, a small but mighty district, they  
4 have a great working relationship with the media. Big  
5 Pines Glacier Unit 457 broadcasts information of their  
6 events regularly in the Inyo Register Newspaper, the  
7 Sierra Reader, KIBS radio station, KMMT radion station,  
8 the Sierra Wave television station. They utilize posters,

9 email, social media, and snail mail letters to members of  
10 their community. In February there was a huge wildfire in  
11 which half of the town was evacuated. This unit worked in  
12 sending acknowledgments and monetary donations to their  
13 local sheriff and volunteer fire department for the  
14 tremendous job they did in protecting their community and  
15 citizens. This unit along with the Civic Club worked hand  
16 in hand to arrange a beautiful replanting ceremony of  
17 trees which was published.

18 And when Big Pines American Legion Post  
19 disbanded, this unit took on the responsibility of  
20 conducting the community Veterans' Day which was  
21 published. This small but mighty district is recognized  
22 for their outstanding Public Relations work within their  
23 community.

24 Public Relations and VA&R teamed up for a  
25 proclamation project asking the mayors of our community to

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1 proclaim November as veterans, military, and family month.  
2 This chairman received 17 photos of units and districts  
3 receiving proclamations with the mayor and city counsel  
4 members of their community.

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

7 Odette Cuccaro Award?

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Absolutely. Thank  
9 you.

10 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: First place  
11 district award goes to -- First Place District Newsletter  
12 award goes to District 20, The Chatterbox, Linda Hayes  
13 reporting.

14 (Applause.)

15 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: Certificate of  
16 appreciation for outstanding work goes to Editor Nancy  
17 Heinisch, Department Newsletter The Auxiliary Hub.  
18 Superior work, Nancy. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: First Place  
21 Branding goes to District 23, Unit 252 Color Guard  
22 National Television.

23 (Applause.)

24 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: First Place  
25 winner and the winner of the Odette Cuccaro Award goes to

85



1 District 27, Big Pine Glacier Unit 457, Rosemarie Todd  
2 reporting. And this is being sent off to National.

3 (Applause.)

4 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR GALATIOTO: Thank you very

5 much, Madam Dee Ann, Madam President Dee Ann Graham, for  
6 this appointment. This concludes my report.

7 (Applause.)

8

9 EDUCATION CONVENTION REPORT

10

11 EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Hello. I just want  
12 to make sure you can hear me okay. The convention  
13 committee on Education met on June 23rd, 2022 in the Birch  
14 Room. The statistical report of this chairman appears on  
15 page 20 in the Book of Reports. Alberta Cummings,  
16 District 23, was appointed secretary. Liz Tungate,  
17 District 20, offered. And Kelly Huff from District 29 was  
18 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

19 A total of ten district delegates answered the  
20 roll call and there were two visitors present including  
21 one junior. The committee agreed upon the following  
22 report. The code was read and there were no code changes.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Only a  
25 little bit of minor housekeeping. Discussion followed on

86



1 code number 6, opening the scholarships to all applicants.

2 The motion did not pass. Also discussion on code 16 to

3 clarify why Junior Activities, Past Presidents Parley, and  
4 Education Chairmen discuss applications. And the  
5 rationale is that each winner of a scholarship, they only  
6 win one per year, so we can't overlap.

7           There was some recommendations. One was to  
8 ensure the eligibility criteria on the website aligns with  
9 membership eligibility. Already done. And number two  
10 would be to create a QR code for easier access to  
11 applications. We know lot with Instagram and whatnot, QR  
12 code could get them right in and streamline the system in  
13 our meeting with the Chair.

14           Madam President, may I go on with my supplemental  
15 and awards, please?

16           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: You may.

17           DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Thank  
18 you. The Department of California has been very busy in  
19 the Education program this past year. Even with COVID-19  
20 protocols hampering many opportunities to be in the  
21 schools, units still found ways to promote the Education  
22 program.

23           After compiling the statistics this year, I'm  
24 going to share just a few. Thirty units participated in  
25 the Give 10 program donating items with a value of



1 \$39,598.84. Thank you. As a teacher, I thank you.

2 FIFTEEN units participated in the National  
3 Education Week. Units promoted the scholarships through  
4 various activities, including providing information and  
5 pamphlets to high school counselors and college financial  
6 aid offices, as well as talking directly to teachers and  
7 staff in the schools. Due to COVID-19 protocols in our  
8 schools, only five units were able to get veterans into  
9 the community schools project. Seventeen veterans  
10 participated. Hopefully this coming year we will see an  
11 increase in this participation.

12 THIRTY-FIVE units purchased Poppy Seals for a  
13 total of \$622. This Chairman also provided sheets of  
14 Poppy Seals at our department workshops and our DEC  
15 meeting in January collecting an additional total of \$76.  
16 Thank you.

17 THE literacy program was promoted by 11 units by  
18 reading to students in schools and after school programs.  
19 They also donated books to schools. Thirty-three units  
20 provided scholarships to their local communities for a  
21 total of \$28,250.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: You are  
24 amazing. Thank you. Nine units reached out to veterans  
25 to explore higher education or vocational training



1 opportunities. A total of 42 veterans were contacted.

2 In promoting the Education program, many units  
3 were very creative in finding ways to still work the  
4 program. Some of them included adopting local elementary  
5 schools and providing backpacks full of supplies. One  
6 unit supported what they call The Wednesday Club for  
7 children and youth. They gave them flag booklets and  
8 taught them how to fold a flag.

9 Another unit gave out educational gift baskets,  
10 and still another unit had an adopt a teacher project  
11 where they adopt two elementary school teachers and award  
12 them with a \$100 monetary stipend to assist them with  
13 purchasing school supplies. As a teacher myself, I know  
14 they greatly appreciate that assistance.

15 Several units were able to assist schools on  
16 their local military bases, holding a book drive, reading  
17 to the units and providing school supplies. I could  
18 highlight so many more activities but there are just so  
19 many and we would be here most of the day, so I don't want  
20 to do that to you.

21 I hope this Chairman was able to paint a picture  
22 of how busy the American Legion Auxiliary members in the  
23 Department of California are in promoting our Education

24 program. Thank you.

25 Can I do my supplemental?

89



1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yes, please.

2 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: So I am  
3 very honored and humbled. First I'm going to give our  
4 unit and district supplementals. Our Unit Supplemental  
5 First Place goes to Rodi Andreescu. Hope I said that  
6 correctly. Unit 302.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: And our  
9 First Place District Supplemental goes to Danielle White,  
10 District 27.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Now in  
13 our scholarship categories, do I have someone from I  
14 believe it's District 22 who knows Maya Rue? Does that  
15 name sound familiar? Okay. Well, this young lady applied  
16 for the Spirit of Youth Scholarship and she won at the  
17 division level.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: We also  
20 have Ann Mountcassel. She applied for the Children of  
21 Warriors National President Scholarship. She also won at

22 division level.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Are you  
25 here for Maya? That was an amazing application and I am

90

↑

1 so proud that this is just a little thank you from us to  
2 let her know.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Our next  
5 applicant filled out a Connie Settles as well as  
6 Continuing Student. She could only receive one award.  
7 This award goes to Alana Glenny from District 28, Unit  
8 694.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: And Mom  
11 is here to so graciously accept in her honor.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: And then  
14 we have last, but not least, I did not bring her unit or  
15 district information. Does someone here know Hannah Jean  
16 Carter? Does that name sound familiar? We have -- she  
17 won the Spirit -- the Junior Loyalty at the department  
18 level.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Okay.  
21 Hannah is -- her parents -- they live in San Clemente.  
22 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: That's 29.  
23 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: Okay.  
24 Hannah won the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship at the  
25 Department level. Cypress Unit 295.

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1 (Applause.)  
2 DEPARTMENT EDUCATION CHAIR FALKENBERG: And on a  
3 personal note, I would like to thank both our Division  
4 Education Chairman Joan Cannon and our National Education  
5 Chairman Melanie Taylor for your wisdom and your guidance.  
6 Thank you.  
7 Thank you for this appointment, Madam President.  
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Loretta, did you  
9 want to say something?  
10 PPP CHAIR MARSH: Did you want me to give my  
11 report?  
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yes. You thought  
13 you were going to get off, didn't you?  
14  
15 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CONVENTION REPORT  
16  
17 PPP CHAIR MARSH: Hello, ladies, and if there are

18 any gentlemen in the room.

19 Madam President, the convention committee for the  
20 Past Presidents Parley met on June 23rd in the Pine Room.  
21 The statistical report of this Chairman appears on page 23  
22 in the Book of Reports. Carolyn Glenn was appointed  
23 secretary, Vicky Bean offered prayer, and Tami Wilkening  
24 was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 16 district  
25 delegates answered roll call and there was one visitor.

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1 100 percent reporting certificates and second and third  
2 place awards were presented in committee.

3 The department code was read and the following  
4 changes recommended. The committee agreed upon the  
5 following report: The committee voted to delete section  
6 13 from the Past Presidents Parley Department Code. It  
7 reads: "Section 13. The Department Chairman will send  
8 out rules for the Unit Member of the Year competition.  
9 Entries will be submitted to the Department President for  
10 judging by the first Friday in May. The Department  
11 President shall notify the recipient by letter and send a  
12 copy of the letter and nomination to the Department  
13 Chairman. The Department Chairman shall notify the  
14 National Chairman, National Secretary, and Department  
15 Office prior to June 1st. The recipient will be honored

16 at an appropriate function during the Department  
17 Convention. The Department Chairman will send an  
18 invitation" -- I lost my place -- "to the recipient for  
19 the event where she will be honored and will notify her  
20 unit and district president of the honor extended their  
21 member as soon as possible. The Department Office will  
22 supply the recipient with housing forms and agenda for the  
23 National Convention where she will be honored. The  
24 recipient will be given mileage for her attendance at the  
25 Department function where she will be honored. She shall

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1 be given a ribbon similar to the Page's ribbon inscribed  
2 California and the year she is honored."

3 The reason for this recommendation is National no  
4 longer has a Past Presidents Parley Chairman so they have  
5 moved this program, the Unit Member of the Year, into a  
6 different committee. By direction of the Past Presidents  
7 Parley committee, I move for the deletion -- I move for  
8 this deletion to be adopted.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion on  
10 the floor to delete Section 13 from the Past Presidents  
11 Parley department code. "The Department Chairman will  
12 send out rules for the Unit Member of the Year  
13 competition. Entries will be submitted to the Department

14 President for judging by the first Friday in May. The  
15 Department President shall notify the recipient by letter  
16 and send a copy of the letter and nomination to the  
17 Department Chairman. The Department Chairman shall notify  
18 the National Chairman, National Secretary, and Department  
19 Office prior to June 1st. The recipient will be honored  
20 at an appropriate function during the Department  
21 Convention. The Department Chairman will send an  
22 invitation to the recipient for the event where she will  
23 be honored and will notify her unit and district president  
24 of the honor extended their member as soon as possible.  
25 The Department Office will supply the recipient with

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1 housing forms and agenda for the National Convention where  
2 she will be honored. The recipient will be given mileage  
3 for her attendance at the Department function where she  
4 will be honored. She shall be given a ribbon similar to  
5 the Page's ribbon inscribed California and the year she is  
6 honored."

7 Any discussion?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
10 in favor?

11 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none,  
15 motion carried.

