

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
104th ANNUAL CONVENTION
FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024
VISALIA, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME I
PAGES 1 - 218

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

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

I N D E X

	<u>PAGE</u>
Call to Order (Glenda Schultz)	3
Invocation (Patty Martinez)	4
Roll Call (Elizabeth Doidge)	5
Reading of Convention Rules (Linda Karnstedt)	23
Department President Convention Report (Glenda Schultz)	32
Credentials Convention Report (Madeleine Reed)	38
Department Vice President Convention Report (Linda Hayes)	39
National Executive Committee Convention Report (Kathie Martinez)	41
Department Secretary Convention Report (Elizabeth Doidge)	42
Department Treasurer Convention Report (Katherine Tellyer)	65
Department Chaplain Convention Report (Patty Martinez)	68
Department Historian Convention Report (Erika Hernandez)	73
Department Parliamentarian Convention Report (Anita Biggs)	83
Sergeant-at-Arms & Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Convention Report (Jean McGinnis & Melise Munroe)	86
Convention Chair Convention Report (Dee Ann Graham)	89
Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation Convention Report (Susan Baker)	92
Children & Youth Convention Report (Maureen O'Brien-Sacco)	111
Unit Development & Revitalization Convention Report (Tracy Varnell-Fercho)	116
Past President Parley Convention Report (Kathie Martinez)	120
Community Service Convention Report (Patricia Galatioto - read by Tracy Varnell-Fercho)	132
Lunch Recess	141
Nominations for Department Officers 2024-2025	143
Membership Convention Report (Suzanne Winters)	169
Legislative Convention Report (Donna Smith)	182
Editor Convention Report (Nancy Heinisch - read by Donna Smith)	189
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Convention Report (Linda Karnstedt)	191
Webmaster Report (Lyle Workman - read by Linda Workman)	213
Adjournment	217

1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
3 104th ANNUAL CONVENTION
4 FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024; 8:30 A.M.
5 VISALIA, CALIFORNIA

6
7 **CALL TO ORDER**

8
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: This convention
10 session is now reconvened. Ladies, please. The session
11 is reconvened. I request everyone to have their cell
12 phones off. If your phone rings, you will be fined \$5
13 which will go toward the Department President's special
14 project, Be The One.

15 It's on. I'm not close enough. Sorry. And
16 there's too much talking still. Please. We need to be
17 respectful, please. The session is reconvened. Wow,
18 you can tell I feel better today. Sorry.

19 I request everyone to have their cell phones
20 turned off. If your phone rings, you will be fined \$5
21 which will go toward the Department President's Special
22 Project, Be The One. I and our veterans thank you for
23 your generosity.

24 Our Chaplain Patty Martinez will offer the
25 invocation.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

INVOCATION

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Good morning.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Dear Lord, with great humility and affection we offer you this prayer. We wish a more genuine friendship amongst our fellow members as we are United as One. You, Lord, know our future, our faults, and our good qualities, but we most -- but we must put misunderstandings in the past and go towards with those qualities that make us good and with which we can further the aims and concerns of our members. Let us work harmoniously together for the good and success of our Units, Districts, and the Department. Amen.

DELEGATES: Amen.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Just a moment as we're waiting for Liz.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Sorry. It's been nonstop all morning.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Our Department Secretary Liz will call the roll of Officers, Districts, and Presidents. Was I close enough? I'm sorry.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: You're good.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

ROLL CALL

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: President Glenda
Schultz.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Here.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Vice President
Linda Hayes.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Linda. She's
here.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Junior Past
President Gloria Williams.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Excused.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Secretary Elizabeth
Doidge. I'm finally here.

Treasurer Katherine Tellyer.

DEPARTMENT TREASURER TELLER: Here.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: NEC Person Kathie
Martinez.

NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: Good morning.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
Alternate NEC Person Dee Ann Graham.

ALTERNATE NEC PERSON GRAHAM: Here.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Chaplain Patty
Martinez.

1 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Here.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Historian Erika --

3 why do I keep doing that? Erika Hernandez.

4 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: Good morning.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I know your name, I

6 promise.

7 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: I know.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Parliamentary

9 Anita Biggs.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: She will be here

11 in just a minute. She forgot her bag and went back up

12 for it.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Sergeant-at-Arms

14 Jean McGinnis.

15 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: Good morning.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

17 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Melise Munroe.

18 ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MUNROE: Good morning.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

20 Finance Committee Linda Workman.

21 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR WORKMAN: Cha-ching.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Teresa Lugo-Nunez.

23 FINANCE COMMITTEE SR. MEMBER LUGO-NUNEZ: Good

24 morning.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning. And

1 Ann Sanchez.

2 FINANCE COMMITTEE JR. MEMBER SANCHEZ: Counting
3 money.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Advisory Committee
5 Linda Workman.

6 ADVISORY CHAIR WORKMAN: I'm still here.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Joan Cannon.

8 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CANNON: I'm here.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Kathie
10 Martinez.

11 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MARTINEZ: Yeah.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Moving on to
13 Chairmen. Americanism Cindy Rogers.

14 AMERICANISM CHAIR ROGERS: Good morning.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
16 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Linda Karnstedt.

17 AEF CHAIR KARNSTEDT: Here.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Children & Youth
19 Maureen O'Brien-Sacco.

20 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Present.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Community Services
22 Patricia Galatioto. She's excused.

23 Constitution & Bylaws Sharon Moore.

24 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS CHAIR MOORE: Good morning,
25 Liz.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
2 Convention Chairman Dee Ann Graham.
3 CONVENTION CHAIR GRAHAM: Here.
4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Convention
5 Co-Chairman Terry Oclaray.
6 CONVENTION CO-CHAIR OCLARAY: Good morning.
7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
8 Convention Commission Anita Biggs. She's here.
9 Convention Commission Committee Gloria Sinopoli.
10 She's here somewhere.
11 Credentials Madeleine Reed. She's outside.
12 Distinguished Guest Linda Workman.
13 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIR WORKMAN: These feet
14 are made for walking.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Editor Nancy
16 Heinisch. Excused.
17 Education Linda Hayes.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: She's here.
19 Linda.
20 EDUCATION CHAIR HAYES: I'm sorry. I'm here.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: That's how we all
22 feel this morning. Elections Rebecca Glenny.
23 ELECTIONS CHAIR GLENNY: Present.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do I have to call
25 through all the Girls State or can I mark them all

1 excused?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: They're all

3 excused.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Junior

5 Conference -- or Junior Activities Chairman Martha

6 Romano.

7 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIR ROMANO: Here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Junior Conference

9 Director Jackie Cleveland. She was excused.

10 Junior Conference Committee Two Year Lucy Hunt.

11 JUNIOR CONFERENCE TWO YEAR HUNT: Present. Good

12 morning, Liz.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning, Lucy.

14 Junior Conference Committee One Year Rosa

15 Hernandez. She's here somewhere.

16 Junior Conference Nurse Ann Sanchez.

17 JUNIOR CONFERENCE NURSE SANCHEZ: Sorting

18 Band-Aids.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Leadership Donna

20 Mattox.

21 LEADERSHIP CHAIR MATTOX: Good morning, Liz.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

23 Legislative Donna Smith.

24 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Good morning.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: There she is.

1 Membership Suzanne Winters.

2 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Here.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I've already seen

4 her this morning. Membership Support Area 1 Carolyn

5 Glenn.

6 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 1 GLENN: Present.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Support

8 Area 2 Rebecca Glenny.

9 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 2 GLENNY: Here.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Support

11 Area 3 Terry Miller.

12 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 3 MILLER: Here.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Membership Support

14 Area 4 Cassandra Brown.

15 MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT AREA 4 BROWN: Good morning,

16 Liz.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

18 Membership Support Area 5 Cynthia Mayfield. I know

19 she's here too. I saw her. I think she's here. Yeah,

20 I think I talked to her this morning.

21 Membership Support Area 6 Yolanda Zuniga.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Excused.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Music Stephanie

24 Huff.

25 MUSIC CHAIR HUFF: Good morning, Liz.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
2 National Security Liz Doidge. I am here.
3 PPP Kathie Martinez.
4 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Uh-huh.
5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Poppy Robin
6 Falkenberg.
7 POPPY CHAIR FALKENBERG: Still making poppies.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Public Relations
9 Joan Cannon.
10 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR CANNON: Present.
11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Resolutions Linda
12 Fercho.
13 RESOLUTIONS CHAIR FERCHO: Present. Still here.
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Rules Linda
15 Karnstedt.
16 RULES CHAIR KARNSTEDT: I'm still here.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Unit Development &
18 Revitalization Tracy Varnell-Fercho.
19 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Two days and
20 counting.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Veterans Affairs &
22 Rehabilitation Susan Baker.
23 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Present.
24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Ways & Means
25 Chairman Arlene Smith is excused. Ways & Means

1 Committee Marcia Munroe.

2 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MUNROE: Present.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Ways & Means

4 Committee Fran Brossman.

5 WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE BROSSMAN: Present.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Department special

7 appointments. Personal Page Ann Sanchez.

8 PERSONAL PAGE SANCHEZ: The Pages are ready.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Personal Page

10 Jennifer Turner.

11 PERSONAL PAGE TURNER: Ready for the mission.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Mid-Year Chairman

13 Joan Cannon.

14 MID-YEAR CHAIR CANNON: Present.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Mid-Year

16 Co-Chairman Grace Huston.

17 MID-YEAR CO-CHAIR HUSTON: Present.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Mid-Year

19 Co-Chairman Marcia Munroe.

20 MID-YEAR CO-CHAIR MUNROE: Present.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Clovis Workshop

22 Gloria Sinopoli.

23 CLOVIS WORKSHOP SINOPOLI: Present.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Clovis Workshop

25 Co-Chairman Debbie Hurado.

1 CLOVIS WORKSHOP HURADO: Present.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Northern California
3 Workshop Maria Lopez. Southern California Workshop
4 Barbara Toth.

5 SOUTHERN WORKSHOP TOTH: Good morning, Liz.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
7 District Presidents. District 2 Carolyn Glenn.

8 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT GLENN: District 2 sky so
9 blue. President Glenda, we love you.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I love you too.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 4 Samantha
12 Valine. Nobody.

13 District 5 Linda Karnstedt.

14 DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT KARNSTEDT: Here.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 6 Suzanne
16 Winters.

17 DISTRICT 6: Good morning, Madam President.
18 Sensational District 6 is in the house. United as One
19 we will be here until all the work is done.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 7 Meliese
22 Munroe.

23 DISTRICT 7: Thankful for Friday. Thank goodness
24 we're here. Good morning to everyone. District 7 has
25 no fear.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All right,
2 District 7.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 8 Teresa
4 Canonizado is excused.

5 District 9 Dolly Rios, excused.

6 District 10 Susie Mar. Oh, she's out there.
7 She's doing credentials.

8 District 11 Grace Huston.

9 DISTRICT 11: Good morning, Miss Glenda. The way
10 to be United as One our Auxiliary work will never be
11 done. So we thank you so much, Miss President Glenda.
12 It's been a real pleasure to work your agenda.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, thank
14 you.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 12
16 Elizabeth Estavillo.

17 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT ESTAVILLO: Present.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you.

19 District 13 Leigh Williamson. Cece is sitting out there
20 for her.

21 District 14 Debbie Ennen.

22 DISTRICT 14: Good morning, Madam President.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

24 District 15 Linda Carmichael.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning. I'm

1 sorry. I only thought I was all here.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 16 Marion

3 Rocha-Carlos.

4 DISTRICT 16: As an ALA member Be The One. As an

5 ALA member Be The One. Be The One to help a vet and

6 never forget that we will always and forever Be The One.

7 If you're happy to serve a vet clap your hands. If

8 you're happy to serve a vet stomp your feet. If you're

9 happy and you know it and you really want to show it, if

10 you're happy and you know it Be The One.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you. Thank

13 you, Marion.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 17 Teresa

15 Lugo-Nunez.

16 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT LUGO-NUNEZ: Present.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 18

18 Gabriella Ramos.

19 DISTRICT 18: District 18 girls are

20 unforgettable. Serving veterans is always on top.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 19 Diana

23 Livas.

24 DISTRICT 19: Good morning, Madam President.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 20 Carol
2 Harville.
3 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT HARVILLE: Here. Good
4 morning, Madam President.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 21 Ellen
7 Federowski.
8 DISTRICT 21: Roses are red, violets are blue.
9 District 21 is here. Good morning, Liz.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
11 District 22 Janie Jackson.
12 DISTRICT 22: Good morning, Madam President.
13 District 22 all for one and one for all.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 23
16 Cassandra Brown.
17 DISTRICT 23: We are one. Good morning, Madam
18 President. We are one.
19 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: We are one.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yay, thank you.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 24 Melissa
22 Card.
23 DISTRICT 24: Good morning, Madam President.
24 County Seat 24 is in session.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 25 Barbara
2 Toth.

3 DISTRICT 25: United as One is our creed to help
4 our veterans so in need. We do our best, we're proud to
5 say, and we're happy to be here today. Good morning,
6 Madam President.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 26 Peggy
9 Toye.

10 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT TOYE: Good morning, Madam
11 President.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning. And
13 the rest of your district is at Girls State.

14 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT TOYE: Very many of them,
15 yes.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 27 Jean
17 Ring.

18 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT RING: Good morning.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.
20 District 28 Rebecca Glenny.