16 PPP CHAIR MARSH: The committee also recommended  
17 deletion of Section 18 which reads: "The nomination form  
18 and rules for nominating women who are currently serving  
19 our country in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air  
20 Force or Coast Guard (including National Guard and reserve  
21 components of each branch) for the Salute to Service Women  
22 Award can be found on the Department website. The  
23 completed form and a written narrative (750 words or less)  
24 or a YouTube video (3 minutes or less), done by the  
25 nominee must be sent to the National Past Presidents

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1 Parley Chairman by deadline set by National. A copy of  
2 this nomination must also be sent to the Department Past  
3 Presidents Parley Chairman by the second Friday in May so  
4 that she can contact the nominee regarding the Department  
5 function that she will be honored."

6 The reason for this again is National has changed  
7 their procedure and is placing this under a different  
8 committee or program. This -- by recommendation of the  
9 committee, I move for the adoption of this deletion to the

10 Past Presidents Parley Department Code.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion to  
12 delete Section 18 of the Presidents Parley which now  
13 reads: "The nomination form and rules for nominating  
14 women who are currently serving our country in the U.S.  
15 Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard  
16 (including National Guard and reserve components of each  
17 branch) for the Salute to Service Women Award can be found  
18 on the Department website. The completed form and a  
19 written narrative (750 words or less) or a YouTube video  
20 (3 minutes or less) done by the nominee must be sent to  
21 the National Past Presidents Parley Chairman by deadline  
22 set by National. A copy of this nomination must also be  
23 sent to the Department Past Presidents Parley Chairman by  
24 the second Friday in May so that she can contact the  
25 nominee regarding the Department function that she will be

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1 honored."

2 Is there any discussion?

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
5 in favor?

6 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Motion carried.

10 PPP CHAIR MARSH: No other action was taken and  
11 the committee was closed.

12 Madam President, this concludes my committee  
13 report. May I proceed with my supplemental?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

15 PPP CHAIR MARSH: This Chairman received 24  
16 district reports with 16 receiving certificates for 100  
17 percent reporting. The Past Presidents have been  
18 supporting their units in every way they can. They have  
19 served as mentors, volunteers, chairmen and officers,  
20 whatever there is a need for.

21 Some highlights from the reports include seeking  
22 out and serving women veterans through baby showers and  
23 helping them obtain services available to them. One unit  
24 reported going to USO to seek out women veterans to adopt  
25 or honor. The District reported spending 2,000 hours to

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1 these efforts. The Past Presidents from another unit  
2 hosted a bus trip to Las Vegas to benefit their Auxiliary  
3 Emergency Fund. Some of them probably needed emergency  
4 funds after their trip.

5 Past Presidents joined forces with others in the

6 Give 10 to Education to collect and donate over \$3,000  
7 worth of school supplies. Backpacks were filled with  
8 school supplies and distributed. So in spite of the fact  
9 that many units struggled this year to get back on track,  
10 they maintained their dedication to service to others and  
11 their commitment to our military women and veterans.  
12 Forty-five members were reported to have completed the ALA  
13 Academy courses. Hopefully our leaders and past  
14 presidents have taken at least some of these classes and  
15 some have completed all of them.

16 One disappointment for me this year is that  
17 although units reported honoring servicewomen and seeking  
18 applications for the nurses' scholarship, none were  
19 submitted to the Department for consideration. Hopefully  
20 next year if COVID stops rearing its ugly head this will  
21 change. There are deserving people out there. We just  
22 need to find them. I know this year I heard of people not  
23 wanting to be involved because they're not willing to  
24 attend large gatherings yet. But, you know, that's why I  
25 say hopefully that will pass. We're all here; right?

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1 But the good news is we do have a special guest.  
2 And, Madam President, may I ask you to have the  
3 Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms escort our

4 special guest?

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please,  
6 Distinguished Guest, Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant  
7 Sergeant-at-Arms.

8 (Processional.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please welcome  
10 Marty McGrath from Unit 56 in District 16.

11 PPP CHAIR MARSH: Marty was nominated for this  
12 well-deserved award by Terry Oclaray, President of Unit  
13 56. We're going to hear from Marty later and all she's  
14 done, so we hope you attend the luncheon and we will have  
15 her there. Maybe she'll even say hi to us there. She is  
16 a dual member of the Legion and Auxiliary. She's a  
17 veteran. Thank you, Marty.

18 (Applause.)

19 PPP CHAIR MARSH: In her local community and  
20 wherever she has lived through her past years since her  
21 military, I don't know much about her before that and  
22 maybe that's best, but Marty is there whenever anything  
23 needs to be done, whether it's an organization in the  
24 community, whether it's a nextdoor neighbor, whether it's  
25 veterans causes, everything, she helps people. Thank you,

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1 Marty.

2 UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR McGRATH: Thank you.

3 PPP CHAIR MARSH: I just have a little bit more  
4 to go and then I'll feed you. She can wait for me.

5 Okay. This concludes my supplemental report.  
6 May I continue with my first place awards?

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Absolutely.

8 PPP CHAIR MARSH: All right. First Place  
9 District Supplemental goes to Demetress Wheeler, Chairman,  
10 District 25.

11 (Applause.)

12 PPP CHAIR MARSH: First Place Unit award goes to  
13 Unit 252, District 23, Alberta Cummings.

14 (Applause.)

15 PPP CHAIR MARSH: Madam President, this concludes  
16 my report.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you.

19 PPP CHAIR MARSH: I did have one more thing to  
20 say. Always one more. I just want to thank you, Madam  
21 President. On behalf of the Past Presidents it has been  
22 an honor serving as your Surfing Bettys this year. You  
23 know, I learned yesterday of -- she told us what a Surfing  
24 Betty was, somebody asked her, and she said the Bettys are  
25 the experienced surfers. That's another word for seniors.



1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Liz, do you have --  
2 do you have any sound waves? She's got a whole bunch of  
3 waves coming in, so --

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. So first the  
5 PPP luncheon is in the Redwood Plaza which is around by  
6 the terrace area in front.

7 Corsages can be picked up at District 15's  
8 chairs, right in that area, if you still have corsages to  
9 pick up.

10 Any banquet tickets ordered through the Auxiliary  
11 have been passed out. There is a unit list. If someone  
12 can't use their ticket, please see Debbie Hurado for the  
13 wait list.

14 Anita's Dream Team Captains, please meet at the  
15 upper terrace outside the restaurant on Saturday, June  
16 25th. Bonnie's Crown Princesses and Sandy's Colonels will  
17 meet in the back of the room after session today. And  
18 then we currently have three PPP luncheon tickets  
19 available. See -- Lois Cornish has one and then District  
20 7 has two.

21 Lois, I told LuAnn Capazzi to see you. So that's  
22 one of them.

23 POPPY PRODUCTION MANAGER CORNISH: So that's  
24 where the \$50 came from.

25

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Probably. I just

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1 told her to see you. Okay. And then last, but not least  
2 because it's Pat Alvarez's message and she'll murder me or  
3 Ruby will. They're waving at me. Goldie's Golden Links,  
4 Jeri's Cards, Ruby's All Stars, Margaret's Indian  
5 Princesses, Shelby's Actresses, Pilar's Music Makers, and  
6 Harriet's Master Crafters will meet in the back of the  
7 room immediately after session on Friday. That would be  
8 today, yes.

9           And I've got -- I've got an earring up here.  
10 There's another missing one somewhere if you find another  
11 one. I've also got a pair of glasses, a black jeweled  
12 like broach, some paperwork, and something else in the  
13 office. If you're missing anything, come visit the  
14 office.

15           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Those of you who  
16 are making nominations for office for 2022-2023, please  
17 come to the stage when we return from lunch. And we will  
18 recess for lunch and reconvene at 2:00 o'clock today.

19                           (Lunch recess taken 11:57 a.m.)

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AFTERNOON SESSION - 2:12 P.M.

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DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: This convention is reconvened. Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms with the Distinguished Guest Chairman escort our special guest Jere Romano, leading candidate for the Department Commander.

8

(Processional.)

9

10

AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Of course I had a very good mentor. He told me never show up to the Auxiliary President and not bring her a guest. Obviously beautiful roses for a beautiful lady. Gift card, which I know she said she doesn't want gifts. She can raffle them off and make some money; right? And then my Commander's coin from my time at Palisades for four years. So there you go.

17

(Applause.)

18

19

AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Thank you so much.

20

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I'll always be your

21 fan.

22 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Well,  
23 thank you, Madam President, for allowing me a few minutes.  
24 I know it's hot outside. I spoke to the Sons earlier.  
25 Being a dual member of the Sons, it makes us dual is cool.

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1 And they were wearing shorts over there. My God.

2 So I know some of you heard me speak before.

3 Obviously I'm from Ronald Reagan Post 383, District 24.

4 (Applause.)

5 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: My fan  
6 base is up front.

7 DELEGATE: We're back here too.

8 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: That's  
9 District 18. Love the ladies of District 18. You guys  
10 are killing it. If you guys don't know, I am a Facebook  
11 stalker. So if you have a Facebook, Instagram, or  
12 something and you're doing great things, let me know and I  
13 will follow you because that's how I follow and stalk  
14 everyone. So -- and also I do try to get out and support.  
15 I support the breakfasts, I support the Auxiliary.

16 Before I get much further because I've already  
17 paid about a hundred dollars in fines this year for not  
18 introducing, I wouldn't be here today honestly -- and we

19 always make that story that a great man is only as good as  
20 the person behind him. You know, not specific gender  
21 specific anymore, at the end of the day though this woman  
22 actually fixed this Marine. She would have been a great  
23 drill instructor. I swear. I get flashbacks and fall  
24 into the fetal position. I'm like, yes, thank you. You  
25 know, we have eight kids. You know, half the time when I

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1 hear her scream "fall in," I'm running with them.

2 No, but honestly, you know, any time in the  
3 Marine Corps or active duty personnel, I've been a police  
4 officer now for 29 years and we see a lot of things, a  
5 whole lot of things.

6 (Applause.)

7 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Thank  
8 you. It -- you know, it takes its toll on us over a long  
9 period of time. Twenty-nine years. This next November  
10 will be 30 years for me. She did fix me, so please allow  
11 me to introduce my wife, the power behind me as a person  
12 and the Legionnaire, Martha Romano, District 24.

13 (Applause.)

14 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: And I  
15 know you didn't come here to listen to me rattle on about  
16 how wonderful my wife is and how troubled I am with PTSD

17 with the police department and all the other stuff, but to  
18 hear about how I'm going to be as Department Commander.  
19 Yes, it's now true, I am the only nominee.

20 (Applause.)

21 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Pretty  
22 safe to say, unless a moose hits me on the way back to the  
23 hotel, it's going to be me.

24 But that being said, my wife and I, we truly  
25 believe in the Legion Family. We brought the Legion

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1 Family to Palisades post. We started Legion Family  
2 programming there, Halloween parties for the kids and we  
3 started bringing the Sons together. I heard stories that  
4 the Sons were never supported by the Legionnaires. I  
5 turned that around. You know how we did for Michael Fox.

6 So, you know, we believe in the Legion Family,  
7 the wife and I, and we try to do that with everybody that  
8 we're connected with. It's a nexus. We work together.  
9 So my hope and dream this next year, and I know poor Anita  
10 has been getting all my emails, so the budget is so bad  
11 for the Department of California on the Legion side that  
12 we are only going to have one in-person meeting, one  
13 in-person DEC next year. That's all we can afford.

14 Because as Department Commander, I did not want

15 to cut programming. I didn't want to cut the VSOs just so  
16 we can get together and have a party. Because that's not  
17 what we're about. We're about serving veterans and active  
18 duty in our communities; right?

19 (Applause.)

20 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: So we  
21 are working diligently to have a joint DEC in January.  
22 When you have your Mid-Year, we are hoping that the Legion  
23 and the Sons will be right there with you so we can  
24 maximize our dollars, get out of our silos, and actually  
25 work together to the betterment of our veterans.