21 DISTRICT 28: From Monterey Bay to the Corps,
22 District 28 a team choice award. Tremendous in team,
23 golden nuggets we glean, learning united wanting more.
24 Good morning, Madam President.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 29, Carol
2 Borgman.

3 DISTRICT 29: Rise and shine 29. Good morning,
4 Madam President.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Past Department
7 Presidents. 1989-1990 Beverly Sparks. 1992-1993 Willie
8 Burke. 1995-1996 Judy Lloyd. 1996-1997 Ruby Kapsalis.
9 1998-1999 Linda Workman.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: The old broad
11 is here.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 1999 to 2- -- dang
13 it. 2001-2002 Madeline Lee.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT LEE: I'm here.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2002-2003 Nancy
16 Brown-Park. She's at Girls State.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Excused.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2003-2004 Linda
19 Caples. 2004-2005 Melanie Taylor.

20 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: The Hot Air
21 Balloon Pilot is in the house.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2005-2006 Bonnie
23 Christner.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: The other
25 old broad is here too, Linda.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2006-2007 Sandy
2 Jacob. 2007-2008 Shelby Hitch. 2010-2011 Pilar Reyes.
3 2011-2012 Linda Fercho.
4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: The Rodeo
5 Queens are in the house.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2013-2014 Anita
7 Biggs.
8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT PDP BIGGS: Present.
9 Good morning, Liz.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2015-2016 Susie
11 Tozier.
12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Present.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2016-2017 Wendy
14 O'Brien. 2017-2018 Loretta Marsh. 2018-2019 Joan
15 Cannon.
16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CANNON: Present.
17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2019-'21 Kathie
18 Martinez.
19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARTINEZ: Eagle One is
20 flying.
21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: 2021-2022 Dee Ann
22 Graham.
23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT GRAHAM: Let's go
24 surfing.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I agree. '22-'23

1 Gloria Williams.

2 Fresno Representative Cynthia Oliphant.

3 HOSPITAL REP OLIPHANT: Present.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Fresno Deputy

5 Sandra Dowell.

6 HOSPITAL DEP DOWELL: Present.

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Loma Linda

8 Representative Sandra Kurkoske.

9 HOSPITAL REP KURKOSKE: Present.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Loma Linda Deputy

11 Tamara Bell.

12 HOSPITAL DEP BELL: Good morning.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning. Long

14 Beach Deputy Cynthia Mayfield.

15 HOSPITAL DEP MAYFIELD: I'm here.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Long Beach Deputy

17 Debbie Butler. Villages of Cabrillo OPC Deputy Gail

18 Spitzform.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Excuse me, Liz.

20 That was Debbie Butler, Long Beach Representative.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes. Oh, that's

22 right. That updated. My bad. Sorry.

23 Palm Dessert CBOC Nancy Brown-Park. She's

24 excused. Los Angeles Representative Patricia

25 Jackson-Kelly. West LA Ambulatory Care Center Deputy

1 Diana Williams. Downtown East LA OPC Deputy Pamela
2 Dixon-Hicks.

3 HOSPITAL DEP DIXON-HICKS: Good morning, Liz.

4 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

5 Downtown -- oh, I just did that. Bakersfield OPC Deputy
6 Barbara Goodlow. Santa Maria Community-Based OPC
7 Loretta Marsh. Sierra Foothills VA Clinic Lori
8 Franceschi. Northern California Mather Representative
9 Suzanne Winters.

10 HOSPITAL REP WINTERS: Here.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Northern California
12 Mather Deputy Robin Schmidt.

13 HOSPITAL DEP SCHMIDT: Good morning, Liz.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

15 Fairfield OPC Deputy Kelly Germeraad is at Girls State.
16 Martinez OPC Linda Workman.

17 HOSPITAL REP WORKMAN: Here.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Palo Alto
19 Representative Connie Raya.

20 HOSPITAL REP RAYA: Present.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Palo Alto Deputy
22 Arlene Muller. Menlo Park Deputy Joyce Henderson
23 McLeod. Livermore Representative Grace Huston.

24 HOSPITAL REP HUSTON: Present.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: San Diego

1 Representative Susie Tozier.

2 HOSPITAL REP TOZIER: Present.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: San Diego Deputy

4 Irma Mathai. San Diego Deputy Donna Smith.

5 HOSPITAL DEP SMITH: I'm really here.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: WAVE Clinic Poppy

7 Production Manager Lois Cornish. And last page.

8 Barstow Veteran Homes Representative Angie Acosta.

9 Barstow Deputy Judy Samples. Chula Vista Veterans Home

10 Lois Cornish. Fresno Veterans Home Representative

11 Gloria Sinopoli.

12 HOSPITAL REP SINOPOLI: Here.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Lancaster

14 Representative Marcy Velador.

15 HOSPITAL REP VELADOR: Good morning, Liz.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Good morning.

17 Ventura Representative Madeline Lee.

18 HOSPITAL REP LEE: (Raises hand.)

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: West LA

20 Representative Deloris Artis.

21 HOSPITAL REP ARTIS: Here.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Juniors,

23 this is your time to pay attention. Honorary Junior

24 President Olivia Thuney. She's excused because she's at

25 Girls State. Honorary Junior Vice President Alyssa

1 Alcaraz.

2 HONORARY JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT ALCARAZ: Here.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Honorary Junior
4 Secretary/Treasurer Hailey Doidge. She's upstairs sick.
5 She's feeling better. She should be down later.

6 Honorary Junior Chaplain Laura Landis.

7 HONORARY JR. CHAPLAIN LANDIS: Here.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Honorary Junior
9 Historian Laura Smith. Honorary Sergeant-at-Arms Annie
10 Edson.

11 HONORARY JUNIOR SERGEANT-AT-ARMS EDSON: Here.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And Honorary
13 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Mckayla Doidge.

14 HONORARY JUNIOR ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
15 DOIDGE: Here.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: You have roll call
17 complete.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We will have our
19 Rules Chairman Linda Karnstedt now read the convention
20 rules.

21 RULES CHAIR KARNSTEDT: It's too early this
22 morning. I need glasses. Can you hear me? No? Yes.

23

24 **READING OF CONVENTION RULES**

25

1 RULES CHAIR KARNSTEDT: Good morning, Madam
2 Department President Glenda. At this time I will
3 present the convention rules. Your convention rules can
4 be found on pages 20 to 23 of the Book of Reports. I
5 will pause after each rule and if there is a question or
6 an amendment, it may be presented at that time.

7 Rule No. 1: All meetings of the convention shall
8 be called to order at the designated time or as soon
9 thereafter as a quorum is present.

10 A quorum shall consist when one-third of the
11 units in good standing are partially or wholly
12 represented by duly elected delegates or alternates.
13 Department Constitution, Article VI, Section 7.

14 The audience shall remain seated during the
15 business of the convention. The Department President
16 shall designate certain doors to accommodate the
17 delegates who find it necessary to enter or leave the
18 convention hall during the reports of the committee or
19 when the speaker is at the floor. When the speaker is
20 at the podium or on the floor, please minimize any side
21 conversations so as not to disturb the speaker or the
22 audience around you. Cell phones must be turned off or
23 in vibrate mode.

24 The Chair may deviate from the printed program
25 when necessary or expedient.

1 The Credentials Chairman shall report
2 registration as by the Chair.

3 The registration of delegates and alternates
4 shall close at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 29th, 2024.

5 Only qualified delegates shall have a voice and
6 vote.

7 It shall be the responsibility of the District
8 Presidents to see that only accredited delegates and
9 alternates serving as delegates are seated in their
10 district delegation during the business meeting of the
11 convention. If a delegate expects to be absent from the
12 convention except for purposes of attending a committee
13 meeting, they shall relinquish their delegate card to
14 their alternate. The alternate shall then take their
15 seat in the voting section. In the event the delegate
16 does not have the opportunity of reporting to the
17 District President, it shall become the duty of the
18 chairman of the unit delegation to report to the
19 District President of the absence of the delegate and
20 the presence of the alternate or the absence of both the
21 delegate and the alternate.

22 A delegate wishing the privilege of the floor
23 shall rise, address the Chair as Madame Department
24 President, give their name, unit and district number,
25 pause and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

1 A member speaking in debate or a question shall
2 be limited to three minutes. No one shall speak more
3 than twice on the same question without consent of the
4 assembly.

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

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

16 Any committee whose proposed changes in the
17 policy might conflict with that of the American Legion
18 shall confer with the American Legion before presenting
19 said change to the convention. A committee recommending
20 an appropriation of funds for any purpose shall consult
21 with the Department Finance Committee before presenting
22 the recommendation or resolution to the convention.

23 All resolutions to be presented to the convention
24 shall be in triplicate and properly signed.

25 Committees may amend resolutions and

1 recommendations referred to them before favorable
2 reporting the same. Resolutions or recommendations
3 rejected by a committee shall be marked rejected, signed
4 by the Chairman of the committee, and returned to the
5 Department Resolutions Chairman immediately following
6 the committee meeting.

7 A Unit, District, or members presenting a
8 resolution or recommendation shall have the privilege of
9 explaining the same to the committee to which it was
10 referred.

11 Committee shall report to the Convention all
12 resolutions properly submitted and accepted by a
13 majority of the Convention Committee.

14 A resolution rejected by a committee may be
15 brought before the convention by a two-thirds vote.

16 Emergency resolution which may arise during the
17 convention or after the date of submitting resolutions
18 may be presented no later than noon of second day of the
19 convention.

20 Nomination of Officers. Junior Member of Finance
21 Department Delegates, and Alternates to the National
22 Convention shall be held Friday afternoon, June 28th.

23 Endorsement of candidate for National Office
24 shall follow the nominations.

25 Nomination speeches shall be limited to three

1 minutes. There shall be no seconding speeches.

2 Election of Department Officers, Junior Member of
3 Finance, National Candidate, Department Delegates, and
4 Alternates to the National Convention shall be held on
5 Saturday morning, June 29th.

6 The doors of the convention hall shall be closed
7 during the entire election procedure and no one shall
8 leave or enter the hall until the Chair states that
9 election is completed. The exception of this shall be
10 in an emergency, a member may leave and if their absence
11 affects the voting strength, the District President
12 shall immediately notify the Presiding Officer.

13 When there is but one nominee for all offices and
14 but one nominee for the Junior Member of Finance, the
15 nominee shall be elected viva voce. Upon roll call, the
16 District President shall report the number of Units
17 partially or wholly represented by duly elected
18 delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the
19 time of roll call. This is to -- this is to -- this is
20 to determine that there is a quorum of units present at
21 the time of the election.

22 When there is more than one nominee for Offices,
23 Junior Member of Finance, or endorsement for National
24 Office, election shall be by written ballot. The
25 District President shall, when they are instructed by

1 the Chair, take a roll call of their respective
2 delegation to ascertain the total voting strength of
3 their district for the election reporting the same to
4 the Chair.

5 When there are three or more nominees for the
6 Offices, Junior Member of Finance, or endorsement for
7 National Office, unless one nominee receives a majority
8 vote on the first ballot, the nominee receiving the
9 lowest number of votes shall be automatically dropped
10 before proceeding with the next ballot.

11 All members seeking National Office shall be
12 endorsed at a Department Convention by a majority vote
13 not more than three years prior to the date they are to
14 be a candidate for office. The vote shall be by viva
15 voce unless there is more than one candidate, then the
16 vote shall be taken -- shall be by ballot.

17 Each District President and District Member of
18 the Elections Committee shall distribute and collect the
19 votes cast by the District Delegation and deliver them
20 to the Department Chairman of Elections.

21 Department Officers, Chairmen, Committee Members
22 and Past Department Presidents shall vote with their
23 respective districts.

24 Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The
25 vote of an absent Unit delegate, not represented by an

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

5 A majority of the votes shall elect, except that
6 in the election of National delegates and alternates, a
7 plurality shall elect.

8 These convention rules may be amended during the
9 convention by two-thirds vote.

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

14 This concludes the reading of the convention
15 rules. I move that the convention rules be considered
16 as read and be adopted as a whole.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
18 on the floor to accept the convention rules as read.
19 Any discussion?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those in
22 favor.

23 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those opposed?
25 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

2 RULES CHAIR KARNSTEDT: Madam Department
3 President, Rule No. 3 indicates that it's your
4 reasonability to designate certain doors to accommodate
5 delegates entering or leaving the convention. Please
6 direct the Pages to which doors those are.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I'm sorry, I
8 didn't quite hear what you said, but was it the doors?

9 RULES CHAIR KARNSTEDT: Yeah. Designate which
10 doors to accommodate the delegates entering or leaving
11 the convention.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. We'll use
13 the door in the center and the door on my right.

14 RULES CHAIR KARNSTEDT: Okay. I suggest the door
15 Pages request delegates entering the hall to stand
16 quietly until the speaker has finished before returning
17 to their seats.

18 Thank you, Madam Department President Glenda, for
19 this appointment and for the opportunity to serve you
20 and the Department of California.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Linda.
22 You've done a great job.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Liz is
25 going to cheat and use the door over here to the right

1 because the office is right there.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Before I do that,
3 if anybody is parked in the Chase parking lot, please go
4 move your car. They are threatening to tow cars.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Will our Vice
6 President Linda Hayes please assume the Chair for the
7 Department President's report.

8

9 **DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT**

10

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I would like to
12 start by saying from the bottom of my heart I am truly
13 honored and humbled to have served as Department
14 President this year. I thank you all so much for your
15 continuous support.

16 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Can't hear
17 you.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I thank you all so
19 much for your continuous support. I have been reminded
20 every day that our work is a combined effort and that I
21 could not do this without all of you.

22 It doesn't seem possible that we're here in
23 Visalia wrapping up the year. What a fantastic year it
24 has been for me, one that I will cherish forever. I
25 started the year believing that communicating with each

1 other was the most important thing that we do and, boy,
2 did we communicate.

3 My heartfelt thank you for all of you for
4 attending our Zoom meetings and especially for Secretary
5 Liz for her time and for keeping us on track and for
6 always knowing the answers to our many questions.
7 Believe me, we don't ever want to lose her.

8 I started the year believing -- I'm sorry. In
9 January I attended Mission Training in Las Vegas. It
10 was great to see our Honorary Junior President Olivia
11 Thuney and our Honorary Junior Vice President Alyssa
12 Alcaraz attending. It was a fantastic session.

13 In February, I, along with my Pages Ann and
14 Jennifer, was off to District 11. Thank you, Grace, and
15 your district for sharing all of your wonderful
16 accomplishments with us.

17 Next Ann and I were off to District 17, 18, 19,
18 and 24. I was so impressed with the fantastic job that
19 these four districts did pulling together to present the
20 work that they are doing for our veterans. It only
21 proves that we can do it United as One. If we put our
22 minds to our mission, nothing is impossible. You all
23 made my heart proud. I'll try not to puff.

24 Then Ann, Jennifer, and I were on the road to
25 District 16. The first day they had a very informative

1 leadership workshop. The next day was the district
2 visit. What a fantastic meeting. I expected nothing
3 less with all of the mentoring from the three Past
4 Department Presidents in that meeting. Thank you
5 Madeline Lee, Linda Fercho, and Loretta Marsh for
6 continuing to share your knowledge and leadership.

7 In the middle of March our National President
8 Lisa Williamson visited California. It was jam packed.
9 For five days we did not stop. We toured the Northern
10 California VA Mather Hospital, Volunteers of America and
11 the Veterans Village at Mather. The next day we toured
12 the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the State Capitol, met
13 with assembly representatives and representatives and
14 toured the State Capitol.

15 We then flew to Southern California, surprised
16 National President Lisa with a visit to the St. Joseph's
17 Hospital in Burbank where she was born. And then we
18 visited her childhood home in Burbank where her parents
19 and grandparents had homes also -- her grandparents had
20 homes also. She got out and walked around and took
21 pictures and it was -- she had a few tears in her eyes
22 so we felt like we did a good job.

23 We then toured the Hollywood Hills during the day
24 followed by dinner that evening at the Post. The next
25 day we toured the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley,

1 drove to Pacific Palisades and had a beautiful dinner
2 with the Legion Family at the Yacht Club and watched the
3 breathtaking sunset.

4 The next day we visited the Long Beach VA. Our
5 visit started with a beautiful lunch in the garden and
6 then a tour of the spinal cord unit and the blind unit.

7 Then we were off to Allied Unit 302. We had
8 another lunch with them and some of the veterans that
9 they constantly support and provide for. Rodi presented
10 Lisa and I with a volunteers appreciation certificate
11 from the mayor of Los Angeles. That evening we all had
12 massages thanks to Erika, and then it was lights out
13 very early.

14 I ended March with a visit to District 12
15 accompanied by Ann and Jennifer. Thank you Elizabeth
16 Estavillo for the heartwarming reports from your
17 district.

18 In April Ann and I were off to District 29.
19 Thank you Carol Borgman for your hospitality and the
20 great reports that included one from our Honorary Junior
21 President. After the meeting Carol and her son drove us
22 out to Redlands for the District 25 visit the next day.
23 Unfortunately about two hours after we were there, Ann
24 and I became victims of food poisoning so we were not
25 able to make the meeting the next day. And I apologize

1 to District 25 because I know you put a lot of work and
2 effort into our visit. I certainly appreciate you doing
3 that. I know that Barb had great plans for us.

4 April ended with a well-attended Junior
5 Conference in Bakersfield. Thank you Jackie Cleveland
6 and Martha Romano. Jackie, especially you for making
7 many years -- for making this event happen for many
8 years.

9 My last official visit was to District 14. Again
10 there were many heartwarming reports telling of their
11 hard work for our veterans and their families. Thank
12 you Debbie Ennen and your district for your dedication.

13 I have been so blessed to meet so many wonderful
14 people and have received so much support from so many.
15 And I would just ask that all of you continue to try to
16 work out your differences with each other. Please let
17 the personalities go and just remember that the mission
18 we are here to serve. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We will now have
21 the reports of the Department Officers. Will all
22 officers not already on stage please come up quietly and
23 be ready to give your reports. Did I miss something?
24 Sorry, I thought I was off.

25 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: You were good.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Just a
2 reminder to Department Officers and Chairman, all
3 reports excluding Americanism, Education, Membership,
4 Children & Youth, Poppy, Resolutions, and Veterans
5 Affairs per the Department policy code are to be limited
6 to five minutes. This includes your committee report,
7 supplemental and first place awards and presentations.

8 We will now hear from our Department Vice
9 President Linda Hayes. I should have just had you stay
10 up here. Sorry. I'm sorry. That was way too many
11 instructions in a short period of time, so she's just
12 going to do it.

13 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Hold up,
14 Linda. She's not there yet. Okay. We have a situation
15 on this side of the room with the seating. We were
16 wondering why they had so many chairs in the back and
17 had everybody scrunched up in the front here. 18th
18 District is huge and they need at least another row.

19 So Dee Ann Graham, the chairman, we -- I think
20 you all can help do this. It's going to be heavy to
21 unhook the chair after the 18. That row that's behind
22 18 -- no, leave that one there. Come back. You can
23 help, but just -- you can't move the pole. They're zip
24 tied. We have to move the whole chair. Move the chairs
25 back a row. They're attached. After 18 move the chair

1 back a row. Everybody move back a row. Those seats
2 that have those signs on them, you know, if they're not
3 uncomfortable, just leave them. But we need to
4 accommodate the 18th District so they can all be seated
5 properly. Okay. Got it? Thank you.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Anita.
7 We'll give them just a minute here if you want to stand
8 and stretch. Just don't leave.

9 Madeleine Reed, can you please come to the
10 podium?

11 Okay. Quickly, ladies. We need to get seated.
12 Gabby, Ellen. Okay. Please be seated.

13 Okay. If everybody can please take their seats
14 and we will after lunch come back to the right position.
15 We'll get it together.

16 We are now going to have our Credentials report
17 from our Chairman Madeleine Reed.

18

19 **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

20

21 CREDENTIALS CHAIR REED: Madam President, the
22 total number of units in the Department of California is
23 217. Quorum for Department Convention is one-third,
24 which equals 37 units. As of close of registration on
25 Thursday, June 27th we have 101 registered units

1 therefore, Madam President, we have a quorum.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sorry, that should
5 have come right after the rules were read so it was bit
6 out of order.

7 So we will now hear from our Department
8 President -- excuse me -- Vice President, almost
9 president, Linda Hayes.

10

11 **DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT CONVENTION REPORT**

12

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Good morning,
14 Madam President. Let's see if I get this.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

16 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Can you believe
17 we have already -- we are already at the end of our '24
18 -- well, I'm ahead of myself on here -- the '23-'24
19 term. From my standpoint it has flown by as you can
20 tell, but as they say, time flies when you're having a
21 good time and I've had a good time.

22 On behalf of Madam President Glenda, I had the
23 privilege of bringing greetings to the American Legion
24 Riders at their convention in April. I had an
25 opportunity to talk with the police captain and found

1 out that their headquarters was right across the street
2 from the Post. I'm not sure if it's a good thing to
3 have a post right across the street from the police
4 station, but I did see there is an enviable respect and
5 friendship with each other.

6 National American Legion Auxiliary invited me to
7 Indianapolis as well as Liz for a workshop titled,
8 "Department President's Basic Training" May 3rd through
9 May 5th. Trish Ward, who's the National President
10 Elect, was our presenter.

11 Trish is energetic. Her enthusiasm is contagious
12 and you know that you want to please her while
13 fulfilling her high-set goals. She assigned us goals
14 for '24-'25 which means you can count on them trickling
15 down to you. By fulfilling her goals, we can win the
16 Department Medallion Recognition Award which I would
17 love to see displayed in the California Department
18 Office.

19 Madam President Glenda, thank you for your
20 guidance, for keeping me informed, and for your
21 friendship. It is indeed an honor to serve and work
22 with you as your vice president. Madam President, this
23 concludes my report.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Linda.
25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Ladies, if you go
2 out to the restroom or do whatever, when you come back
3 in if somebody is currently reporting, please wait at
4 the back of room until they're done. Then you go find
5 your seat. Thank you.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We will now hear
7 from our Department -- sorry. We will now hear from
8 the -- I'm not sure what we're going to do.

9 We will now hear the report of our National
10 Executive Committee Person Kathie Martinez. I think I
11 surprised her. Oops. I think I surprised her. She can
12 wing it. She's been around a long time.

13 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: I think that's somewhere
14 with page 2, as I'm currently reminded.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I had a good
16 teacher.

17 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: Thank you, Madam President.

18

19 **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT**

20

21 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: As the NEC for the
22 Department of California, it is my honor to represent
23 this Department when called to meetings. I have been
24 called to two meetings. I cannot disclose to you what
25 those meetings were about because they were in Executive

1 session and because of confidentiality, I can't tell you
2 nothing. But it has been an honor to serve this
3 Department as your NEC for this year. And I am looking
4 forward to one more year of it and then I will pass the
5 baton on to our alternate. Thank you, Madam President.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Kathie.
7 Great job. We're happy to have you represent us.

8 We will now hear from our Department Secretary
9 Liz Doidge.

10

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY CONVENTION REPORT

12

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Another year has
14 flown by. I feel like we were just here tolerating the
15 valley's heat. I'd like to welcome you all to the
16 Marriott in Visalia. Congratulation to Dee Ann and her
17 crew for all the hard work to get this up and running
18 this year.

19 Kudos to Glenda on an amazing year. I feel like
20 a lot has been accomplished this year as the Department
21 of California. We still have a lot of work to do, but
22 we definitely made progress this year. I bet you're
23 both -- I bet you're both ready for a long nap. I know
24 I am.

25 The Department Office has been really quiet this

1 year. I got some help in there for DEC. Carolyn Glenn
2 came down from District 2 and helped scan charters and
3 constitution and bylaws. Otherwise, it's just me, the
4 janitors, who are sweeter than sweet, and the security
5 officers. We are lucky to be in the War Memorial
6 Building in San Francisco. It's a beautiful building
7 and it's home to the Herbst Theater so the center of our
8 building is actually a full-on theater. It's pretty
9 cool.

10 Convention prep -- convention prep took place at
11 the Veterans Hall in San Leandro this year so we
12 wouldn't have to get into the City. Thank you to
13 Madeleine Reed for offering their hall. Thank you to
14 Linda Workman, Ann and Henry Sanchez, Jennifer Turner,
15 Diane Rapport, Doreen Long and Susan Mar for all coming
16 out and helping. It was a fun day of prepping Book of
17 Reports, delegate information, and membership packets.
18 And we got it all done in one day. Hallelujah.

19 A major focus this year was taxes, and I'm happy
20 to report that the number of units with revoked tax
21 statuses was cut in half this year. We went from 33
22 units, districts that were revoked down to 16.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Some of those 16
25 have already filed their paperwork, but their status

1 hasn't been updated. Others are working on it. My main
2 goal this year to get all units caught up and filing
3 regularly. Filing on an annual basis is so, so much
4 easier than having to file anything for being revoked.

5 Thank you to all the volunteers that have stepped
6 up to help units get on track. One thing we're told
7 when recruiting is to find something the potential
8 member is good at or enjoys. I'm extremely grateful for
9 those members that like numbers, like me, and are
10 willing to help with taxes. It's definitely been a team
11 effort.

12 Madam President, may I move to code changes?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes.

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. So I have
15 code changes, but I don't have a preconvention so this
16 is the first time you all are hearing these. The --
17 yeah. For Department Policy under General No. 2, it
18 currently reads: "Application blanks, transfer forms,
19 and member cards shall be free to Units. There will be
20 a charge for shipping and handling for all items
21 shipped."

22 And we're going to modify this to read -- we're
23 going to split it into two items. "Blank
24 application" -- "Blank applications and transfer forms
25 shall be free to units. There will a charge for

1 shipping and handling for all items shipped." No, I
2 messed that up. No, I didn't.

3 "Units will receive" -- and then No. 3 will read:
4 "Units will receive two blank sheets of membership card
5 templates each year. Additional blank membership card
6 templates will cost \$1 per sheet. There will be a
7 charge for shipping and handling for all items shipped."

8 The reason we're going to be charging for cards
9 is because National charges us. I get a certain number
10 with your membership rosters and everything at the
11 beginning of the year. Those we're passing out to you,
12 and then everything else I get charged for so
13 unfortunately we've got to pass that on to you.

14 So I move that we amend Code No. 2 to Code No. 2
15 and 3.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Second?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
19 on the floor to change -- do you want me to read --

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, we're
21 changing it from this to this.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
23 on the floor to change the current wording of Code No.
24 2: "Application blanks, transfer forms, and membership
25 cards shall be free to the units. There will be a

1 charge for shipping and handling of all items shipped.
2 (2012)."