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1 (Applause.)

2 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Like I  
3 said, I believe in the Legion Family. And our  
4 organization, I'm not talking about the Auxiliary, I'm  
5 talking about the Legionnaires, the Department is now  
6 using some of my terms. We have stagnated. We are losing  
7 members quicker than we can gain them. Why? Because the  
8 old ways don't work and we continue to do them.

9 (Applause.)

10 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: So to  
11 that end, my goal for this next year, one of many, I know  
12 we always try to do too much, but my goal for next year is

13 to get us out of our silos, get out of our individuality,  
14 and bring the Legion Family together to roll in the same  
15 direction.

16 (Applause.)

17 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: Of  
18 course we're still going to do the Quartermanias, we're  
19 still going to do the breakfasts, we're going to do all  
20 that great stuff, but darn it we're going to do it  
21 together. So ladies -- and, God, I hope there's some  
22 gentlemen in here. All right.

23 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: We have one.

24 AL DEPARTMENT COMMANDER CANDIDATE ROMANO: I'm  
25 always looking to make sure that the gentlemen are

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1 recognized as well because they are part of the Auxiliary  
2 and I recognize their work as well. So please, thank you  
3 for your time allowing me to speak before you today. I  
4 hope part of my message is resonating with you. But you  
5 can guarantee, and I know there's some issues going on  
6 right now that we're not really talking about, but this  
7 Commander supports the Auxiliary. Thank you for your  
8 time.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Also in the back of

11 the room we have Robert Brown, Los Angeles County Court  
12 Adjunct.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: And also back there  
15 with him is James Wilson. James Wilson, District 23,  
16 Commander.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I'd like to  
19 introduce our little Pages this year. If I could have the  
20 Pages -- Ann, could I have the Pages come up front and  
21 just be recognized by the members? They've been running  
22 their little tootsies off. How many do we have? Two,  
23 four, six. Six girls. Seven. Seven girls.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: What a photo opp.

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1 I would say Kodak moment, but I don't think they know what  
2 that is. It's great to have our Juniors participate in  
3 our program. One more photo, Ann. Come and put back on  
4 your faces. Pretend like you like each other.

5 Okay. Thank you. The chairmen giving reports  
6 after nominations will be Girls State, Education, Children  
7 & Youth, Poppy, Membership, Editor, Education -- I had  
8 that on twice -- and National Security will be going on

9 stage.

10 So at this time we'll proceed with the  
11 nominations of Department Officers, Junior Member of  
12 Finance, Delegates and Alternates to National Convention.  
13 If there is no objection the Chair will open the  
14 nominations for -- well, for everything. Nominations are  
15 now open for the office of Department President.

16 The Chair recognizes Anita Biggs, Past Department  
17 President, from District 23.

18

19 NOMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2022-2023

20

21 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: I broke it. I  
22 fixed it. Good afternoon, everyone. Gloria Jean Williams  
23 is a 38-year member of Jackie Robinson Unit 252, 23rd  
24 District located in Los Angeles. Gloria is eligible  
25 through for the Auxiliary through the service of her late

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1 father Isaiah Jenkins who served during World War I.

2 Yeah, getting up there.

3 On the unit level and district level, Gloria  
4 served as president along with most chairmanships. On the  
5 department level, Gloria has served as Credentials,  
6 Legislative, Junior Conference, Junior Activities,

7 Community Service, Leadership, Americanism, Children &  
8 Youth, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Constitution &  
9 Bylaws Chairman and Sergeant-At-Arms and Marshal. She is  
10 currently serving as Vice President.

11 Gloria is retired after working 33 years as an  
12 executive officer for Los Angeles County. Gloria is the  
13 proud mother of two adult children, Nut Butterfly and  
14 Craig Williams, four children -- I mean grandchildren, and  
15 four great grandchildren. All are members of the American  
16 Legion Family. It is with great pride as would they stand  
17 as I say this, the 23rd District, will you please stand?  
18 It is with great pride and joy that I nominate Gloria  
19 Williams for the office of President Department of the  
20 California 2022-2023.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Are there any  
23 further nominations for Department President?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Don't be afraid.

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1 Come on up.

2 Okay. Nominations are now open for the Office of  
3 Department Vice President. The Chair recognizes Jean  
4 McGinnis of District 7.

5                   DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE McGINNIS: Glenda Schultz  
6           joined the American Legion Auxiliary in 2007 at Unit 521,  
7           District 6. Her eligibility is through her brother Harold  
8           Schultz, a Vietnam Era Army veteran. She's very proud of  
9           her family's service to our country. Six uncles served in  
10          the U.S. Navy during World War II and one in the U.S. Navy  
11          in the Vietnam Era.

12                   On the unit level Glenda has held all major  
13          chairmanships. She served five consecutive terms as Unit  
14          521 president. She served four years as District 6  
15          president.

16                   On the department level Glenda served as Mid-Year  
17          DEC Chairman, deputy for the VA Northern California  
18          Healthcare System at Mather, Northern California  
19          Department Workshop Chairman for five years, the Rules  
20          committee, Americanism Chairman, committee -- Community  
21          Service Chairman, Children & Youth Chairman and VA&R  
22          Chairman.

23                   Glenda moved to Roseville and transferred to Unit  
24          169, District 7 in 2020. She has strongly supported and  
25          appreciated and participated in Unit 169 and District 7

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1           activities. We have been blessed to have Glenda join us.

2                   After graduating from high school she worked for

3 AT&T and retired as a manager after 25 years of service.  
4 After retiring Glenda was a corporate escrow officer for  
5 five years. After that she worked for Pacific Group  
6 Engineering as a site acquisition specialist. Glenda has  
7 two sons, one grandson, one great grandson, all members of  
8 the SAL.

9 District 7, please stand. Alyn W. Butler Unit  
10 169 and District 7 are proudly nominating Glenda Schultz  
11 for the office of American Legion Auxiliary Department --  
12 (Applause.)

13 DISTRICT 7 DELEGATE MCGINNIS: Okay. We're  
14 nominating her for the office of the American Legion  
15 Auxiliary Department of California Vice President for  
16 2022-2023.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Are there any  
19 further nominations for the office of Vice President?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Okay. Hearing  
22 none, nominations for the Department Vice President are  
23 now closed.

24 Nominations are now open for the office of  
25 Department Junior Member of Finance. The Chair recognizes



1 Maureen O'Brien-Sacco from District 18.

2 AMERICANISM CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Thank you.

3 Teresa Lugo-Nunez is eligible through her father, Gary  
4 Roth. She has held many chairmanships in both unit and  
5 district levels as well as unit and district president.  
6 She has been a member of the finance committee as well as  
7 the audit committee. Her passion has been working around  
8 homelessness since 1979. She continues to do so today.

9 Teresa hold a bachelor's degree in nursing from  
10 the University of Southern California with a master's in  
11 social work, a master's in business from -- excuse me --  
12 Mount Sed University as well as a doctorate in business  
13 counseling psychology from the University of Chicago.

14 Teresa is a mother of three grown children and a  
15 grandmother of two. She has held a nursing license for 35  
16 plus years. She spent 15 of those years in management.  
17 She runs her own free counseling service for PTSD trauma  
18 and PTSD rape trauma, along with counseling the children  
19 of veterans who are on hospice.

20 Teresa is a former member of District 18 and  
21 moved to the 17th District to help them grow. She is a  
22 member of Unit 628 in Chinatown and seeks your support as  
23 Junior Member of Finance.

24 With that, Madam President, I nominate Teresa  
25 Lugo-Nunez for Junior Member of Finance for 2022-2023.



1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Are there any  
3 further nominations for the office of Department Junior  
4 Member of Finance?

5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none,  
7 nominations for the Department Junior Member of Finance  
8 are now closed.

9 We will now proceed with the nominations for  
10 delegates to the National Convention. Nominations are now  
11 open for delegates to National Convention.

12 Secretary Liz Doidge, please read the names of  
13 the nominations.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do I read them in  
15 district order or do I read them in strength order?

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: District order.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. So District  
18 1 pass. District 2 Mary Sanders. District 3 pass.  
19 District 4 pass. District 5 pass. District 6 pass.  
20 District 7 Glenda Schultz. District 8 pass. District 9  
21 Linda Workman. District 10 pass. District 11 Grace  
22 Huston. District 12 pass. District 13 pass. District 14  
23 Debra Hurado. District 15 pass. District 16 Linda

24 Fercho. So focused on getting her name right that I can't  
25 say 16 now.

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1 District 17 Teresa Nunez. District 18 Maureen  
2 O'Brien-Sacco. District 19 pass. District 20 Nancy  
3 Heinisch. District 21 pass. District 22 Susanne Tozier.  
4 District 23 Anita Biggs. District 24 pass. District 25  
5 pass. District 26 Peggy Toye.

6 I can't see who you're pointing at. Come into  
7 the aisle and you'll get a mic.

8 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ROMANO: District 24 you  
9 said pass?

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes.

11 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ROMANO: I should be the  
12 delegate.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Do you have  
14 an alternate while we're at it?

15 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ROMANO: Yes. Deloris  
16 Artis.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I remember seeing  
18 that one. I'm sorry. That's my fault.

19 District 25, do you have one as well?

20 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT KURKOSKE: I sent in a form  
21 for Carol Fuqua. She lives in that state and she's still

22 part of District 29 -- I mean 25 so she wants to go as a  
23 delegate.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do you have an  
25 alternate as well?

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1 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT KURKOSKE: Tamra Bell.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Thank you.

3 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: What's the  
4 name of the delegate?

5 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT KURKOSKE: Carol Fuqua. I  
6 think you all remember her.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So District 24 will  
8 be Martha Romano. District 25 Carol Fuqua. District 26  
9 Peggy Toye. District 26 is passing. District 27 is Susan  
10 Baker. No. District 27. Sorry. I got that one wrong.  
11 District 27 passes. District 28 is Susan Baker. District  
12 29 is a pass and District 30 is a pass.

13 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT WHITE: Please, I'm sorry,  
14 but I think I'm on the list for District 27.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do you have an  
16 alternate as well?

17 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT WHITE: Yes, I do.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So District 27 will  
19 be Danielle White, and who's your alternate?

20 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT WHITE: Susan Zimmerman,  
21 Z-I-M-M-E-R-M-A-N.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. So based on  
23 our current membership we get 17 total delegates. Our  
24 first four delegates are our Department President Dee Ann  
25 Graham, President Elect Gloria Williams, Department

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1 Secretary or Secretary Elect, which is myself, and the  
2 National Chairman for Education Melanie Taylor. So that  
3 leaves us with 13 seats to fill. One, two, three, four,  
4 five, six. We have 15. So of those 15 that are  
5 delegates, are there any of you that are not attending?  
6 Yes. Come up so we can get you to a mic.

7 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT SANDERS: Mary Sanders,  
8 District 2, pass.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you, Mary.  
10 Juniors up here, can we get a mic, or Pages.

11 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ROMANO: I can move to  
12 alternate. She's not here, but I can go down to  
13 alternate. I mean I'm going.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Can we do that,  
15 Anita? Is that okay to move her down?

16 Do we know if Deloris is going?

17 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ROMANO: I don't know.