3 The adopted code will read: "Blank
4 application" -- No. 2: "Blank applications and transfer
5 forms shall be free to the units. There will be a
6 charge for shipping and handling for all items shipped.
7 (2024). Units will receive two blank sheets of
8 membership card templates each year. Additional blank
9 membership card templates will cost \$1 per sheet. There
10 will be a charge for shipping and handling for all items
11 shipped. (2024)."

12 Is there any discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
15 we'll vote. All those in favor.

16 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: No. 2 is under
21 Department Policy - Administrative. It's No. 3. It
22 currently reads: "The Department Treasurer shall keep
23 all pertinent and relevant tax information up to date
24 and current with National Headquarters and California
25 State Franchise Tax Board."

1 As we know, it's all in Department Office. I've
2 been handling it for the past four years. Therefore,
3 instead of Treasurer: "The Department Secretary shall
4 keep all pertinent and relevant tax information up to
5 date and current with National Headquarters and
6 California State Franchise Tax Board."

7 I move that we accept this change.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
10 on the floor to change Department Code 3. The current
11 wording: "The Department Treasurer shall keep all
12 pertinent and relevant tax information up to date and
13 current with National Headquarters and California State
14 Franchise Tax Board. (2019)."

15 If adopted the code will read: "The Department
16 Secretary shall keep all pertinent and relevant tax
17 information up to date and current with National
18 Headquarters and California State Franchise Tax Board.
19 (2024)."

20 Is there any discussion? Hearing none --

21 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Go to the mic.

22 DISTRICT 29 OLMSTEAD-BOWEN: I'd like to add
23 also --

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Announce who you
25 are, your district, and your unit number.

1 DISTRICT 29 OLMSTEAD-BOWEN: Good morning. My
2 name is Susan Olmstead-Bowen. I'm with District 29 and
3 Unit 328. So I would like to add "California Attorney
4 General" to that list because it's the Franchise Tax
5 Board, the IRS, and the California Attorney General.
6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: The IRS isn't
7 listed here. The National Organization deals with the
8 IRS. So we report to the National Organization and then
9 the -- I -- they're part of the Franchise Tax Board
10 technically, and so it's covered.
11 DISTRICT 29 OLMSTEAD-BOWEN: It's the California
12 Attorney General.
13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: The next one --
14 give us a minute because the next one does actually
15 cover that. You're right, Anita.
16 DISTRICT 29 OLMSTEAD-BOWEN: Okay. Thank you.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you. Any
18 more discussion?
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those in
21 favor.
22 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed?
24 (No response.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Department
2 Policy - Administrative Code 3a currently reads: "Units
3 shall send copies of annual confirmation for filing of a
4 Federal 990-N e-Postcard and State forms 199 e-Postcard,
5 long form 990 if applicable, Attorney General's Office
6 Registry of Charitable Trusts CT-1 Form, or RRF-1 Form,
7 which is applicable, to District President" --
8 "whichever is applicable, to District President no later
9 than September 30th."

10 The wording here is weird and it doesn't have
11 everything, so we're amending it to read: "Units shall
12 send copies of annual confirmation for Federal 990-N
13 e-Postcard (long form 990, if applicable), State forms
14 199n e-Postcard, Attorney General's Office Registry of
15 Charitable Trusts CT-1 Form, or RRF-1 and CTTR-1 Form,
16 whichever is applicable, to District President no later
17 than September 30th."

18 I move that we accept this change.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Right here you
21 said 990.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, it is 990. I
23 said it wrong.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you. So we
25 have a motion on the floor for Department Code 3a.

1 Current wording is: "Units shall send copies of annual
2 confirmation for filing of a Federal 990-N e-Postcard
3 and State forms 199n e-Postcard (long form 990, if
4 applicable), Attorney General's Office Registry of
5 Charitable Trusts CT-1 Form, or RRF-1 Form, whichever is
6 applicable to District President no later than September
7 30th."

8 If adopted the code will read: "Units shall send
9 copies of annual confirmation for filing of Federal
10 990-N e-Postcard (long form 990, if applicable), State
11 forms 199n e-Postcard, Attorney General's Office
12 Registry of Charitable Trusts CT-1 Form, or RRF-1 and
13 CTTR-1 Form, whichever is applicable, to District
14 President no later than September 30th. (2024)."

15 Is there any discussion?

16 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Thank you,
17 Madam President. Anita Biggs, Past
18 Department/Parliamentarian. Just add the word whichever
19 is applicable to the District President. I move to add
20 -- or not move to, but I just add that.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
22 on the floor to add the word "the."

23 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: No. She just
24 didn't read it.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. So we have

1 a motion. Did we get a second?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those in
4 favor.

5 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.
9 Okay.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Those are
11 the rules for the Unit. Now for the District.

12 Department Policy - Administrative Code 3c: "District
13 Presidents shall send copies of annual confirmation for
14 filing of federal 990-N e-Postcard and State forms 199N
15 e-Postcard, (long form 990, if applicable), and CT-1 or
16 RRF-1 Forms, whichever is applicable, for all Units and
17 Districts to the Department Headquarters no later than
18 October 30th."

19 We're going to amend it to read: "District
20 Presidents shall send copies of annual confirmation for
21 filings of Federal 990-N e-Postcard (long form 990, if
22 applicable), State forms 199-N e-Postcard, and CT-1 or
23 RRF-1 and CTTR-1 Forms, whichever is applicable, for all
24 Units and Districts to Department Headquarters no later
25 than October 30th."

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
2 on the floor to change Department Code 3c. The current
3 wording is: "District Presidents shall send copies of
4 annual confirmation for filings of Federal 990-N
5 e-Postcard and State forms 199-N e-Postcard, (long form
6 990, if applicable), and CT-1 or RRF-1 Forms, whichever
7 is applicable, for all Units and District to Department
8 Headquarters no later than October 30th."

9 If adopted the code will read: "District
10 Presidents shall send copies of annual confirmation for
11 filings of Federal 990-N e-Postcard (long form 990, if
12 applicable), State forms 199-N e-Postcard, and CT-1 or
13 RRF-1 and CTTR-1 Forms, whichever is applicable, for all
14 Units and Districts to Department Headquarters no later
15 than October 30th. (2024)."

16 Is there any discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
19 we'll vote. All those in favor.

20 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed.

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

24 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Department Policy -
25 Administrative Code No. 4: "District President shall

1 notify the office in writing when a unit wishes to vote
2 to surrender their charter or when a Unit fails to
3 comply with Department rules and faces a probationary
4 period and/or suspension of charter. The office shall
5 immediately notify the Department President. The
6 Department President may appoint one or more persons to
7 consult with the Unit prior to a vote to surrender
8 and/or a recommendation for a probationary period or
9 suspension of the Unit charter. District President must
10 provide in writing a report for each Unit being placed
11 on probation or surrendering/revocation of its charter
12 30 days prior to the Department Executive meeting at
13 Mid-Year or at Department Convention. Three copies are
14 to be provided, one each to the Department President,
15 Department Parliamentarian, and Department Secretary."

16 We know longer suspend charters or surrender
17 charters. We've changed it to cancel, so we're just
18 updating our code to fix that.

19 So it will read: "District Presidents shall
20 notify the Office in writing when a unit wishes to vote
21 to cancel their charter or when a unit fails to comply
22 with Department rules and faces a probationary period.
23 The Office shall immediately notify the Department
24 President. The Department President may appoint one or
25 more person to consult with the Unit prior to a vote to

1 cancel and/or a recommendation for a probationary
2 period. District President must provide in writing a
3 report for each Unit being placed on probation or
4 canceling of its charter 30 days prior to the Department
5 Executive meeting at Mid-Year or at Department
6 Convention. Copies are to be provided to the Department
7 President, Department Parliamentarian, and Department
8 Secretary."

9 I move that we accept this change.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
11 on the floor to change Department Code No. 4. The
12 current wording is: "District President shall notify
13 the office in writing when a Unit wishes to vote to
14 surrender their charter or when a Unit fails to comply
15 with Department rules and faces a probationary period
16 and/or suspension of charter. The office shall
17 immediately notify the Department President. The
18 Department President may appoint one or more persons to
19 consult with the Unit prior to a vote to surrender
20 and/or a recommendation for a probationary period or
21 suspension of the Unit charter. District President must
22 provide in writing a report for each Unit being placed
23 on probation or surrendering/revocation of its charter
24 30 days prior to the Department Executive meeting at
25 Mid-Year or at Department Convention. Three copies are

1 to be provided, one each to the Department President,
2 Department Parliamentarian, and Department Secretary."

3 If adopted the code will read: "District
4 Presidents shall notify the Office in writing when a
5 Unit wishes to vote to cancel their charter or when a
6 Unit fails to comply with Department rules and faces a
7 probationary period. The Office shall immediately
8 notify the Department President. The Department
9 President may appoint one or more persons to consult
10 with the Unit prior to a vote to cancel and/or a
11 recommendation for a probationary period. District
12 President must provide in writing a report for each Unit
13 being placed on probation or canceling of its charter 30
14 days prior to the Department Executive meeting at
15 Mid-Year or at Department Convention. Copies are to be
16 provided to the Department President, Department
17 Parliamentarian, and Department Secretary."

18 Is there any discussion?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
21 we'll vote. All those in favor.

22 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed.

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

1 She just told me that we're not doing it properly. It
2 needs to be 30 days, not two weeks.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Well, our District
4 President meetings on Zoom, they were technically too
5 late so we'll fix that for next year and DEC. In that
6 code that I just did, it says.

7 Department Policy - Administrative Code No. 7:
8 "The Book of Reports will contain only statistical
9 information, names and addresses of Department Officers,
10 District Presidents, and Vice Presidents and a year-end
11 message and report of the Department President."

12 As you can tell from the Book of Reports, it has
13 a lot of other information in it, so we're just fixing
14 it to what we actually put in there: "The Book of
15 Reports will contain statistical information, names of
16 Department Officers, Chairmen and Special Appointments,
17 District Presidents and Vice Presidents, Past Department
18 Presidents, Past Department Secretaries and Treasurers,
19 greetings, convention agenda, convention rules,
20 Department budget, Girls State budget and Junior
21 Activities budget."

22 I move that we accept this change.

23 UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Second.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
25 on the floor to change Department Code 7. The current

1 wording is: "The Book of Reports will contain only
2 statistical information, names and addresses of
3 Department Officers, District Presidents, and Vice
4 Presidents and a year-end message and report of the
5 Department President."

6 If adopted the code will read: "The Book of
7 Reports will contain statistical information" -- I'm
8 sorry. I was getting a little bit dizzy. Hang on.

9 Okay. We'll go again. If adopted the code will
10 read: "The Book of Reports will contain statistical
11 information, names of Department Officers, Chairmen and
12 Special Appointments, District Presidents and Vice
13 Presidents, Past Department Presidents, Past Department
14 Secretaries and Treasurers, greetings, convention
15 agenda, convention rules, Department budget, Girls State
16 budget, and Junior Activities budget. (2024)."

17 Do we have any discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
20 we'll vote. All those in favor.

21 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed.

23 (No response.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Next one is

1 Department Policy Administrative Code No. 8. "The Book
2 of Proceedings is to be printed as the demand warrants.
3 Prepaid orders shall be at convention or prior to
4 September 15. The announcement for ordering the book
5 shall be sent to all Units with the Call to Convention
6 materials."

7 We're clarifying that. It's available online.
8 It's much easier to search through online than actually
9 read, so we're amending it for that. "The Book of
10 Proceedings is to be printed as the demand warrants.
11 Prepaid orders shall be made at convention or prior to
12 September 15. The announcement for ordering the book
13 shall be sent to all Units with the Call to Convention
14 materials. Convention Proceedings shall be posted on
15 the Department website."

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
17 on the floor to change Department Code 8. The current
18 reading: "The Book of Proceedings is to be printed as
19 the demand warrants. Prepaid orders shall be at
20 convention or prior to September 15. The announcement
21 for ordering the book shall be sent to all Units with
22 the Call to Convention materials."

23 If adopted, the code will read: "The Book of
24 Proceedings is to be printed as the demand warrants.
25 Prepaid orders shall be made at convention or prior to

1 September 15. The announcement for ordering the book
2 shall be sent to all Units with the Call to Convention
3 materials. Convention Proceedings shall be posted on
4 the Department website. (2024)."

5 Is there any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
8 we'll vote. All those in favor.

9 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed.

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

13 Excuse me. I don't mean to do this in the middle, but I
14 need to go over to the Legion so I will ask if our
15 Department Vice President Linda Hayes to take my place.
16 I guess I better go put on lips before I see the Legion.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Department Policy -
18 Administrative No. 12. "The Department" -- wait until
19 -- or actually, I'll wait because -- because we've got
20 to --

21 (Processional.)

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. I'm almost
23 done, you guys. Department Policy - Administrative No.
24 12 currently reads: "The Department President,
25 Secretary, Treasurer, Junior Past Department President,

1 and Finance Committee shall meet with the auditing firm
2 at the completion of the audit and report the findings
3 to the Department Executive Committee."

4 Currently the Treasurer and the Finance Committee
5 meet with them, and we're amending the bylaws to make it
6 more cohesive for the Department President and Vice
7 President. So we're going to amend it to read: "The
8 Department Treasurer and Finance Committee shall meet
9 with the auditing firm at the completion of the audit
10 and report the findings to the Department Executive
11 Committee."

12 I move that we accept this change.

13 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Okay. The
14 current wording of Department Code No. 12 is: "The
15 Department President, Secretary, Treasurer, Junior Past
16 Department President, and Finance Committee shall meet
17 with the auditing firm at the completion of the audit
18 and report the findings to the Department Executive
19 Committee (1997)."

20 If adopted will read: "The Department Treasurer
21 and Finance Committee shall meet with the auditing firm
22 at the completion of the audit and report the findings
23 to the Department Executive Committee. (1997)."

24 Is there any discussion?

25 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Hello. Anita
2 Biggs, Past Department President who is Past Department
3 President/Parliamentarian. This contradicts the finance
4 committee and I believe our Standing Rules, I have to
5 look them up, but the Department President and the
6 Junior Past President are to be included in the audit
7 and the budget meetings. So I'm -- I disagree with this
8 motion to change. It should stay the same.

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'm going to
10 withdraw my motion. We're going to leave that guy
11 alone.

12 Department Policy - Administrative Code No. 21:
13 "The Department shall establish a Headquarters 1000.
14 Members are gained from National's direct mail
15 solicitation. Members shall be encouraged to transfer
16 to local units. The Unit 1000 shall be chartered, have
17 bylaws and no meetings. Annual dues shall be \$40 for
18 senior members and \$10 for junior members.
19 Administration of the Unit shall be the responsibility
20 of the Department Office."

21 Oh, I never discussed this one with anybody I
22 don't think. I can't do that? Okay. Never mind. Next
23 year. I think it needs to happen, but we need to have
24 that discussion. I'm like, crap. So at least it wasn't
25 worth it to have the nine-year-old yelling at me.

1 Department Policy - Officers and Chairman.

2 Department Code No. 11 currently reads: "Any and all
3 contest rules must be sent to Department officers and
4 Department chairman to" -- "Department officers and
5 chairman" -- "sent by the Department Officers and
6 Chairman to the Department Office for distribution to
7 all units and districts."

8 We're trying to save money by sending less paper
9 and it's all available on the website. And so we're
10 amending it for that. So it will read: "Any and all
11 contest rules must be sent by the Department Officers
12 and Chairman to the Department Office and posted on the
13 Department website."

14 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Was any --
15 pardon?

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Oh, thank you. I
17 move that we accept this change.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

19 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Okay. "Any and
20 all contest rules must be sent by the Department
21 Officers and Chairman to the Department Office for
22 distribution to all Units and Districts. (1993)."

23 If adopted it will read: "Any and all contest
24 rules must be sent by the Department Officers and
25 Chairman to the Department Office to be posted on the

1 Department Website. (2024)."

2 Is there any discussion?

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Okay. Hearing

5 none, was there a second?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

7 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Okay. All in

8 favor.

9 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Any opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Motion carried.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And my last one.

14 Department Policy - Department Candidates. Code No. 3

15 currently reads: "Formal receptions at Convention for

16 candidates shall be discontinued. A joint reception

17 shall be held and shall be coordinated by the candidate

18 for Department President. Other than the reception,

19 campaign material may be distributed on days selected by

20 the candidates."

21 As we saw last night, our candidate reception

22 includes your Finance Chairman, your National

23 appointees, your Vice President. And that first

24 sentence of it being discontinued, it's kind of

25 pointless at this point because I don't know when that

1 was added.

2 So amended to read: "A joint reception shall be
3 held and shall be coordinated by the candidates for
4 Department President, Vice President, and Finance
5 Chairman. Other than the reception, campaign material
6 may be distributated" -- distributated -- "distributed
7 on days selected by the candidates."

8 I move that we accept this change.

9 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Okay. Is there
10 any discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Hearing none --
13 oh, Linda.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Would it not
15 be Junior Member of Finance instead of Finance Chairman?
16 Oh, Linda Fercho, Department of California District 16,
17 Unit 741. I have to stand up and yell.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Is there any other
19 discussion before I amend my motion?

20 (No response.)

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So I'd like to
22 amend it to read -- to include "Junior Member of
23 Finance" and take "Chairman" off.

24 So: "A joint reception shall be held and shall
25 be coordinated by the candidates for Department

1 President, Vice President, and Junior Member of Finance.
2 Other than the reception, campaign material may be
3 distributed" -- what the heck? -- "distributed on days
4 selected by the candidates."

5 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Okay. It's
6 been amended. Okay. Is there any further discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: All in favor.

9 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Opposed.

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: The motion is
13 carried.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good job, Liz.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: May we now have
17 the Treasurer's report?

18

19 **DEPARTMENT TREASURER CONVENTION REPORT**

20

21 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TELLYER: Good morning,
22 everybody. Madam President, this has been a busy and
23 insightful year for me. At the beginning I felt like I
24 was thrown into a pool or perhaps maybe a raging river
25 with no life vest. There was so much I didn't know and

1 the decision I made to pull tasks such as donations and
2 Girls State from MPMC was probably a bit premature, but
3 we got through it. Thank goodness.

4 I wanted to thank everyone for their patience as
5 I navigated through the learning process. And I hope
6 that I have provided effective communication and have
7 gained some trust.

8 I won't bore everybody with a bunch of numbers,
9 but I will provide a few. As we all know, donations and
10 membership are an integral part of sustaining the
11 American Legion Auxiliary. And most programs saw an
12 increase in donations. So thank you all.

13 As compared to last year, overall Department
14 revenue increased 4 percent so far. We're not done yet.
15 Welfare increased 13 percent. Poppy increased 36
16 percent. Girls State revenue increased 12 percent.
17 Membership revenue decreased by 4 percent, and donations
18 to the General Fund decreased 7 percent.

19 As we all know, cost and inflation have increased
20 significantly and we as an organization must develop
21 ways to reduce costs.

22 I loved Liz's code changes to put things online.
23 This saves not only her time, but the costs of postage
24 and paper and just so many things.

25 The -- let's see. We cannot continue to run this

1 organization at a deficit. We have already taken a few
2 steps to meet the objective, but more is needed.

3 Regarding membership, we have seen an increase
4 with dues processed online which has been a great
5 accomplishment. To go even further, when a unit
6 processes their own membership, the unit keeps that
7 portion of their funds. Right now -- and only pay out
8 the National and Department portion of the dues. I have
9 written literally hundreds and hundreds of checks for
10 dues paid online, and these funds can remain at the unit
11 level if the units will process their own membership.

12 I'm hoping with the help of Liz and the Webmaster
13 we can implement new forms for donation and mileage.
14 The Department has four checking accounts: the General
15 Fund, the Welfare Fund, Poppy Fund, and Girls State.
16 When donations are made, there should be a maximum of
17 four checks. Sometimes I get one check for each
18 donation item so I can have up to ten to 12 checks, and
19 it's just unnecessary.

20 Lastly, Madam President, I would like to provide
21 you with some numbers for the revenue you have
22 generated. Overall the President's income or revenue
23 has increased 65 percent so far compared to last year.
24 Donations to your special project is over \$14,000.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT TREASURER TELLYER: And with the help
2 of this year's attendees, I'm hoping we can get it
3 closer to \$15,000.

4 Thank you, Madam President, for this appointment
5 and it has been a pleasure to be part of your team.
6 Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: Now may we have
9 the Chaplain's report. Our Department President is
10 returning.

11 (Processional.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Go ahead, Patty.

13 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Okay. Thank you,
14 Madam President.

15

16 **DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN CONVENTION REPORT**

17

18 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Okay. The
19 convention committee on Chaplain met on June 29th --
20 27th, I'm sorry, 2024 in the Sequoia A room. The
21 statistical report of this chairman appears on page 25
22 in the Book of Reports. Gabriella Ramos was my
23 appointed secretary, Suzi Preti offered prayer, and
24 Maureen O'Brien-Sacco was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.
25 We had a total of 15 delegates answered roll call and

1 there were 11 visitors present.

2 The committee agreed upon the following report.

3 The code was read and the following was discussed.

4 The code currently reads: Code No. 2 currently
5 reads: "The chaplain will request a list of deceased
6 members from the Department Office each month for
7 posting to the Department Website. A courtesy copy will
8 be placed with the Department President."

9 Well, it was very hard getting the reports to me,
10 so what they decided to do this -- we wanted to change
11 the code and this is what was -- a motion was made to
12 replace No. 2 with the following: "The Department
13 Chaplain should receive a member's data form from the
14 Unit Chaplain when notified of a member's death. A
15 courtesy member data form should be" -- "should also be
16 sent to the District Chaplain asking the current year
17 information."

18 By recommendations of the committee, I move to
19 accept all the code change.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sorry. Okay. So
22 we have a motion on the floor to change code 2 that
23 currently reads: "The Chaplain will request a list of
24 deceased members from the Department Office each month
25 for posting to the Department Website. A courtesy copy

1 will be shared with the Department President."

2 If approved, the code will read: "The Department
3 Chaplain should receive a member data form from the Unit
4 Chaplain when notified of a member's death. A courtesy
5 member data form should also be sent to the District
6 Chaplain using the current year's information."

7 By recommendation of the -- do we have a second?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Do we have any
10 discussion?

11 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: Madam President?

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes.

13 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: Susan Baker, District 28,
14 Unit 694. I believe that the term "should" is not
15 strong enough. It should say the Chaplain will receive
16 or shall receive.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Did you all hear
18 Susan?

19 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Do you want to
20 go to the mic? There's a microphone there. Go up
21 there, Twin.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Oh, you guys are
23 twins. She's a gemini too. We're all here, all us
24 crazy people.

25 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: I know. Susan Baker,

1 District 28, Unit 694. I believe that the word "should"
2 is not strong enough. It should be "shall." "The
3 Chaplain shall receive." Can we do that?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: It's mandatory.

5 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: It should be mandatory.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: It's mandatory to
7 say "shall."

8 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: All right. We'll say
9 "shall." All right. That's what I'm asking. Can we do
10 that?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I thought you were
12 asking to change it.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: It says, "should."

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I'm sorry. I got
15 kissed four times over there. I'm a little --
16 (Applause.)

17 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Thankfully you
18 put your lipstick on.

19 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: Get your head out of the
20 clouds, Girl.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sorry.

22 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: That's okay.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Patty, is
24 that okay to change it to "shall"?

25 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Yes, that will be

1 fine.

2 DISTRICT 28 BAKER: Okay. Thank you.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: So now we have

4 another motion.

5 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: It doesn't

6 have to be a motion.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Because she's

8 going to change it. All right. All those in favor.

9 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Reread it.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Oh, I'll get my

11 head together. "The Department Chaplain shall receive a

12 member data form from the Unit Chaplain when notified of

13 a member's death. A courtesy member data form shall

14 also be sent to the District Chaplain using the current

15 year's information."

16 Is there any discussion? Over here. You want to

17 go to the microphone? Oh, I'm sorry. She's calling a

18 Page. I thought she wanted to speak.

19 Hearing none, we will vote. All those in favor.

20 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those opposed.

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

24 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Madam President,

25 may I give out my first place awards?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

2 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Okay. Second and
3 third place reports were done at the meeting, so I hope
4 everybody got theirs in their folders.

5 Okay. Award First Place Chaplain Supplemental
6 Award goes to District 25. I sent out a little card for
7 a couple people.

8 (Applause.)

9 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: First Place Award
10 for Chaplain Supplemental Award, Unit 716. This is for
11 the Unit.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Madam President,
14 that concludes my reports.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Patty.

16 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MARTINEZ: Thank you.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We will now hear
18 from our Historian Erika Hernandez accompanied by
19 Melanie Taylor, our Past Department President.

20

21 **DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN CONVENTION REPORT**

22

23 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: Good morning,
24 Madam President. This chairman is blessed and to God be
25 the glory to see each and every one of your smiles here

1 today.

2 (Applause.)

3 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: This Archive
4 Official would like to report that the archiving history
5 preconvention committee met in the Sequoia B Room of the
6 Visalia Convention Center at 10:30 a.m. Melanie Taylor
7 served as secretary. Rosemary Barron served as Chaplain
8 and offered prayer. Pat Davis served as
9 Sergeant-at-Arms. There were 13 delegates and seven
10 guests present.

11 The Department Code was read and the committee
12 agreed upon two Department Code changes. The Department
13 Code No. 3 currently reads: "The Department Historian
14 shall compose a history of the accomplishments of the
15 Units, Districts, and Department for the Department
16 Office. To help accomplish this task, she will receive
17 at mid-year and end of year copies of all Department
18 Officers and Chairmen reports so she can include this
19 most important information in her report to National.
20 She shall provide a personal copy for the Department
21 President. The History shall conform with National's
22 requirements. (2021)."

23 The proposed -- the proposed Code No. 3 will now
24 read: "The Department Historian shall compose a history
25 of the accomplishments of the Units, Districts, and

1 Department for the Department Office. To help
2 accomplish this task, the Historian will receive at
3 mid-year and end of year copies of all Department
4 Officers and Chairmen reports so that the Historian can
5 include this most important information in the Historian
6 report to National. The Historian shall provide a
7 personal copy for the Department President at the
8 following DEC meeting. The Historian shall conform with
9 National's requirements."

10 Madam President, by direction of the History
11 Preconvention Committee, I move for acceptance of this
12 code change. It's on page 2.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Do we get a
14 second?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Hang on,
17 Erika. Okay. The proposed code change for Code No. 3,
18 it currently reads: "The Department Historian shall
19 compose a history of the accomplishments of the Units,
20 District, and Department for the Department Office. To
21 help accomplish this task, she will receive at mid-year
22 and end of year copies of all Department Officers and
23 Chairman reports so that she can include this most
24 important information in her report to National. She
25 shall provide a copy" -- "shall provide a personal copy

1 for the Department President. The History shall conform
2 with National's requirements. (2021)."