18 She's having health issues right now.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Okay. So  
20 that's one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight,  
21 nine, 10, 11, 12, 13. Are we good? We're good.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do you want me to  
25 reread them one more time? Okay. So District 1 is a

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1 pass. District 2 is a pass. District 3 is a pass.  
2 District 4 is a pass. District 5 is a pass, District 6 is  
3 a pass. District 7 Glenda Schultz. District 8 pass.  
4 District 9 Linda Workman. District 10 pass. District 11  
5 Grace Huston. District 12 pass. District 13 pass.  
6 District 14 Debra Hurado. District 15 pass. District 16  
7 Linda Fercho. District 17 Teresa Nunez. District 18  
8 Maureen O'Brien-Sacco. District 19 pass. District 20  
9 Nancy Heinisch. District 21 pass. District 22 Susie  
10 Tozier. District 23 Anita Biggs. District 24 pass.  
11 District 25 Carol Fuqua. District 26 pass. District 27  
12 Danielle White. District 28 Susan Baker. District 29  
13 pass, and District 30 pass.

14 I move that we accept the delegate -- national  
15 delegates to Convention.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion on  
17 the floor to -- to close delegates for national  
18 convention. Any further discussions, changes?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All in favor, say  
21 aye.

22 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Motion carried.

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1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And now we get to  
2 do it for alternates. District 1 is a -- for alternates  
3 is a pass. District 2 is Carolyn Glenn. District 3 is a  
4 pass. District 4 is a pass. District 5 is a pass.  
5 District 6 is a pass. District 7 Bonnie Bradbury.  
6 District 8 pass. District 9 pass. District 10 pass.  
7 District 11 Marcia Munroe. District 12 pass. District 13  
8 pass. District 14 Cynthia Oliphant. District 15 pass.  
9 District 16 pass. District 17 Gina Lugo-Tully. District  
10 18 pass. District 19 pass. District 20 is Linda Hayes.  
11 District 21 pass. District 22 Lois Cornish. District 23  
12 Lucy Hunt. District 24 Martha Romano. District 25 Tammy  
13 Bell. District 26 Arlene Muller. District -- wait,

14 please. District 27 -- we're short right now so please  
15 wait. District 27 pass. No. District 27 Susan  
16 Zimmerman. District 28 is a pass. It was me, but I'm in  
17 my own right or whatever it is. District 29 pass.  
18 District 30 pass.

19 So that's one, two, three, four, five, six,  
20 seven, eight, nine, 10, 11, 12. We need one.

21 Tracy, go ahead.

22 LEADERSHIP CHAIR VARNELL: Tracy Varnell Fercho,  
23 District 16, Unit 741. I may possibly be going so I can  
24 be on the list. I think my mom might drag me into it.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: We know how it is.

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1 Okay. Thank you, Tracy. There was a pass.

2 UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Don't we go by membership  
3 strength?

4 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Not for  
5 alternates. Not for the first go around.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. So they're  
7 caucusing right now. So what they're saying up here is  
8 districts would have to caucus and the District Presidents  
9 would have to come make that announcement.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Announcements.

11 (Singing.)

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: It's so hard.

13 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT OCLARAY: Terry Oclaray,  
14 District 16 President. We held our caucus and we're  
15 nominating Tracy Varnell for the alternate.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Hold it up to your  
17 mouth.

18 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT OCLARAY: Now can you hear  
19 me? Terry Oclaray, District 16 President. We held our  
20 caucus and we're nominating Tracy Varnell Fercho as the  
21 alternate to National.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you. Okay.  
23 We have 13 now. So alternates, District 1 pass. District  
24 2 Carolyn Glenn. District 3 pass. District 4 pass,  
25 District 5 pass. District 6 pass. District 7 Bonnie

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1 Bradbury. District 8 pass. District 9 pass. District 10  
2 pass. District 11 Marcia Munroe. District 12 pass.  
3 District 13 pass. District 14 Cynthia Oliphant. District  
4 15 pass. District 16 Tracy Varnell Fercho. District 17  
5 Gina Lugo-Tully. District 17 pass. District -- no,  
6 District 18 pass. District 19 pass. District 20 Linda  
7 Hayes. District 21 pass. District 22 Lois Cornish.  
8 District 23 Lucy Hunt. District 24 Martha Romano.  
9 District 25 Tammy Bell. District 26 Arlene Muller.

10 District 27 Susan Zimmerman. District 28 pass. District  
11 29 pass. District 30 pass. I move that we close the  
12 election of alternates for National Convention.

13 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Nomination.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Oh, the nomination  
15 for alternates to the National Convention.

16 NEC WOMAN MARTINEZ: Second.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Nominations are now  
18 closed for National Convention. Let's carry that out as a  
19 vote. Are there any further -- anybody want to step up?

20 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Madam  
21 President, I move for the acceptance of the nominated  
22 delegates and alternates to the National Convention.

23 NEC WOMAN MARTINEZ: Second.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion on  
25 the floor to accept the nominations for delegates and

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1 alternates to the National Convention. Any further  
2 instructions -- or discussions? I know it's only Friday.

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
5 in favor?

6 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Motion carried.

10 Thank you, Melanie. Nominations are now closed for the  
11 alternates to National Convention. You know what I forgot  
12 to do?

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: The day's not  
14 over with so you can adjust your agenda any way you want.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yes. Back and  
16 forth, back and forth. Are there any further nominations  
17 for Department President?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none,  
20 nominations for Department President are now closed. See,  
21 I gave you enough time to come up and -- I was leaving the  
22 floor open for anybody to come on up.

23 So we'll now continue with the Department  
24 Chairmen reports. And, Gloria, do you have your -- okay.  
25 Allyn Kau, Girls State. Linda Hayes, Poppy. Here comes

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1 our flower girl. After Poppies we're going to go to Music  
2 and Editor Nancy Heinisch.

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4

POPPY CONVENTION REPORT

5

6                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Good afternoon, Madam  
7                   President. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund preconvention  
8                   committee met on Thursday June 23rd, 2022 in the Pine Room  
9                   in the Wyndham Hotel in Visalia, California. Poppy. Oh,  
10                  guess where I took it off of from? But this is supposed  
11                  to be Poppies. I'm sorry.

12                  DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I know how you  
13                  feel. I know how you feel.

14                  POPPY CHAIR HAYES: This is the Poppy committee.  
15                  Okay. The statistical report of this chairman appears on  
16                  page 23 of the Book of Reports. Martha Romano, District  
17                  24 was appointed secretary, Lois Cornish, District 22  
18                  offered prayer, and Karen Herrera, District 15, was  
19                  appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 19 delegates  
20                  answered roll call. There were two visitors.

21                  The Poppy Department code was read. The  
22                  following changes are presented for your approval.  
23                  Section 4 as it reads now: "Poppies may not be ordered on  
24                  consignment but may be ordered on credit and must be paid  
25                  for immediately after distribution. Units shall forward

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1                  10 percent of the net proceeds of Poppy receipts to the  
2                  Department Office with a financial report made in  
3                  quadruplicate (one copy sent to the Department Office with

4 checks, copy to the District Chairman, Department  
5 Chairman, and retaining one copy in the Unit files.) Each  
6 Unit must file a Poppy Financial Report whether or not a  
7 profit was made. A Unit not distributing poppies must  
8 also file a report. Failure to comply shall disqualify a  
9 Unit from convention representation. (2001)."

10 The proposed change is just basically simplifying  
11 that and breaking it down into subsections. "Poppies may  
12 not be ordered on consignment but may be ordered on credit  
13 and must be paid for immediately after distribution.  
14 Units shall forward 10 percent of the net proceeds of the  
15 Poppy receipts to the Department Office with the Financial  
16 Report and their payment. Units shall make three  
17 additional copies forwarding one copy of the Financial  
18 Report to the Department Chairman, one to the District  
19 Chairman, and retaining one copy in the Unit files.  
20 (2022)."

21 Subsection A: "Each Unit must file a Poppy  
22 Financial Report whether a profit is made or not. A Unit  
23 not distributing poppies must also file the Financial  
24 Report. (2022).

25 "The Financial Report should be submitted after



1 National Poppy Day (Friday before Memorial Day), but no

2 later than the first Friday in June, along with a check  
3 for the 10 percent of net receipts. If the poppies  
4 ordered previously have not been paid for by this time, a  
5 second check must also be included. (2022)."

6 Subsection C: "Failure to comply shall  
7 disqualify a Unit from convention representation.  
8 (2022)."

9 The reason for the proposed change. The second  
10 sentence in section number 4 removes "made in  
11 quadruplicate (one copy sent to the Department Office with  
12 checks, copy to the District Chairman, Department  
13 Chairman, and retaining one copy in the Unit files)" and  
14 adds in its place, "and their payment" at the end.

15 A third sentence is inserted that reads, "Units  
16 shall make three additional copies forwarding one copy of  
17 the Financial Report to the Department Chairman, one to  
18 the District Chairman, and retaining one copy in Unit  
19 files." The last sentence becomes subsection A.

20 In subsection B, the deadline is moved to here  
21 from Section 13 since we are talking about the Financial  
22 Report, and Section 13 also reiterates where the copies of  
23 the Financial Report are to be sent.

24 Subsection C removed from the Section 4, last  
25 sentence, is placed lower so it will stand out better.



1 Do I have you guys lost or should I keep going?

2 I move that these changes be accepted.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Which section?

4 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Section 4.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Proposed change to  
6 read: "Poppies may not be ordered on consignment but may  
7 be ordered on credit and must be paid for immediately  
8 after distribution. Units shall forward 10 percent of the  
9 net proceeds of the Poppy receipts to the Department  
10 Office with the Financial Report and their payment. Units  
11 shall make three additional copies forwarding one copy of  
12 the Financial Report to the Department Chairman, one to  
13 the District Chairman, and retaining one copy in the Unit  
14 files. (2022).

15 A) Each Unit must file a Poppy Financial Report  
16 whether a profit is made or not. A Unit not distributing  
17 poppies must also file the Financial Report. (2022). B)  
18 The Financial Report should be submitted after National  
19 Poppy Day (Friday before Memorial Day), but no later than  
20 the first Friday in June, along with a check for the 10  
21 percent of net receipts. If the poppies ordered  
22 previously have not been paid for by this time, a second  
23 check must also be included. (2022). C) Failure to  
24 comply shall disqualify a Unit from convention

25 representation. (2022)."

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1 Is there any further -- any questions?

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
4 in favor?

5 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none,  
9 motion carried for change 4.

10 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. Thank you. Section 6  
11 as it reads now: "That effective with the American Legion  
12 Auxiliary year 2013, Poppy Week will be replaced with May  
13 being Poppy Month. Units wishing to offer poppies other  
14 than the scheduled month must write and receive permission  
15 from the Department President. The deadline date for  
16 requests for permission to change Poppy Month is April  
17 1st. (2012)."

18 It's proposed change to read: "May is Poppy  
19 Month. Units wishing to offer poppies other than the  
20 scheduled month must write and receive permission from the  
21 Department President. The deadline for requests for  
22 permission to change Poppy Month is April 1st. (2022)."

23                   The reason for the proposed change is that it's  
24                   been ten years since we talked about Poppy Week, and so I  
25                   just wanted to make it more current and so May is Poppy

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1                   Month.

2                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Okay. There's a --

3                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: I move that Section 6 of the  
4                   Department Code be changed as proposed.

5                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion on  
6                   the floor to change Section 6.

7                   DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: I'm sorry. I  
8                   have a -- these are codes, not sections.

9                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Linda, instead of  
10                  calling it "section," could you please call it "code"?  
11                  You're changing the code.

12                  DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: Marcy Lysons, Unit  
13                  585, District 26. So this is changing Poppy Week to Poppy  
14                  Month?

15                  DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: No. It already is.

16                  DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: So this is  
17                  changing --

18                  POPPY CHAIR HAYES: It was changed to Poppy Month  
19                  ten years ago.

20                  DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: To Poppy Week?

21                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: No. To Poppy Month from  
22 Poppy Week.

23                   DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: But now you're  
24 giving us a week to turn everything in so maybe we should  
25 put that in.

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1                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: A week? The Poppy Month runs  
2 basically through National Poppy Day, the Friday, the last  
3 Friday of May.

4                   DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: No, I know that,  
5 but it sounds like you're giving us only a week to turn  
6 stuff in now.

7                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Well, that's basically the  
8 way it should be. Because you're writing your Poppy  
9 program for the month of May, so actually the way I've  
10 always looked at it is that after Memorial Day basically I  
11 had to get my Poppy report in.

12                   DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: Okay. But you're  
13 actually -- we're doing the Poppy report without any of  
14 our collections almost.

15                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: No.

16                   DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: When are the dates  
17 then that we have to turn in the paperwork?

18                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Well, it says "should."

19                   DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: Okay. I'm sorry.  
20                   What was the last amendment? If we don't turn it in by a  
21                   certain time, we can't go to the convention; is that  
22                   right?

23                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: By the first Friday in June.  
24                   That didn't change.

25                   DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE LYSONS: So you weren't

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1                   getting in enough of them, so now you're making it a  
2                   penalty.

3                   DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE PHILCOX: Ann Philcox, Unit  
4                   520, District 20. I think the problem that I noticed  
5                   especially with working with Linda, you get your Poppy  
6                   financial report by June 1st but your supplemental is due  
7                   by May 15th, I believe the final one. But that  
8                   supplemental is not for this year. The supplemental is  
9                   for last year because you're not going to go to know  
10                  because -- right?

11                  DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Madam  
12                  Department President, Anita Biggs, Convention Commission  
13                  Chairman. We already dispensed with Code 4 change. You  
14                  all are discussing Code 4. She's moved onto Code 6. You  
15                  all passed the code change. She said it and then the  
16                  Madam President repeated it. Now you want to come back

17 and discuss it, but what she's talking about right now is  
18 Code 6 which is just deleting Poppy Week because now we  
19 don't recognize Poppy Week, we only recognize Poppy Month.  
20 So we don't need to confuse the delegation and go back,  
21 but we can go back later. She needs to finish her code  
22 changes and go forward. Right now we're on 6, Madam  
23 President.

24 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE PHILCOX: Well, you're right  
25 about that. That's what happened to me. I followed

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1 behind what people were saying. Thank you.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Madam  
3 President?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Melanie Taylor.

5 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you,  
6 Madam President. Madam President -- you can't hear me?  
7 Madam President, I was National Poppy Chairman when we  
8 changed the National Code from May, just one week being  
9 Poppy Week. We changed the Poppy Code, the entire month  
10 of May is Poppy Month so the units can offer these poppies  
11 the entire month of May.

12 What Linda is saying here in the proposed change,  
13 the deadline for request for permission to change Poppy  
14 Month is April 1st. No. What it should say -- and if you

15 don't mind me, Linda?

16           Okay. Okay. May is Poppy Month. Units wishing  
17 to offer poppies other than the scheduled month of May  
18 must write and receive permission from the Department  
19 President. That written request to offer poppies any  
20 other month except May has to be to the Department  
21 President no later than April 1st for her to sign the  
22 authorization if you wanted to offer poppies say in  
23 November on Veterans' Day. That's what it's saying.

24           It's not permission to change Poppy Month. It's  
25 to -- permission to offer poppies any other time other

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1 than May. Does that make sense? Okay. Yeah, because I  
2 know a lot of units do offer them not only in May for our  
3 American Legion Poppy -- Auxiliary Poppy Month, but they  
4 also do it during Veterans' Day and some of them even, you  
5 know, they do it other times just depending on their  
6 location and if they have Snowbirds that are around.

7           So, Linda, what this code change should say is  
8 May is Poppy Month. Units wishing to offer poppies other  
9 than the scheduled month must write and receive permission  
10 from the Department President. The deadline request for  
11 permission to offer poppies other than the month of May is  
12 April 1st.

13 I'm writing this down so she can make the motion.

14 No, this is yours, hon.

15 I'll write this down for you, Madam President.

16 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: I'll restate that. Thank  
17 you, Melanie.

18 "May is Poppy Month. Units wishing to offer  
19 poppies other than the scheduled month must write and  
20 receive permission from the Department President. The  
21 deadline for request for permission to offer poppies other  
22 than the month of May is April 1st. (2022)."

23 Again, the reason for the proposed change is to  
24 change Poppy Week to Poppy Month and that would also  
25 correct the offering of poppies in the month of May unless

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1 you have written permission. I move that the proposed  
2 change to Code 6 is amended as read.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Motion is on the  
4 floor to change Code 6, now reads: "Effective with the  
5 American Legion Auxiliary year 2013, Poppy Week will be  
6 replaced with May being Poppy Month. Units wishing to  
7 offer poppies other than the scheduled month must write  
8 and receive permission from the Department President. The  
9 deadline date for requests for permission to change Poppy  
10 Month is April 1st. (2012)."

11                   The proposed change is: "May is Poppy Month.  
12                   Units wishing to offer poppies other than the scheduled  
13                   month must write and receive permission from the  
14                   Department President. The deadline for request for  
15                   permission to offer poppies other than the month of May is  
16                   April 1st."

17                   Any further discussions?

18                   (No response.)

19                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
20                   in favor?

21                   ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

22                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

23                   (No response.)

24                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, the  
25                   motion carried.

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1                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Code 7 as it reads now:  
2                   "Poppy orders shall be accepted only from units of the  
3                   American Legion Auxiliary. The American Legion may  
4                   purchase copies from the Units for Memorial and/or  
5                   initiations only. Order blanks shall be supplied by the  
6                   Department Office using only current forms. Current  
7                   Department Chairman's name and address to be on the form  
8                   and orders forwarded to the Department Chairman and Office

9 by October 1. Requests for additional Poppy orders shall  
10 be made to the Department Chairman who will confirm the  
11 availability of extra poppies. Upon confirmation, the  
12 unit will send an additional Poppy order to the Department  
13 Office with copies to the Department and District  
14 Chairmen. (2012)."

15 And then it was added last year -- I didn't put  
16 that in red for the ladies up here and it should be. But  
17 as it reads now: "Department Chairman will notify  
18 District Presidents and District Poppy Chairmen of units  
19 who did not order poppies by November 10 will owe \$25 to  
20 Department Treasurer by April 15th. (2021)."

21 Proposed change is to read: "Poppy orders shall  
22 be accepted only from units of the American Legion  
23 Auxiliary. The American Legion may purchase poppies from  
24 the units for Memorial Day and/or initiations only. The  
25 Poppy order form will be updated and available on the

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1 Department website by August 1 and included in the  
2 Department's first mailing. The Department Chairman's  
3 name, address, phone number, and email shall be on the  
4 form. The orders shall be forwarded to the Chairman and  
5 to the Department Office by October 1. If the unit is  
6 paying for the poppies when they are ordered, the check

7 should be sent to the Department Office with the Poppy  
8 order form. (2022).

9 "A) If a Unit fails to submit a Poppy order by  
10 October 31st, the unit will be assessed a \$35 fee and  
11 allocated 100 poppies. (2022).

12 "B) The Department Chairman will notify District  
13 Presidents and District Poppy Chairmen of the units that  
14 did not order poppies by November 10th. (2022).

15 "C) If the \$35 assessment has not been paid by  
16 DEC, the Department Treasurer will send out an invoice for  
17 \$30 to the units that still owe the assessed fee. The  
18 unit shall mail a check to the Department Office by April  
19 15. Failure to comply will disqualify a Unit from  
20 convention representation (2022).

21 "D) Requests for additional Poppy orders shall be  
22 made to the Department Chairman who will confirm the  
23 availability of extra poppies. Upon confirmation the Unit  
24 will send an additional Poppy order form to the Department  
25 Office with copies of the form mailed to the Department

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1 and District Chairmen. (2022)."

2 Reasoning for the proposed change. Parts of  
3 Section 7 have been broken down into subsections -- I  
4 should say Code 7 -- to make it easier to read and follow

5 directions. The Poppy order form directions are rewritten  
6 to be -- to make them clearer and adds the phone number  
7 and email address as a unit Poppy Chairman. The deadline  
8 is now in subsection A.

9           Additionally, the assessed fee has changed from  
10 25 to 35 because mailing costs keep increasing. Last year  
11 subsection A was added and now becomes subsection B and  
12 reworded to make the meaning clearer. Subsection C credit  
13 is added to Code 7. The last sentence of Section 7 -- of  
14 Code 7 is now subsection D.

15           I move that these changes to Code 7 be approved.

16           UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Second.

17           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There a motion on  
18 the floor to change Code 7. It reads now: "Poppy orders  
19 shall be accepted only from units of the American Legion  
20 Auxiliary. The American Legion may purchase copies from  
21 the Units for Memorial and/or initiations only. Order  
22 blanks shall be supplied by the Department Office using  
23 only current forms. Current Department Chairman's name  
24 and address to be on the form and orders forwarded to the  
25 Department Chairman and Office by October 1. Requests for

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1 additional Poppy orders shall be made to the Department  
2 Chairman who will confirm the availability of extra

3 poppies. Upon confirmation, the unit will send an  
4 additional Poppy order to the Department Office with  
5 copies to the Department and District Chairmen. (2012).

6 "A) Department Chairman will notify District  
7 Presidents and District Poppy Chairmen of units who did  
8 not order poppies by November 10 will owe \$25 to  
9 Department Treasurer by April 15th. (2021)."

10 The proposed change to read -- the proposed code  
11 change to read: "7. Poppy orders shall be accepted only  
12 from units of the American Legion Auxiliary. The American  
13 Legion may purchase poppies from the units for Memorial  
14 Day and/or initiations only. The poppy order form will be  
15 updated and available on the Department website by August  
16 1 and included in the Department's first mailing. The  
17 Department Chairman's name, address, phone number, and  
18 email shall be on the form. The orders shall be forwarded  
19 to the Chairman and to the Department Office by October 1.  
20 If the unit is paying for the poppies when they are  
21 ordered, the check should be sent to the Department Office  
22 with the Poppy order form. (2022).

23 "7(a) If a Unit fails to submit a poppy order by  
24 October 31st, the unit will be assessed a \$35 fee and  
25 allocated 100 poppies. (2022).



1                   "7(b) The Department Chairman will notify  
2 District Presidents and District Poppy Chairmen of the  
3 units that did not order poppies by November 10th.  
4 (2022).

5                   "7(c) If the \$35 assessment has not been paid by  
6 DEC, the Department Treasurer will send out an invoice for  
7 \$30 to the units that still owe the assessed fee. The  
8 unit shall mail a check to the Department Office by April  
9 15. Failure to comply will disqualify a Unit from  
10 convention representation (2022).

11                   "7(d) Requests for additional Poppy orders shall  
12 be made to the Department Chairman who will confirm the  
13 availability of extra poppies. Upon confirmation the Unit  
14 will send an additional Poppy order form to the Department  
15 Office with copies of the form mailed to the Department  
16 and District Chairmen. (2022)."

17                   Any further discussion?

18                   (No response.)

19                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All in favor?

20                   ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

21                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

22                   (No response.)

23                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, the  
24 motion passed.

25                   POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Code 8 as it reads now:



1 "Units shall not infringe on other Unit local areas  
2 already occupied or those areas that have granted the  
3 American Legion Auxiliary permission to solicit poppies.  
4 If the area is vacant after 12:00 noon, other units may  
5 solicit that area."

6 The proposed code change to read: "Units shall  
7 not infringe on another Unit's local area unless prior  
8 written permission has been received. (2022)."

9 I move that Code 8 be approved as read with the  
10 code changes.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Section 8 now  
12 reads: "Units shall not infringe on other Unit's local  
13 areas already occupied or those areas that have granted  
14 the American Legion Auxiliary permission to solicit  
15 poppies. If the area is vacant after 12:00 noon, other  
16 units may solicit that area."