3 If adopted, the proposed Code No. 3 will read:

4 "The Department Historian shall compose a History of
5 accomplishments of the Units, District, and Department
6 for the Department Office. To help accomplish this
7 task, the Historian will receive, at mid-year and end of
8 year copies of all Department Officers and Chairman
9 Reports so that the Historian can include this most
10 important information in the Historian report to
11 National. The Historian shall provide a personal copy
12 for the Department President at the following DEC
13 meeting. The History shall conform with National's
14 requirements."

15 Is there any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
18 we'll vote. All those in favor.

19 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All opposed.

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

23 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: Department Code
24 No. 4 currently reads: "Written, Picture History Book
25 Competition: Units and Districts may complete on

1 Department level under the following classifications:
2 Written and Picture History Picture Book Competition
3 (2021). Seniors. Junior Class I - Ages through 12
4 years old. Junior Class II - Ages 13-17. Prizes. Unit
5 and District shall each be awarded First, Second, and
6 Third. Junior Class I - First and Second. And Junior
7 Class II - First and Second."

8 The proposed Department Code No. -- correction.
9 The proposed Department Code No. 4 will now read:
10 "Written, Picture and/or Electronic History Book
11 Competition: Units and Districts may compete on
12 Department level under the following classifications:
13 Written, Picture, and/or Electronic History Picture Book
14 Competition. Categories: Bullet point Seniors. Bullet
15 point Junior Class I - Ages through 12 years. Bullet
16 point Junior Class II - Ages 13-17. And bullet point
17 Multimedia Competition. Then Prizes: Bullet point Unit
18 and District shall each be awarded First, Second, and
19 Third. Junior Class I - First and Second. Bullet
20 point" -- let me correct that one. "Bullet point Junior
21 Class I - First and Second. Bullet point Junior Class
22 II - First and Second."

23 Madam President, by direction of the history
24 preconvention committee, I move for the acceptance of
25 this code change. And it's located on page 3.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
3 on the floor to change Department Code No. 4 that
4 currently reads: "Written, Picture History Book
5 Competition: Units and Districts may complete on
6 Department level under the following classifications:
7 Written and Picture History Picture Book Competition
8 (2021). Seniors. Junior Class I - Ages through 12
9 years old. Junior Class II - Ages 13-17. Prizes. Unit
10 and District shall each be awarded First, Second, and
11 Third. Junior Class I - First and Second. And Junior
12 Class II - First and Second."

13 If adopted the proposed code change will read:
14 "Written, Picture and/or Electronic History Book
15 Competition: Units and Districts may compete on
16 Department level under the following classifications:
17 Written, Picture, and/or Electronic History Picture Book
18 Competition. Categories: Seniors. Junior Class I -
19 Ages through 12 years. Junior Class II - Ages 13-17.
20 Multimedia Competition. Prizes: Unit and District
21 shall each be awarded First, Second, and Third. Junior
22 Class I - First and Second. Junior Class I - First and
23 Second. Junior Class II - First and Second."

24 Is there any discussion?

25 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
2 we'll vote. All those in favor.

3 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those opposed.
5 (No response.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

7 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: Madam President,
8 may I continue with my supplemental report?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

10 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: This State
11 Archive Official sadly has to report that from the 29
12 County Archives, only 18 reported. A big thank you to
13 the 18 County Archives who did report.

14 For more than a century, the American Legion
15 Auxiliary has advocated and advised with the wellbeing
16 -- and assisted with the wellbeing of our veterans. Be
17 The One is our National President Lisa Williamson and
18 our Department President Glenda Schultz' special project
19 for this year. This is what Department of California
20 does. Being the one to save a veteran without -- being
21 the one to save a veteran, being the one to listen to a
22 veteran without judging, being the one to be there when
23 a veteran is struggling.

24 The members of this Department put in a lot of
25 hours aiding our veterans. Assisting to our veterans in

1 tough times, hard times, and fun times from providing
2 meals to aiding in the Veterans Creative Arts Festival
3 where our talented veterans competed in different areas
4 such as singing, dancing, drawing, painting, and much,
5 much more.

6 Members of different units sponsored Wreaths
7 Across America. Others organized Veterans Day,
8 Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas parties and -- Christmas
9 parties bringing a smile to our veterans' faces.

10 Many units donated jackets, blankets, sleeping
11 bags, socks, T-shirts, sweaters and much, much more.

12 District 6 hosted our National President Lisa
13 Williamson with tours at the State Capitol, VA Hospital,
14 and supported Madam Glenda Schultz' districts visits.
15 The members attended the Sacramento Stand Down helping
16 our homeless and at-risk veterans.

17 In the Noisy 19, members were volunteering at the
18 Traveling Vietnam Wall through California. Some units
19 from the same district participated in the Welcome Home
20 Vietnam Veterans.

21 Many units participated in the Military
22 Caregivers Network. In some districts the members will
23 regularly visit patients at the VA hospitals.

24 Our Juniors and Seniors in District 18 made a
25 difference by having bake sales and other fundraisers to

1 donate to the Long Beach VA food pantry. And I could go
2 on and on about our great members in the Department of
3 California. You should all give yourself a pat on the
4 back for their hard work for our veterans and their
5 families and our community.

6 The districts with 100 percent voting -- 100
7 percent reporting are District 2, District 4, District
8 5, District 6, District 10, District 14, District 17,
9 District 18, 19, and District 20, District 22, District
10 26, and District 28.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: Madam President,
13 may I ask Melanie Taylor to announce the winners?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Okay. Ladies,
16 first place winner in the category for the District
17 Supplemental goes to District 28 Rosemary Barron.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: You can come
20 this way.

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: What's the
22 matter?

23 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: They made her
24 go the long way.

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Okay.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: May I ask the rest
2 of our Chairmen, if you are going to do presentations,
3 please send a little slip of paper with the Pages to the
4 district that you're going to give it to so that they
5 can be waiting when that Chairman gives her report.

6 (Applause.)

7 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: First place
8 winner in the category Unit Supplemental goes to Unit
9 574, District 21 Doreen Rocha. 547. Excuse me.

10 (Applause.)

11 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: First place
12 winners in the category for the District Written History
13 -- we had a tough time last night judging these --
14 District 17 Rodi Andreescu.

15 (Applause.)

16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: We know where
17 you're at, Rodi. Don't go too far. Okay. First place
18 winner for the category for Unit Written History goes to
19 302 Susie Morgan.

20 (Applause.)

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Now you can
22 sit down. Thank you, Rodi. No, no, no. These get
23 handed out to them.

24 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN HERNANDEZ: Madam President,
25 this Archive Official hopes and prays that your

1 expectations were met and exceeded. It was an honor to
2 serve the Department -- it was an honor to serve as the
3 Department Historian for California. Thank you for
4 seeing something special in this Archive Official and
5 taking a chance. This appointment was served to the
6 best of this Official's ability with a heart filled with
7 joy and gladness. This appointment was served for Him,
8 for Madam President, and for the Department of
9 California. For God and Country, thank you. This
10 concludes my report.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Erika
13 and Melanie. We will now hear from my twin sister, our
14 beautiful Department Parliamentarian Ms. Anita Biggs.
15 Next up will be our Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant
16 Sergeant-at-Arms.

17

18 **DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN CONVENTION REPORT**

19

20 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Good morning.
21 Good morning, Madam President.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Good morning.

23 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: As your
24 Attorney General for this great state of California the
25 Golden State, United as One, we received many questions

1 and situations. Many rulings and advice have been
2 offered to our members. While we continue to strive for
3 unity as one Department, there is still some
4 divisiveness.

5 We continue to find that personality differences
6 are the number one reason for Unit problems. It is
7 apparent that certain members need more training and
8 understanding of our mission of service, not self and
9 vision of supporting the American Legion.

10 It has been a pleasure working with Tracy Fercho,
11 our Chair for Unit Development & Revitalization. Tracy
12 always goes in with a positive yet realistic attitude
13 and has been successful for most units. We are still
14 finding most issues at units are personal between
15 members while others are not following protocol.

16 I am repeating this information once again this
17 year. It is always good to remind members to follow
18 their Unit Bylaws and Standing Rules. If the unit
19 member does not have a copy, please make sure that all
20 members are offered copies. It is their right. And as
21 a reminder to you all, it is a good idea to add a
22 disciplinary process section to your Unit's Standing
23 Rules. We have many of them available. If you have an
24 old Unit handbook, it's in there. It's not in the new
25 book. So we have to -- our units need to decide for

1 themselves how they're going to handle discipline.
2 Remembering that if you mess up, it could cost you to go
3 back. So you have to be fair to your members.

4 Per our National and Department Standing Rules,
5 all discipline must be imposed in accordance with the
6 principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice
7 and an opportunity to be heard.

8 A Department may discipline a Unit for failure to
9 discipline a member. I've been asked what is discipline
10 of a Unit. The answer is probation or cancellation of a
11 charter. Those are disciplinary actions. Cancellation
12 is extreme, however, the Department Executive Committee
13 has that authority. We want to keep our Units intact,
14 operating smoothly with our mission and vision in mind.

15 Let us bring our best behavior and our best self
16 forward when we are volunteering to help others in
17 representing the American Legion Auxiliary.

18 As you all know, we have lost one of the greatest
19 parliamentarians of our time with the passing of our
20 dear friend and mentor Diane DeLashmit. This should
21 remind us all that we are only here for a short time
22 and in our short time here, how will we live. How will
23 we treat each other. This is a perfect time for us to
24 reflect on ourselves while we honor and memorialize our
25 good and loyal friend Diane. Let us do our best to

1 treat each other and in the words of Diane, be humble
2 and kind. Thank you, Madam President.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Anita.
5 We'll have our Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant
6 Sergeant-at-Arms.

7

8 **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS & ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**
9 **CONVENTION REPORT**

10

11 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: Madam President, I'm
12 sorry I don't need have the 15 copies that I need for
13 the stage, but I'll pass them out tomorrow.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I'm sorry, I did
15 not understand you.

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: I'm sorry. What?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I did not hear
18 you. This is really good, she's hard of hearing too.

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: Oh.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Tomorrow are you
21 saying?

22 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: I'll pass out the
23 paperwork.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you.

25 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: Today -- oh, we're

1 Sergeant-at-Arms. We have no Mid-Year report, we have
2 no end-of-the-year report, and we have no code so
3 there's nothing to change.

4 (Applause.)

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: But I have the
6 microphone so I have two points. One point, everybody
7 went to Zoom. You notice that there was a
8 Sergeant-at-Arms appointed, but they did nothing. I
9 would like to present the idea that they could be the
10 assistant host so when there's background noises, like
11 my chihuahua, they can hit the button and everybody
12 mutes, gets muted. She can unmute the Chairman and
13 unmute the Department President.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Oh, no. Anita
15 would never let that happen.

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: I think you may have
17 to talk to her because it's probably a Parliamentary
18 decision, but --

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Some rules we bend
20 a little bit.

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: I would just like to
22 think that we can bring up the Sergeant-at-Arms to do
23 some work.

24 Point two, please go home and educate the young
25 people. You know, I'm 72, so anybody below 72 gets

1 educated today. This is an Olympic year. You're going
2 to see foreign flags on the TV. Please explain to
3 everybody you know that they need to be respectful to
4 other countries' flags.

5 (Applause.)

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: In return I hope
7 they'll be respectful to our American flag. But we've
8 got to set the example.

9 (Applause.)

10 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MCGINNIS: Madam President,
11 thank you for this honor very much.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Jean.
13 Thank you.

14 ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MUNROE: Thank you,
15 Glenda. I've really enjoyed it.

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Melise.

17 (Applause.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: So we have just a
19 little over an hour to get through a lot of reports. So
20 we need to have everybody in place. And to let you know
21 what's happening, we're going to proceed with the
22 reports of the Department Chairmen. We'll start with
23 the Convention Chairman and Co-Chairman, followed by
24 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, and
25 depending on time we may put Kathie Martinez in there.

1 If we have time, it will be Tracy with Unit Development
2 & Rehabilitation -- Revitalization. Okay. I'm sorry.
3 Scratch that. Okay. The UD&R and Membership.

4 For those of you who have received instructions
5 from any of these Chairmen to be at the side of the
6 stage as they give their report, please pay attention
7 and check it out when they're up there and get your
8 little self up there, please.

9 So we will start with our Convention Chairman and
10 Co-Chairman Dee Ann Graham and Terry Oclaray.

11

12 **CONVENTION CHAIR CONVENTION REPORT**

13

14 CONVENTION CHAIR GRAHAM: Good morning,
15 everybody. Good morning, Madam President. Anita and
16 Madam President, thank you for allowing our membership
17 to do a 9:00 o'clock shuffle here in front when we had
18 to maneuver the chairs.

19 And, Anita, I have my phone on vibrate now, babe.

20 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Thank you.

21 CONVENTION CHAIR GRAHAM: And it's on me, but I'm
22 not going to do it. And also I'm a Leo, not a Gemini.

23 (Applause.)

24 CONVENTION CHAIR GRAHAM: I was a little hesitant
25 to accept this chairmanship knowing I would be moving

1 and wondering how logistically how I could do this
2 successfully. So over hundreds of emails, after
3 hundreds of emails, phones, Zoom calls, questions were
4 asked and answered. Now I know it does take a village.