17 The proposed change for 8 is: "Units shall not  
18 infringe on another Unit's local area unless prior written  
19 permission has been received. (2022)."

20 Any further discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all  
23 in favor?

24 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

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1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Motion carried.

3 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. Miss Poppy Contest.

4 And I didn't write down the code section. And it's 1(a).

5 Okay. Code 1(a) as it reads now: "There shall be two

6 categories, ages 6-12 and 13-18."

7 And then it says -- the Miss Poppy Contest

8 proposed code change to read: "The age range for Little

9 Miss Poppy is 6 to 12 years old," and we're dropping the

10 13 to 18, "(2022)."

11 The reason for the change is that National no

12 longer has a Miss Poppy category for ages 15 through 18.

13 I move that Miss Poppy Contest Code Section 1(a) be

14 approved as read.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: There's a motion on

16 the -- there's a motion on the floor to change Miss Poppy

17 Contest Section 1(a) as it reads now the -- 4(a)? I have

18 it as 1(a). That's why.

19 Miss Poppy Contest Section 4, it now reads:

20 "There shall be two categories, ages 6-12 and 13-18."

21 The proposed change is: "A) The age range for

22 Little Miss Poppy is 6 to 12 years old. (2022)."

23 Any further discussion? Diane needs a mic.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Diane

25 DeLashmit, Past Department President. Just because

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1 National has dropped it doesn't mean we have to drop it.

2 And we'll have -- we can still have the contest here in

3 California and use the rules that they have for National

4 -- that they did have for National. I would be against

5 that. I think I can see -- I know we haven't had a Miss

6 Poppy in a long time. That doesn't mean we can't have

7 them and maybe we need to push it a little bit.

8 (Applause.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Any further

10 discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Hearing none, all

13 in favor say aye.

14 DELEGATES: Aye.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: All opposed?

16 DELEGATES: No.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Code change failed.

18 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Well, that's good.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Did you hear what

20 she said? That's good.

21 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: I'm glad that you girls did  
22 it. Okay. Now the following is a whole new section to  
23 the department code added to address the unit and district  
24 managers.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Ladies.

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1 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: I'm sure that after this year  
2 of doing it for the first time there are some changes to  
3 it. I just tried to come up with some kind of guidelines  
4 to get us through the first part of it. So I'm going  
5 to -- should I read the whole thing or should we go  
6 section by section?

7 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: One at a time.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yeah, I think the  
9 whole thing.

10 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: "The Poppy Production by Unit  
11 or Districts. 1) If there is an insufficient number of VA  
12 facilities to produce poppies to meet the needs of all  
13 units of the Department, the Department Chairman may ask  
14 units and districts to volunteer to make poppies. Units  
15 and/or districts should contact the Department Chairman of  
16 their interest by August 1st to become poppy production  
17 managers for units/districts. 2022.

18 "1(a) Volunteers do not receive pay. Veterans of  
19 units/districts making poppies can be paid 10 cents per  
20 Poppy. The Unit/District Poppy Production Manager will  
21 provide a pay sheet to be filled out by both the Poppy  
22 maker and the Unit PPM. A copy will be sent to the  
23 Department Treasurer for payment, and one copy shall be  
24 sent to the Department Chairman. (2022)."

25 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: Susie Tozier,

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1 District 22. Who is -- for the Poppy payroll, are they  
2 getting the forms from the Department Chairman for the  
3 payroll?

4 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Yes.

5 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: Okay. That was my  
6 question because I wasn't quite clear on it.

7 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE KARNEY: Cathy Karney,  
8 District 26 Poppy Chairman. I just want to make sure I  
9 understand. Are you saying any veteran is qualified to do  
10 them and get paid or do they have to be a disabled veteran  
11 who's prequalified?

12 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Any veteran.

13 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE KARNEY: Any veteran can be  
14 paid.

15 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Any veteran.

16 DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE KARNEY: Okay.

17 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Number 2: "Prior to  
18 September 30th, the Department Chairman shall make  
19 arrangements with the units and districts for the Poppy  
20 production program which may include Poppy making  
21 training. (2022)."

22 Number 3: "Once units have submitted their Poppy  
23 orders to the Poppy Chairman and Department Secretary, the  
24 Department Chairman will assign unit/district production  
25 managers units where their poppies are to be mailed. The

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1 location of each PPM versus the units will be considered  
2 when making the assigned area. (2022)."

3 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: I would like to  
4 insert in there "Department Treasurer" because I'm going  
5 to have to order the Poppy supplies. It says once the  
6 units have submitted their Poppy orders to the Chairman  
7 and Department Secretary, the Chairman will assign -- is  
8 that one? Hold on.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: They get a -- Poppy  
10 orders will get --

11 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: No, no, no.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes, they do.

13 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: It is not the unit.

14 I'm sorry I'm reading the wrong section. I just want to  
15 be sure that the Poppy Chairman notifies the Poppy -- I  
16 mean the Department Treasurer -- the number of poppies  
17 being made by first group so I can order the Poppy  
18 supplies and ship them to those people. And I need that  
19 to be understood in here part of the code. If they're  
20 now -- and they are not to be ordering the Poppy supplies.  
21 It has to go through the Treasurer.

22 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR WORKMAN: Madam  
23 Department President, Linda Workman, Past Department  
24 President. I would just think that where it first states  
25 "Poppy Production Manager," you could put PPM behind it so

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1 that there's no confusion when you're using the name "PPM"  
2 throughout the rest of the code that people don't know  
3 what PPM is.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Poppy production  
5 manager.

6 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE PASCO: Madam President?  
7 Madam President? Sue Pasco, Unit 283, District 24. I  
8 have been doing poppies since I was a little girl and it  
9 just seems like the Auxiliary now wants to take over this  
10 program and try to run it. It just seems like we're doing  
11 a disservice and it seems dishonest.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: It is the  
13 Auxiliary.

14 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE PASCO: It is, but to make  
15 them has never been what the Auxiliary does.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: We don't have the  
17 veterans to make them.

18 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE PASCO: So then why -- I  
19 mean it's just dishonest to go out in the country and just  
20 say: Look it, this is what the veterans have made. No,  
21 the veterans aren't making it anymore; it's the Auxiliary.

22 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: I would like to say here that  
23 we had three facilities, veterans facilities making  
24 poppies last year. This year we lost two of them. So  
25 this says, this section or this code states if there is an

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1 insufficient number of VA facilities to produce poppies,  
2 and then it goes on from there. It's not leaving them  
3 out. If we get those back, then this does not pertain.  
4 It's not leaving them out, the veterans, at all.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: We as the Auxiliary  
6 would much rather have our veterans do it, but we don't  
7 have the bandwidth. We don't have the veterans able to do  
8 it.

9 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE PASCO: Why aren't we going

10 to the homeless? Why aren't we going to the --

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Stop, stop.

12 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE HERON: I need clarification  
13 because I know this --

14 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: You need to  
15 identify yourself.

16 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE HERON: I'm sorry. My name  
17 is Deborah Wilson Heron and I'm out of Hollywood 43,  
18 District 24, Post 43. Am I -- I just need to know because  
19 I don't know -- I don't understand and I would like to  
20 know why.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Why aren't --

22 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE HERON: Why there aren't  
23 enough veterans, so --

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: The facilities have  
25 been -- we lost two out of the three facilities. So we're

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1 not able to reach out to those veterans to make the  
2 poppies, so now we're reaching out to our Auxiliary  
3 members and veterans in their unit or post to help make  
4 the poppies until those VA PPM's, production poppy  
5 managers are filled, those positions. Then we'll go back  
6 and have them -- we'll have the veterans making them.

7 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE HERON: Okay. How is it

8 that you lost it?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Go ahead, please.

10 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE HERON: May I ask is it  
11 possible to ask what facilities it is that you lost.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Yountville and Long  
13 Beach.

14 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE HERON: Okay. Because I'm  
15 out of Hollywood.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Okay. Lois.

17 POPPY PRODUCTION MANAGER CORNISH: I'm Lois  
18 Cornish. I'm from District 22, Unit 820 and I have been a  
19 poppy production manager for almost 20 years. This last  
20 year we lost Yountville and Long Beach. That left San  
21 Diego WAVE Clinic, VAMC WAVE Clinic. And the WAVE Clinic  
22 is dedicated to bringing veterans off the street who want  
23 to get back into a healthy environment and a job.

24 We work with a certain section at the VAMC. They  
25 find my veterans for me. I'm sorry. I have to say "my"

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1 because they're mine. And everybody knows that I am not  
2 for everybody, but anyway, it's a very serious situation.

3 We do not have the veterans to do it because  
4 primarily is because the VAMCs and all hospitals, from  
5 what my understanding is, are trying to make sure that the

6 person is stabilized when they come into the hospital.  
7 They send them home because you cure better at home. And  
8 my people are all veterans who have many, many disabling  
9 things, mostly mental. And we come under -- as a matter  
10 of fact, we come under the mental health department in  
11 VAMC.

12 And we have been in business since 1998 and we  
13 have put more than 1300 veterans back into successful  
14 jobs. Many of them have gotten jobs government -- in  
15 government facilities. And also many of our people are  
16 coming back and they don't -- they don't know about it  
17 because they're not told when they're out, when they go  
18 out of the military. And they get it from word of mouth.  
19 And you can't just walk in. You have to be referred by  
20 your primary at the VAMC or some VA facility.

21 Now last year when everything blew up, for lack  
22 of a better word, but it kind of all got dropped in San  
23 Diego's lap. And guess how many poppy production managers  
24 are in San Diego? One. And so we had to reach out -- oh,  
25 by the way, I forgot, I don't remember what does Anita or

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1 Wendy -- I'm sorry. Not Wendy. Do either of you remember  
2 what came out -- what do you call those things that come  
3 out from the Legion that say you can do something else?

4 Like it came out that there were not enough veterans to  
5 cover the jobs or the poppies, so then they put the word.  
6 You remember that?

7 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Lois, are you  
8 talking about a resolution?

9 POPPY PRODUCTION MANAGER CORNISH: Yes.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: The American  
11 Legion --

12 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: I'll share it.

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: -- at the  
14 National Convention, I believe it was about five or six  
15 years ago, the American Legion submitted a resolution  
16 stating that because of a lack of number of veterans that,  
17 number one, were mentally able to make the poppies and due  
18 to the lack of VAMCs or the State Veterans Homes that were  
19 able to make the poppies, that the American Legion  
20 Auxiliary members were then authorized to make the poppies  
21 but would not be paid. The only ones that can be paid to  
22 make the Poppy is the actual veteran or active duty  
23 military.

24 (Applause.)

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Yeah, the

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1 American Legion National Organization does tell us, even

2       though it's not their program. Originally it was back in  
3       1919, but then they turned it over to the American Legion  
4       Auxiliary, but they still supervise us.

5               POPPY PRODUCTION MANAGER CORNISH: Okay. Saying  
6       that I would like to -- may I say this year has been  
7       eventful and uneventful, but I do want to thank everyone  
8       in the room that had anything to do with the poppies, and  
9       all of you have, for being patient. And I only had three  
10      complaints and they were minor, so -- but I did get an  
11      order on the 25th of May.

12              DISTRICT 26 DELEGATE KARNEY: Cathy Karney,  
13      District 26, Poppy Chairman, and Unit 585 Poppy Puppa.  
14      And I just want to make a point that this is really a stop  
15      gap. We're hoping that this won't happen, but we have a  
16      crisis coming this coming year and some of us, Unit 585 is  
17      a great example, have a very heavy Poppy program and if we  
18      did not have those poppies available, that's our biggest  
19      fundraiser for the year.