5 Madam President, I'd like to introduce my
6 village. To all the Districts and Units for their
7 monetary donations and for shipping their creative and
8 unique items for our ditty bags. Please stand and be
9 recognized. Our commission -- our Convention Commission
10 Chairperson Anita Biggs and Gloria Jean Sinopoli. I
11 don't think Gloria is in the audience.

12 (Applause.)

13 CONVENTION CHAIR GRAHAM: Madeline Lee who's
14 credentialed. We were putting books together early on
15 Tuesday in the office. Peggy Teye, thank you for your
16 invaluable technical advice for registration.

17 Liz Doidge, man, our secretary extraordinaire.
18 Thank you, thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Melissa Card. She
21 contacted me earlier this year offering her help. And
22 you know we never turn away a volunteer. Thank you,
23 Melissa.

24 Last night and most of this week, District 16
25 members Maddie Leek and Lori Richards were a great

1 assistance to me. Stand up and wave or --
2 (Applause.)
3 CONVENTION CHAIR GRAHAM: I'd like to thank my
4 District Commander. He was very instrumental in getting
5 our ditty bags to my district. His name is Chris
6 Wenzinger. He picked up our 30 district bags from
7 Sanger.
8 So Linda Carmichael from District 15, will you
9 please stand?
10 (Applause.)
11 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Are you going to
12 stand? Where's 15? The rest of you. Come on, girls.
13 Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You have been
14 supporting me for many years. So I thank you, I thank
15 you. And it probably won't be the last time that I ask
16 for your help.
17 To my Convention Co-Chair, thank you for being at
18 my side.
19 Madam President Glenda, this is my village and I
20 hope your convention is successful and memorable.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Dee
22 Ann. You have done a great job.
23 Next we'll have our VA&R Chairman Susan Baker.
24 After Susan will be Children & Youth Maureen.
25

1 **VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CONVENTION REPORT**

2

3 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Good morning. Am I coming
4 through okay? Okay.

5 Good morning, Madam President, Officers, Members
6 and Guests. The Convention Committee on Veterans
7 Affairs & Rehabilitation met on June 27th, 2024 in the
8 Mineral King Room A at 10:30 a.m. The statistical
9 report of this Chairman appears on page 36 in the Book
10 of Reports.

11 Robin Falkenberg District 28, Unit 512 was
12 appointed secretary, Madeline Lee, District 16, Unit 741
13 offered prayer, and Lucy Hunt, District 23, Unit 578 was
14 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 20 district
15 delegates answered roll call and there were nine
16 visitors present.

17 The committee agreed upon the following report.
18 The code was reviewed and the following changes were
19 proposed. And at the head table, your proposed changes
20 are at the back of your -- the last two pages on your
21 packet that I gave you.

22 Okay. So Proposal No. 1 is to add item 2b page
23 65 VA&R Code - Medical Center Representatives to allow
24 representatives assigned to Cal Vet Homes the
25 opportunity to report their volunteer hours for

1 inclusion in department year-end reporting. And the
2 rationale would be that by adding this language to
3 Department Code, representatives assigned to the Cal Vet
4 Home -- Cal Vet Homes would be able to record their
5 hours for annual Cal Vet volunteer hours for inclusion
6 in the end-of-year VA&R reporting and end-of-year impact
7 report.

8 If adopted the new item would be 2b and read:
9 "Representatives assigned to Cal Vet Homes shall record
10 their volunteer hours on a Cal Vet Home volunteer hours
11 report form. The completed form shall be signed by the
12 director of the Cal Vet Home and submitted by the
13 department" -- "submitted to the VA&R chairman no later
14 than May 1 of each year. The Cal Vet Home volunteer
15 hours report form will be available on the Department
16 website. Additionally, the Department VA&R Chairman
17 will distribute the form to the Cal Vet Home
18 representative annually. (2024)."

19 By direction of the committee, I move for
20 approval.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
23 on the floor proposing a code change for item 2b on page
24 65. It currently reads: "Currently representatives
25 assigned to Cal Vet Homes are not able to report the

1 volunteer hours for inclusion in department year-end
2 reporting. By adding the proposed wording" -- oops.
3 I'm sorry. That's not how it's worded.

4 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: We're adding that.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: That's the
6 rationale.

7 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: We're adding that so there is
8 no current wording.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Susan.
10 The proposed addition. If adopted, this item would be
11 2b and read: "Representatives assigned to Cal Vet Homes
12 shall record their volunteer hours on a Cal Vet Home
13 volunteer hours report form. The completed form shall
14 be signed by the director of the Cal Vet Home and
15 submitted to the Department VA&R Chairman no later than
16 May 1 of each year. The Cal Vet Home volunteer hours
17 report form will be available on the Department Website.
18 Additionally, the Department VA&R Chairman will
19 distribute the form to the Cal Vet Home representative
20 annually. (2024)."

21 Do we have any discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
24 we'll vote. All those in favor.

25 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed.

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

4 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Okay. And we have a second
5 proposal. It would be to amend item No. 8, page 66
6 which currently reads: "Applications for rehabilitation
7 and casework from hospital representatives or
8 community-based outpatient clinics (CBOC) shall be
9 completed and signed by the hospital representative or
10 CBOC deputy. Checks for temporary financial assistance
11 shall be" -- "shall be made payable to the unit or the
12 CBOC deputy. Additional checks shall not be issued
13 until receipts for previous expenditures have been
14 received by the Department Chairman. (2023)."

15 The rationale for change: Checks for TFA are
16 issued only to the unit of the hospital representative
17 or CBOC deputy. If adopted, removal of the clause "or
18 the CBOC deputy" would eliminate confusion about to whom
19 the TFA funds are issued.

20 So if approved, Item 8 would read: "Applications
21 for rehabilitation aid or casework from hospital
22 representatives or community-based outpatient clinics
23 (CBOC) shall be completed and signed by the hospital
24 representative or CBOC deputy. Checks for temporary
25 financial assistance shall be made payable to the unit.

1 Additional checks shall not be issued until all receipts
2 for previous expenditures have been received by the
3 Department Chairman. (2024)."

4 By direction of the committee, I move for
5 approval.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
8 on the floor to change -- I'm looking for the code
9 number. I'm sorry.

10 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Eight.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Code 8. Thank
12 you. For proposed change on Code 8 currently reads:
13 "Applications for rehabilitation aid (casework) from
14 hospital representatives or community-based outpatient
15 clinics (CBOC) shall be completed and signed by the
16 hospital representative/CBOC deputy. Checks for
17 temporary financial assistance shall be made payable to
18 the unit or the CBOC deputy. Additional checks shall
19 not be issued until receipts for previous expenditures
20 have been received by the Department Chairman. (2023)."

21 If adopted the code will read: "Applications for
22 rehabilitation aid (casework) from hospital
23 representatives or community-based outpatient clinics
24 (CBOC) shall be completed and signed by the hospital
25 representative/CBOC deputy. Checks for temporary

1 financial assistance shall be made payable to the unit.
2 Additional checks may not be issued until receipts for
3 previous expenditures have been received by the
4 Department Chairman. (2024)."

5 Is there any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
8 we'll vote. All those in favor.

9 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed.
11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

13 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Thank you. Discussion was
14 held on possible code changes to be addressed in the
15 coming year by the VA&R Chairman. Awards for 100
16 percent reporting and second and third place Unit and
17 District Supplementals were announced. A closing prayer
18 was offered and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

19 Madam President, may I take a point of personal
20 privilege here?

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: You certainly may.

22 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Connie, will you come up? At
23 the VA&R committee meeting yesterday, Debbie Butler who
24 is our new poppy production manager in Loma Linda --
25 Long Beach, sorry, asked if she could come forward and

1 make a presentation to me. And I didn't even think
2 about it, I said yes. So this is what happened. It
3 arrived in this beautiful -- it arrived in this
4 beautiful box. Lovely. Where did it go? Oh, it's in
5 the bag. In this bag. It's quilted. And this was from
6 the Reps and Deps and the VA&R Chairmen.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Very nice.

9 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: I tell you, I was gobsmacked,
10 absolutely speechless. But from the bottom of my heart
11 to all of my chairmen and my deps and reps, thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Madam President, may I now
14 proceed with my supplemental?

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

16 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Thank you. The Department of
17 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, otherwise known as
18 the Department of Health and Human Services, has enjoyed
19 a very productive year serving groups of people which
20 are most dear to our hearts, our veterans and their
21 families.

22 To begin, Department gave a total of \$7,330 in
23 temporary financial aid to three veterans in need this
24 year. These funds covered such things as back rent,
25 food, and unpaid utility bills.

1 Forty units in 26 districts reported actively
2 promoting Be The One. A number of Units and Districts
3 created awareness teams in collaboration with their
4 Legion Family counterparts. Teams visited Post homes
5 and Units and participated in community-wide events to
6 create public awareness about veteran suicide.

7 Forty-nine units in 19 districts report
8 participation in Wreaths Across America. A total of
9 3,066 wreaths -- I'm sorry. A total of 3,066 wreaths
10 were purchased at a cost of \$5,212 and both junior and
11 senior members participated in wreath laying ceremonies
12 at veterans' cemeteries throughout the state on December
13 16th, 2023.

14 Forty-three members in 13 Districts volunteered
15 52 hours of their time to welcome home returning Honor
16 Flight veterans. Signage was created and displayed and
17 American military flags were waved during Honor Flight
18 departures and arrivals back home.

19 Bakersfield Unit 26 in District 15 gifted 135 lap
20 blankets to World War II, Korean, Vietnam, and Native
21 American veterans who participated in Honor Flights last
22 fall.

23 Members of South Orange County Unit 281 in
24 District 29 provided \$250 in Starbucks gift cards that
25 accompanied the welcome home letters written by the 2023

1 Girls State delegates from that district.

2 Seventy-three members in 21 districts gave a
3 total of 12,354 volunteer hours to the Military and
4 Veteran Caregiver Network program. A total of \$24,834
5 was spent for food, clothing, and toiletries.
6 Caregivers drove 19,782 miles to provide meals, take
7 their veterans to doctors' appointments, grocery
8 shopping, errands, and perform house -- perform
9 housekeeping chores.

10 Abraham Lincoln Unit 241 in District 18 focused
11 their efforts in providing assistance to Veterans in
12 Caregiver Network by traveling 500 miles, donating 450
13 hours of time, and spending \$400 on veterans in this
14 program.

15 As for Service for Veterans/Military, members in
16 23 districts reported a total of 128,298 volunteer hours
17 while serving 16,648 veterans and military. Units and
18 districts reported spending \$111,337 on holiday parties
19 and related goods. Reported in-kind donations for
20 veterans amounted to \$220,805 and included a wide
21 variety of items including clothing, cots, blankets,
22 bedding, and personal items. Units reported a total of
23 108 veterans and military -- veterans in community
24 school presentations made to California school children
25 this year. And Units reported offering 59,321 poppies

1 and receiving \$90,357 in poppy donations during the
2 2023-'24 year. That's amazing. Just amazing.

3 (Applause.)

4 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Members of San Antonio -- I'm
5 sorry. Members of San Anselmo Unit 178 in District 5
6 regularly volunteered at the Yountville Veterans Home.
7 Members participated in the annual December Holiday
8 Share with donations of much needed items for their
9 residents. This unit also worked closely with VA social
10 workers at Homeward Bound in Novato, California and
11 provided move-in boxes for the veterans transitioning
12 into housing.

13 Fair Oaks Unit 383 in District 6 celebrated our
14 women veterans at a unit meeting. Each of the four
15 female vets in attendance received certificate and
16 flowers to honor their service to our nation. Sorry. A
17 reception in their honor was held after the meeting.
18 I'm very emotional today. Sorry.

19 Merced Unit 831, District 12 sent Poppy donations
20 -- used Poppy donations to provide \$500 each to assist
21 two veteran families with medical emergency expenses.
22 An Army veteran's wife experienced a very difficult
23 pregnancy and was ultimately diagnosed with a rare
24 condition that required her to be hospitalized far from
25 her children and husband. This unit also provided \$500

1 to a Navy veteran who was diagnosed with stage 3
2 esophageal cancer and was experiencing deep depression.
3 The Unit's generosity enabled the veterans' family to
4 cover food and sundry costs.

5 Camarillo Unit 741 in District 16 organized a
6 drive-by birthday party for a World War II Army veteran
7 who was celebrating his 104th birthday. The event
8 received local media coverage and more than a hundred
9 vehicles participated. And U.S. Army troops and
10 veterans joined in the celebration.

11 Allied Unit 302 in District 17 accomplishes the
12 nearly impossible with their ongoing work with deported
13 veterans who are honorably discharged from military
14 service. To date the unit has been instrumental in
15 negotiating the return of more than 120 deported
16 veterans to their families in California where all have
17 been pardoned by Governor Newsom. The Unit works with a
18 group of attorneys on the East Coast who donate their
19 time for this project. The repatriation process for
20 each deported vet takes many months of communication and
21 coordination with the VA, consulates, and embassies.

22 The same unit also works with Women Vets on
23 Point, a mental health program that helps female vets
24 with one -- with day-to-day life struggles. The unit
25 has contracted with over -- the unit has connected with

1 over 225 women vets in the program. Assistance ranges
2 from help with housing needs to childcare, employment
3 services, employment, and PTSD counseling. Two unit
4 members are life coaches and trauma debriefing
5 therapists who provide guidance and a strategic plan to
6 help female vets get back on track.