20              And so our fear is that we won't have the poppies  
21      available for us to offer to do our big fundraiser for the  
22      year. So that's why I'm saying this is a stop gap and  
23      hopefully we can get these men back to help us out.

24              (Applause.)

25              DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: May I add something



1 to that? We have been in touch with Yountville and they  
2 said as soon as the facility opens, they will be -- they  
3 will be welcoming that program back into the facility.  
4 And in the Long Beach area, the districts surrounding Long  
5 Beach if there is a member, an Auxiliary member once the  
6 facility is open and they want to be a poppy production  
7 manager, please step up and tell your department officers  
8 and get them certified.

9 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT BROWN: Madam President,  
10 Nancy Brown -- go ahead. Okay. Nancy Brown. I am the  
11 District 4 President and also my unit is 807. We do have  
12 our Post Commander and one of our Auxiliary ladies that  
13 are in -- I shouldn't say this, but they're in bed with  
14 Yountville because they're like close, connected. And so  
15 they are -- they're down there. They're always down  
16 there, you know, with all of that. And they did tell us  
17 that with the new change of management down there, that  
18 they are moving around and they are going to get that  
19 Poppy production back and together.

20 And then actually three of my ladies in my Unit  
21 807, they're actually going down there and participating  
22 with them and then trying to get that back going again.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you. Linda.

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POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. So I'll continue.

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1 Okay. "Once units have submitted their Poppy orders to  
2 the Poppy Chairman and Department Secretary, the  
3 Department Chairman will assign units/district production  
4 managers units where their poppies are to be mailed." But  
5 like that is not really clear from that wording. They'll  
6 be assigned units.

7 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Madam  
8 President, point of order. We were stating that you were  
9 going to add the Treasurer?

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Not to the orders.

11 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: You don't want  
12 to be added here?

13 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: No.

14 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: So once be units have  
15 submitted their Poppy orders to the Poppy Chairman and  
16 Department Secretary, the Department Chairman will assign  
17 units and districts to the production managers, the units  
18 where their poppies are to be mailed. I'm going to put  
19 that in there.

20 "The location of each PPM versus the units will  
21 be considered when making the assigned area. (2022)."

22 And we will put in --

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Department --

24 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: -- a number 1(a) after the  
25 first time it says "Poppy Production Manager," in

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1 parentheses "PPM." I'll verify that.

2 So now we go to 3(a): "The Department Chairman  
3 shall send a copy of each Poppy order to the assigned PPM  
4 that is the assigned area."

5 "4. Unit/District Poppy Production Managers  
6 shall keep track of poppies made on a monthly basis. The  
7 PPM will forward a monthly timesheet with the current  
8 Poppy count along with the up-to-date count to the  
9 Department Chairman. The monthly count will include the  
10 names of the volunteers and hours worked."

11 Now this is where we need to add "and Department  
12 Treasurer." You have to have something so -- timesheet  
13 just to show they worked because they got their -- they  
14 made this many and now they have this amount.

15 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: That's good, but if  
16 I have to pay a veteran, it needs to be annotated that  
17 that person is a veteran.

18 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: You can use the other  
19 timesheet that is for veterans that's already --

20 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT HURADO: Debbie Hurado,

21 District 14. Our question is with these Poppy kits.  
22 We're really not sure if they're being sent out to every  
23 district or unit or only those that volunteer. Because we  
24 have lots of units that will not be able to make the  
25 poppies. And if they can't, then are they penalized?

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1 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: That is up here. It says  
2 units and/or districts should contact a Department  
3 Chairman of their interest by August 1st to become Poppy  
4 production managers.

5 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT HURADO: So it's not  
6 like --

7 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: No.

8 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT HURADO: Okay.

9 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: It's volunteer. It's your  
10 units that want to volunteer in the districts.

11 "The rules shall be sent or given to each Unit or  
12 District Poppy Production Manager for signature by the  
13 Unit and/or District Poppy Production Manager. Four  
14 copies shall be signed and distributed as follows: 1)  
15 Department Chairman, 2) Department President, 3)  
16 Department Office, and 4) to be retained by the  
17 Unit/District."

18 That's like the contract that they have now for

19 the VA facilities. The units or districts that are going  
20 to be doing it will be doing it by the contract, so let me  
21 know you're serious and we can get you on that.

22 "6. At the close of production, the  
23 Unit/District Poppy Production Manager, PPM, shall take an  
24 inventory (in triplicate) of all leftover materials on  
25 hand. Copies shall be sent to the Department Office, the

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1 Department Chairman, and retained by the Poppy Production  
2 Manager, PPM. (2022)."

3 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: I think before that  
4 one we insert "The Poppy Production" -- "The Poppy  
5 Chairman will notify the Treasurer how much" -- "how many  
6 poppies will be produced by each PPM and she will order  
7 the poppies and be shipped to the office." It doesn't say  
8 who's going to buy the poppies. I don't want the units to  
9 go out and buy them. It has to go through the Treasurer  
10 so I can, you know, keep up on what I have to pay for  
11 them. That's what I'm telling you. The Treasurer  
12 orders -- no, it's me. The Treasurer orders the Poppy  
13 supplies so the Poppy supply inventory needs to be told to  
14 the Treasurer by the Poppy Chairmen how much do I send to  
15 Unit 291, how much do I send to Lois, how much do I send  
16 to this person.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: So you need a  
18 spreadsheet.

19 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: I need notification  
20 from the chairman how many supplies do I have to order for  
21 that person so I can ship that. So I think that should be  
22 a code before this last one which has the final count.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: But that needs to  
24 happen before we even start the Poppy production.

25 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: I know I have to

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1 order them before they can do the Poppy production.  
2 That's what I'm talking about. And I'm just saying before  
3 this last code that she read, the Poppy Chairman needs to  
4 notify the Department Chairman how much supplies to order  
5 for each PPM.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I think it needs to  
7 be 3(b), not number 7.

8 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: That's where I want  
9 to make sure it's in there. Because if I don't order  
10 them, you're not going to get any. You need supplies.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Linda, will you  
12 read the addendum to number 7 so I can write it down? I  
13 know we're all hoping that our VA facilities will open up  
14 and our Poppy Production Managers will be in place for the

15 year, for next year. That's my hope.

16 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Number 7: "The Poppy  
17 Chairman shall notify the Department Treasurer what the  
18 Poppy production needs for each unit/district order so  
19 that in order that she may order the Poppy supplies."

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Can you make a  
21 motion, Linda?

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Juniors, we need a  
23 mic, please.

24 DISTRICT 19 2ND VICE PRESIDENT BUTLER: Hello.  
25 Debbie Butler, District 19, Unit 496. The Long Beach VA,

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1 right now everything at the Long Beach VA is tentative.  
2 We're trying to work out something with them, but about  
3 three years ago they told us we couldn't do it anymore.  
4 So Pat has some letter for us that we've presented to  
5 them, so we're waiting to find out and trying to make the  
6 program for them again.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Great. Thank you.  
8 We're hoping that will come around soon. Our poppies are  
9 wilting over here.

10 Linda, can you complete the code change, the code  
11 addition, please?

12 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. We're going to try

13 this wording. "The Poppy Chairman shall notify the  
14 Department Treasurer of the poppy production needs of each  
15 unit or district order" --

16 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: It should not say  
17 "unit or district." It should say "Poppy Production  
18 Manager contract amount." I don't need all the units'  
19 stuff. Liz gets that. She can have all that. I just  
20 need a total by contract with the PPMs so I can send the  
21 PPM her supplies. That's all I want. Sorry. Susie  
22 Tozier, District 22, Unit 255.

23 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: We're going to make this a  
24 3(b) instead of at the end. "The Poppy Chairman shall  
25 notify the Department Treasurer of the Poppy production

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1 needs" -- "Poppy Chairman shall notify the Department  
2 Treasurer of the Poppy production needs to the" --

3 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TOZIER: All I want is an  
4 email or a spreadsheet that gives me the bottom line  
5 number for each PPM. I don't need anything else. Oh,  
6 Susie Tozier, District 22, Unit 255. Each PPM. I only  
7 want it by PPM because she's the one that coordinates with  
8 whoever her workers are.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I understand.  
10 Would Linda read that code she's adding to 3(b)?

11 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. So 3(b): "The Poppy  
12 Chairman shall notify the Department Treasurer of  
13 requirements for each PPM supply needed."

14 "The Poppy Chairman shall notify the Department  
15 Treasurer of the Poppy requirements for each PPM for poppy  
16 supplies."

17 Okay. One last time. "The Department Poppy  
18 Chairman shall notify the Department Treasurer the  
19 requirements for each PPM Poppy supplies needed."

20 DISTRICT 28 2ND VICE PRESIDENT GLENNY: Madam  
21 President, hi. Rebecca Glenny, Unit 694, District 28. I  
22 would like to suggest that we send this back to the  
23 committee to have them hash it out and that we deal with  
24 this later."

25 (Applause.)

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Rebecca.  
2 Linda, do you want to take this back and have it  
3 reworked?

4 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. After the convention,  
5 can the Poppy committee meet me back by the water for a  
6 minute.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Okay. Please,  
8 Linda, do it right now.

9 POPPY CHAIR HAYES: Okay. Poppy committee  
10 members, please meet me over there.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Nancy Heinisch.

12 Poppies, get with Linda Hayes. Could you please  
13 take your Poppy chairmen out in the hall, please. Thank  
14 you.

15 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: Okay. I'm going to  
16 do both Public Relations and Music and I am pleased to  
17 report that I have no code changes.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: I'm also one of the  
20 world's fastest talkers, so this will take two minutes.

21

22 EDITOR'S CONVENTION REPORT

23

24 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: The convention  
25 committee for publications, and Patty G gave you all that

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1 information so we're just going to move on from there.

2 The code for the Editor was handed out. No  
3 changes were made and supplemental awards were given.

4 Madam President, may I go on with my platform  
5 remarks?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

7 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: This is for Editor.  
8 I want to thank you for this special appointment. I have  
9 thoroughly enjoyed reporting all the wonderful things that  
10 you have done. Thank you to everyone.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: More than 40 members  
13 submitted articles and photos and it's just with the -- as  
14 with the Chaplain, I am going to continue as Editor, so  
15 please continue to send me your articles, your photos.  
16 And also I was speaking with one of my writers, and if you  
17 have any Juniors, have them send in something, write a  
18 little paragraph. Then when they make their college  
19 applications, they can put down that they're a published  
20 author. So get those things in.

21 And special thanks to Linda Hayes who's my  
22 proofreader, Rebecca Glenny for posting the newsletter  
23 online, and Liz Doidge who sends out the email alert.

24 Madam President, this concludes my platform  
25 remarks. May I hand out my awards?

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

2 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: This goes to Ms.  
3 Debbie Hurado who has written all those first person  
4 wonderful things.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: And, Madam  
7 President, if I may go on with the Music report.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

9

10 MUSIC CONVENTION REPORT

11

12 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: As you know, Donna  
13 Smith's husband passed away and his funeral is on Tuesday  
14 and I am honored that she has asked me to present her  
15 remarks and handle the committee.

16 The convention committee on Music met on June  
17 23rd at 12:00 o'clock in the hallway of the Wyndham Hotel.  
18 And I would like to say thank you to all those wonderful  
19 people who met in the hallway and didn't complain and went  
20 along with it. We were kicked out of the room.

21 Robin Falkenberg was appointed secretary, Hannah  
22 offered prayer, and Donna Mattox was appointed  
23 sergeant-at-arms. A total of 11 district delegates  
24 answered roll call and we had one visitor. There were no  
25 department codes and no changes were made.

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1 Madam President, may I continue with Donna's  
2 platform remarks?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

4 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: Madam President, I  
5 would like to thank you for this appointment. The purpose  
6 of the Music program is to promote the use of music at all  
7 meetings and events. Members participated in parades,  
8 special holiday programs, visits to veterans homes,  
9 funerals, and special ceremonies.

10 And this is from one of the winning supplemental  
11 reports. This is Pat Gracey. "People love to sing, but  
12 with our busy world we sometimes do not lift our voice in  
13 song. Such a shame. There is a place in our physical  
14 being that needs to sing. A song can go where a statement  
15 cannot."

16 And Donna also says a note of gratitude to the 20  
17 districts who completed the end-of-the-year music reports.  
18 She sincerely appreciates their outstanding service and  
19 assistance.

20 Madam President, if I may present the award.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

22 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: This is to Pat  
23 Gracey from 15.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT EDITOR HEINISCH: Madam President,



1 that concludes the music report.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Valerie Hill, are  
3 you here? Ann Philcox, are you ready? Tamra Duron?  
4 Children & Youth Tamra Duron.

5

6 CHILDREN & YOUTH CONVENTION REPORT

7

8 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: Good afternoon,  
9 Madam President. I hope you're enjoying your convention  
10 just as much as we are. I gotta say, I'm not as tall as  
11 Anita but this microphone is still short. And I am short.  
12 If I sent you a card, please come to the side here.

13 The convention committee on Children & Youth met  
14 on June 23rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Plaza Room. The  
15 statistical report of this Chairman appears on page 22 in  
16 the Book of Reports. Sondra Castillo, District 28, was  
17 appointed secretary. Ramona Tafoya, District 21, offered  
18 prayer, and Donita Faltesek, District 13, was appointed  
19 sergeant-at-arms. Better.

20 A total of 11 district delegates answered roll  
21 call. There were two visitors present. Second and third  
22 place district and unit supplemental certificates were  
23 presented and 100 percent reporting certificates were  
24 distributed to six units. The code was read and there  
25 were no code changes.



1 (Applause.)

2 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: Meeting adjourned  
3 at 10:40. Madam President, may I proceed with my  
4 supplemental and first place awards?

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Please.

6 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: As one of the  
7 major programs of the American Legion Auxiliary, The  
8 Artisans of the Department have been busy filling their  
9 galleries and their Children & Youth art exhibitions,  
10 displaying the many ways they supported the Children &  
11 Youth national mission statement of protecting, caring  
12 for, and supporting Children & Youth, particularly those  
13 of veterans and military families.

14 Once again as I read your year-end reports, I am  
15 astounded by the works of the units and their members and  
16 the selfless acts of kindness you have bestowed on the  
17 Children & Youth of our department. You have worked  
18 tirelessly and generously to improve the lives of children  
19 of our veterans and the less fortunate children in our  
20 communities. You are to be commended for the substantial  
21 difference you make in your cities.

22 Fourteen districts reported representing a small  
23 portion of the units in our department. I am confident

24 much activity, support, and monies spent for this program  
25 are going unreported. For future reference, I encourage

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1 all units and districts to complete reports proudly  
2 including your program activities. Units utilized social  
3 media and partnered with organizations in their cities  
4 taking advantage of having military bases in their areas  
5 to provide school supplies and library books to the  
6 elementary school at Fort Irwin.

7           Chairmen within districts worked together to  
8 achieve the goal of donating more items than they did the  
9 previous year. This year 2022 brought in 19,701 school  
10 supplies items. Left over supplies from Fort Irwin were  
11 contributed to the Twentynine Palms Marine Base.

12           District 18 planned their first book drive to  
13 provide books to the military children also at Fort Irwin.  
14 Again with the help of social media they collected and  
15 donated 1,036 books. I'm sorry. I've got a fly going up  
16 my nose.

17           Other units donate to events at Camp Pendleton  
18 providing backpacks with school supplies, toys for active  
19 military children and provided holiday meals for military  
20 families.

21           District 20 has a junior member who has accrued

22 27 hours providing children's activities for children who  
23 visit their post. The Fire Support Combat Training Team  
24 at Fort Irwin asked one unit to assist with a Christmas  
25 party for 60 children. A Christmas tree with decorations

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1 as well as candy bags and toys were provided to the  
2 children of families who serve and sacrifice for our  
3 country.

4 Units participated in the Got Sneakers program by  
5 collecting shoes for children. Hundreds of backpacks were  
6 filled and distributed to needy and homeless children  
7 throughout our department. Holidays were celebrated by  
8 providing Trunk or Treats, Christmas Parties, Easter  
9 celebrations offering baskets to underprivileged children.

10 Members who were once again allowed to visit  
11 schools providing information on Americanism, flag  
12 etiquette, presenting stickers to kids of deployed  
13 soldiers and providing information on anti-bullying.  
14 Brochures, flags and Poppy coloring books with the Poppy  
15 Story were distributed to school children.

16 Units provided pull tabs to The Ronald McDonald  
17 House, a facility that provides housing and food to  
18 families of children receiving long-term medical care at  
19 Loma Linda Children's Hospital. These children were given

20 Christmas gifts and Easter baskets. Childhood cancer  
21 foundation were supported with donations. Campbell Soup  
22 labels were collected and given to local schools to assist  
23 with purchasing computer software for special needs  
24 children. Winter jacket drives were sponsored and gift  
25 cards were given to care for children's needs.

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1 Four units in District 25 were proud to receive  
2 their ALCWF banners for contributing \$1 per member to the  
3 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Units raised  
4 money and donated to the Children's Miracle Network,  
5 Special Olympics, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, sports  
6 teams, and food pantries.

7 One unit reached out to other nonprofits in their  
8 community to support Teddy Bears With Hearts. The  
9 organization provides teddy bears to toddlers of active  
10 duty military children providing comfort to them in the  
11 absence of their parents.

12 Another unit celebrated military child month by  
13 providing snacks, beverages, balls, toys, treats and craft  
14 making for 60 military children. During the month of the  
15 military child, many units report participating in Purple  
16 Up by wearing purple in support of our military children.

17 Units recruited help from junior members to

18 assist in fundraisers and functions supporting children  
19 and youth in their communities. Junior members  
20 participated in 9/11 and Veterans' Day ceremonies reciting  
21 poems and participating in the city's annual Patriots  
22 Parade by marching, singing, and dancing. Junior members  
23 also participated in Christmas Toys for Tots by serving  
24 food and making Valentines Cards for Veterans. Units have  
25 planned barbecues for juniors and community children with

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1 Juniors taking the lead in reciting the Pledge of  
2 Allegiance and giving the opening prayer. These units are  
3 educating and training the future leaders of our  
4 organization, instilling our motto of service, not self to  
5 be carried on to future generations.

6 Units provided information to schools and youth  
7 groups regarding Youth Hero and Good Deed Award  
8 Eligibility. They combed their neighborhood and local  
9 newspapers in search of our youth heroes and children who  
10 had performed good deeds. As a result it is report that  
11 two children were nominated for Youth Hero Awards and 24  
12 children were nominated for Good Deed Awards. These  
13 nominations were sent to the Department Office and then  
14 forwarded onto National for acceptance and recognition.

15 I'm happy to report, I guess, that our children

16 in California must be getting -- be in good shape because  
17 I received no applications for temporary financial  
18 assistance. As you can --

19 (Applause.)

20 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: As you can see the  
21 Department of California units and members are extremely  
22 creative in the many ways to support the Children & Youth  
23 in our communities. We are a department that believe in,  
24 advocates for, and researches the numerous ways in which  
25 to support the National mission of protecting, caring for,

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1 and supporting Children & Youth, particularly those of  
2 veterans and military families.

3 Now for our first place awards. Are you ready?

4 First Place Unit Supplemental goes to Laisa Hall,  
5 Chairman, Pacific Beach Unit 552, District 22.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: First Place  
8 District Supplemental goes to Bonnie Christner, District  
9 20.

10 (Applause.)

11 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: Now at the  
12 beginning of the year I promised a special prize to the  
13 districts that promoted Youth Hero Awards. Unfortunately

14 we didn't have to, but I also promised an award to the  
15 district with the highest increase in Child Welfare  
16 Foundation. The largest donation per member to the  
17 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation goes to District  
18 25, Debbie Fletcher, Chairman.

19 (Applause.)

20 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR DURON: Madam President,  
21 this concludes my report.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Thank you, Tammy.  
23 I'm going to ask Elizabeth Doidge if she has any sound  
24 waves.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Madeline's Love

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1 Princesses and Bev's Stars will meet at the back of the  
2 room today. Joan's Sunflowers 2018-'19 will meet in the  
3 bar after the meeting.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: The lounge.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: The lounge. There  
6 we go. I'll join you. Ruby's All Stars, Shelby's  
7 Actresses, Pilar's Music Makers will meet in the back of  
8 the room behind District 9 and 10 at the close of this  
9 session. And Sue's Lighthouses and Melanie's Balloon  
10 Pilots will meet for breakfast tomorrow on the landing  
11 next to the California Cafe. Order your food and join us

12 at the tables on the landing next to the cafe at 7:30.

13 Okay. I have two more. Anita's Dream Team will  
14 be meeting outside of the landing tomorrow at noon. And  
15 then all District Presidents please meet here at the stage  
16 -- District Presidents meet here at the stage tomorrow  
17 morning at 7:00 a.m. What did I say? 7:00 a.m. Well,  
18 that's what it says. It says -- no, it's not.  
19 Truthfully, it's not. To go over your delegate strength.  
20 No, it's not. If you want me to go quickly in the  
21 meeting, be here at 7:00 a.m. Yeah, District Presidents  
22 need need to be here at 7:00 a.m.

23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Madam  
24 President, with that happy announcement --

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I just read it.

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1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: -- Sue's  
2 Lighthouses and Melanie's Hot Air Balloonists are going to  
3 be meeting right over here right outside the door as soon  
4 as this meeting is in recess.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Can she have a mic?

6 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE STEWART-WILSON: Madam  
7 President, Rebecca Stewart-Wilson, District 24, Unit 43.  
8 I know several of my department presidents groups combined  
9 and their names weren't called, so I'm trying to see where

10 would Terry Mikesell's group meet, Sandy Jacobs, and LuAnn  
11 Capazzi?

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: I'm sorry,  
13 Rebecca, I announced that this morning that Sandy's  
14 Colonels and Bonnie's Prom Princesses would please meet me  
15 in the back of the room after session today so we can kind  
16 of figure out what we're going to do actually. As far as  
17 Terry Mikesell, I have no idea.

18 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE STEWART-WILSON: Thank you,  
19 everybody. Thank you, everybody.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: I'm glad we can  
21 help. This session is now recessed until 8:30 tomorrow  
22 morning.

23 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention  
24 was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.)

25

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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
2 COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN ) ss.

3

4

5 I, Karen A. Aufdermaur, a Certified Shorthand  
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate  
7 Number 10919, do hereby certify that the American Legion

8 Auxiliary - Department of California 102nd Annual  
9 Convention was taken Friday, June 24, 2022, at the time  
10 and place set forth on the first page hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the meeting, the words of  
12 the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California  
13 102nd Annual Convention members were written down by me in  
14 stenotypy and thereafter transcribed by computer under my  
15 supervision; that the foregoing is a true and correct  
16 transcript of the oratory given by the American Legion  
17 Auxiliary - Department of California 102nd Annual  
18 Convention members.

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

22 Dated this 21st day of July, 2022, at Ripon,  
23 California.

24  
25

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Karen A. Aufdermaur, CSR No. 10919