7 Units in several California Districts advised
8 that they have participated in Stand Downs for homeless
9 veterans and their communities. Jackie Robinson Unit
10 252 Color Guard in District 23 presented the colors at
11 the Stand Down held at the West Los Angeles VA campus
12 and their district members gave socks to all the
13 homeless vets who attended.

14 Members of Big Pine Unit 457 in District 27, a
15 widow unit, connected community-wide services for both
16 Veterans' Day and Memorial Day and coordinated the
17 distribution of flags on veterans' headstones at local
18 cemeteries.

19 We're almost done. District 29 Units actively
20 support the Veterans Resource Centers at three local
21 community colleges providing resource information on
22 local VA hospitals, legal matter referrals, and
23 financial assistance to more than 2,400 vets this year.

24 Last fall South Orange County Unit 281 in
25 District 29 filled an urgent request for new beds and

1 bedding for a previously homeless veteran housed in a
2 nonprofit veterans home. The unit gave \$5,000 to
3 purchase bunkbeds, mattresses, and bedding for each of
4 the 16 to 20 veterans housed there. Pillows and towels
5 were donated by a unit member.

6 Members in 18 California Auxiliary Units reported
7 255,976 volunteer hours for ALA service for military
8 families. Additionally, those units reported spending
9 \$125,678 to serve 13,764 military families in their
10 respective districts.

11 All ten Units in District 18 worked together to
12 host a baby shower for mommies-to-be at the Fort Irwin
13 Military Base. Gifts totalling over \$3,000 were donated
14 by units and the event was a huge success.

15 Local competitions for The National Veterans
16 Creative Arts Festival or NC -- NVCAF have been limited
17 in California medical centers. Several facilities have
18 finally reimplemented this wonderful program for the
19 first time since COVID-19. Eighteen districts reported
20 Unit and individual donations totaling \$2,360 to NC --
21 NVCAF this year.

22 Seventeen Districts reported active volunteer
23 recruitment for the VA Center for Development and
24 Community Engagement. Through ongoing active
25 recruitment California ALA was able to add seven

1 representatives and deputies to the VAVS rolls for
2 '23-'24.

3 Veterans were also recruited for Cal Vet Homes.
4 The Department of California ALA disbursed -- disbursed
5 a total of \$9,300 to nine VA medical centers and six Cal
6 Vet Homes for Patient Remembrance and gift shops last
7 fall.

8 Antelope Valley Unit 311 and Palmdale Unit 348 in
9 District 20 each donated \$500 to the Pete Knight
10 Veterans Home for Christmas. In addition to the cash
11 donations, members provided gift bags filled with
12 goodies and a \$50 bill for each veteran housed there.
13 The National PowerPoint presentation, VAVS 101 2023, is
14 emailed to all the prospective volunteers and is used as
15 a training tool for newly appointed VAVS volunteers.

16 This Chairman wrote monthly bulletins and
17 contributed to articles to The Auxiliary News Hub. Zoom
18 meetings were held with both the District VA&R Chairman
19 and the Hospital Reps and Deps. The many facets of the
20 VA&R program were shared with attendees at workshops and
21 leadership training. Additionally this Chair created a
22 special VA&R PowerPoint presentation for our Juniors at
23 our Junior Conference in April.

24 Madam President, this concludes my statistical
25 report. May I --

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

2 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: But before I do that, I would

3 like to, with your permission, have the Reps and Deps

4 come forward for introduction. Can we line them up in

5 the back? How do you want to do that?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I apologize, we

7 should have already had this lined up. If you are a

8 Representative or Deputy, please come to the back of the

9 room.

10 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: And while you're doing that, I

11 will proceed with my first place awards.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Instead of doing

13 that, maybe just come right up here so you don't have to

14 go so far. Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant

15 Sergeant-at-Arms, can you please help with lining them

16 up? Linda has got them, our Distinguished Guest

17 Chairman, Ms. Linda Workman.

18 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Okay. I can't see you so

19 you're going to have to use your big girl voices.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. As she

21 calls your name, can -- actually, are you going to do

22 it --

23 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: They're going to have to

24 introduce themselves.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: When everybody

1 gets in line, we're just going to have everybody
2 introduce themselves. So we'll start over here.

3 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: We have Cindy Mayfield right
4 here.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We'll just
6 announce your name and what facility you're from.

7 HOSPITAL DEP MAYFIELD: Cynthia Mayfield, Long
8 Beach VA.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you.

11 HOSPITAL DEP DOWELL: Sandra Dowell, Fresno VA.

12 HOSPITAL REP OLIPHANT: Cindy Oliphant, Fresno
13 VA.

14 HOSPITAL DEP WORKMAN: Linda Workman, Martinez
15 VA.

16 HOSPITAL REP KURKOSKE: Sandra Kurkoske, Loma
17 Linda VA.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sandra Kurkoske,
19 Loma Linda VA.

20 HOSPITAL DEP BELL: Tami Bell, Loma Linda VA.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Tami Bell, Loma
22 Linda VA.

23 HOSPITAL REP RAYA: Connie Raya, Palo Alto VA.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Connie Raya, Palo
25 Alto VA.

1 HOSPITAL REP DIXON-HICKS: Pamela Dixon-Hicks,
2 West LA.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Pamela
4 Dixon-Hicks, West LA. I'll try not to puff.

5 HOSPITAL REP HUSTON: Grace Huston, Livermore VA.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Grace Huston,
7 Livermore VA.

8 HOSPITAL DEP SMITH: Donna Smith, San Diego
9 Oceanside CBOC.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Donna Smith, San
11 Diego Oceanside CBOC.

12 HOSPITAL REP TOZIER: Susie Tozier, Jennifer
13 Moreno, San Diego VA.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Susie Tozier,
15 Jennifer Moreno, San Diego VA.

16 HOSPITAL REP ARTIS: Deloris Artis, West Los
17 Angeles Cal Vet Home.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Deloris Artis,
19 West Los Angeles Cal Vet Home.

20 HOSPITAL REP LEE: Madeline Lee, Ventura Veterans
21 Home.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Madeline Lee,
23 Ventura Veterans Home.

24 HOSPITAL REP VELADOR: Marcie Velador, Pete
25 Knight Veterans Home.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Marcie Velador,
2 Pete Knight Veterans Home.

3 HOSPITAL DEP BUTLER: Debbie Butler, Long Beach
4 VA.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Debbie Butler,
6 Long Beach VA.

7 HOSPITAL REP SINOPOLI: Gloria Jean Sinopoli,
8 Fresno Veterans Home.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Gloria Jean
10 Sinopoli, Fresno Veterans Home.

11 HOSPITAL REP WINTERS: Suzanne Winters, Northern
12 California Mather.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Suzanne Winters,
14 Northern California Mather.

15 HOSPITAL DEP SCHMIDT: Robin Schmidt, Northern
16 California Mather.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Robin Schmidt,
18 Northern California Mather. Give a big round of
19 applause to these ladies. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: And now if you'll scurry back
22 to your seats.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Madeline wants to
24 stay up here and be with us.

25 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: All right. The moment you've

1 all been waiting for, the awards. Okay. So First Place
2 Best District Supplemental goes to District 29 Cynthia
3 Mayfield, Chairman.

4 (Applause.)

5 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: And First Place Best Unit
6 Supplemental goes to Allied Unit 302, Rodi Andreescu,
7 Chairman.

8 (Applause.)

9 VA&R CHAIR BAKER: Okay. All right. In closing,
10 the Department of California Auxiliary is proud to
11 provide many opportunities that continue to improve the
12 quality of life for our veterans and military who reside
13 in the Golden State. As such, we remain connected and
14 United as One with our military and veteran communities.

15 Thank you, Madam President, for this very
16 challenging appointment. It's been my honor to serve
17 the Department of California as your VA&R Chairman this
18 year.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Susan.
21 Very nice job.

22 Okay. Next we will have Maureen O'Brien-Sacco,
23 our Children & Youth Chairman.

24 Following Maureen we will have Tracy
25 Varnell-Fercho, our UD&R Chairman.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CHILDREN & YOUTH CONVENTION REPORT

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN-SACCO: Good morning. Is it still morning? Okay. Just checking.

The convention committee on Children & Youth met on June 18th, 2024 via Zoom. So no room. The statistical report of this Chairman appears on page 26 in the Book of Reports. Lucy Hunt was appointed secretary, Ruth Kahn offered prayer, and Elizabeth Doidge was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. And to the Sergeant-at-Arms, she was the muter, so there you go.

A total of 17 district delegates answered roll call and there were 14 visitors present. The committee agreed upon the following report: First time members -- sorry. First time members were welcomed. The code was read and no code changes.

(Applause.)

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: Except one housekeeping comment that Madam President told me just to discuss with Liz. Certificates of appreciation and third and second place were announced to both Unit and District.

Madam President, may I continue with my floor report?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

2 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: The
3 Department of California has had an amazing year working
4 for our military and community children. Units across
5 the state donated backpacks full of school supplies to
6 both military bases and local schools. Several units
7 also donated these items to homeless children. District
8 17 and District 23 also donated clothes to homeless
9 children as well.

10 Units hosted trunk or treat events across the
11 state and brightened the lives of over thousands of
12 California kids. Units donated Thanksgiving baskets to
13 families in need and to local military base food drives.
14 Christmas parties were held through the state for our
15 Legion Family children.

16 District 2 adopted military families to donate
17 food baskets as well as gifts for all the children.
18 District 17 works with families in homeless shelters all
19 year long. District 6 donated \$500 for a holiday party
20 for homeless children. District 18 donated items to
21 local foster care families.

22 District 21 collected can tabs for Ronald
23 McDonald House for over \$750 and District 25 held their
24 annual Children's Miracle Network walk-a-thon for Ronald
25 McDonald House. I have in this report they raised over

1 2,000, but I was just told they raised nine, their
2 largest year ever. So congratulations to District 25
3 for that.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: West
6 Covina Unit 790 donated travel bags full of supplies for
7 three children who are moving as their father was
8 deploying. They also donated three backpacks full of
9 supplies to a family at Camp LeJeune. Ronald Reagan
10 Pacific Palisades Unit 283 collected and donated a
11 hundred teddy bears for children with deployed parents.
12 It was such a success they plan on doing it for future
13 years as well. Good job.

14 Canyon City Unit 180 collected over \$7,000 worth
15 of equipment for Fort Irwin Army Base School Wilson
16 Elementary. The equipment, snow cone machine, popcorn
17 machine, and sensory education toys, are meant to help
18 the school have events and help all these children.
19 While there, they also handed out over 300 "Kids of
20 Deployed Are Heroes Too" buttons. The children were
21 touched and some were saying it meant a lot to them as
22 they will be moving to another school shortly. They
23 also submitted nine Good Deed awards for students that
24 are assigned to help new students find their way in
25 their new environment.

1 El Monte Unit 261 handed out American Legion
2 Auxiliary coloring books through their city and the City
3 gave them a proclamation for Military Children's Day.

4 Chappie James Unit 578 held a Purple Up event
5 handing out free backpacks to neighborhood kids, raffled
6 off two bikes at their event. They had food, games, and
7 fun was had by all.

8 The Department of California had 47 units
9 participate in the Children's Military table setting.
10 We also presented the Military Children's table at the
11 Department Junior Conference. This allowed junior
12 members to participate and then ask them questions
13 revolving around military children's sacrifices.

14 Thirty units participated in Purple Up day and
15 blasted pictures all over social media. We awarded one
16 Youth Hero Award that our Department President Glenda
17 and National President Lisa were able to present to that
18 young lady during Lisa's official visit. We also
19 awarded 54 Good Deed Awards across the Department. So
20 great job.

21 (Applause.)

22 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: This year
23 as Chairman, Units and Districts across the Department
24 were asked to host a baby shower for either community
25 children or military bases. We were beyond blessed with

1 the turnout. Fifty-three units participated and we held
2 a large baby shower at the Department Executive
3 Committee meeting. We had diapers, wipes, towels, car
4 seats, playpens, strollers, and a tremendous amount of
5 clothes donated. Excuse me.

6 We serviced Twentynine Palms Marine Base, Travis
7 Air Force Base, Fort Irwin Army Base, March Air Force
8 Base to name a few. In total this Department donated
9 over \$42,000 worth for our community and military
10 children.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: Thank you.
13 This was a huge success so I thank you all.
14 Thirty-three units reported donations to the Child
15 Welfare Foundation. The total donations report were
16 \$3,806. Thirteen units reported hitting the number \$1
17 per member goal.

18 In total over 23,000 hours were reported for
19 children. We were able to serve 210,000 children in
20 total traveling over 15,000 miles.

21 This has been a tremendous honor to serve as the
22 Department of California Children & Youth Chairman.
23 Thanks you.

24 Madam President, may I continue with my first
25 place awards?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

2 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: So I have
3 to in advance thank Past Department President Melanie
4 Taylor and Past Department President Linda Workman
5 because your reports were outstanding and I wasn't going
6 to be the one to judge them, so thank you both.

7 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you,
8 Maureen.

9 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: Thank you.
10 And so First Place Award for District, District 18.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: And First
13 Place Award that was turned in to also go to National,
14 Canyon City Unit 180.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR O'BRIEN SACCO: Thank you
17 again, Madam President. This concludes my report.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sorry. Thank you,
20 Maureen. Great job.

21 Next we have our UD&R Chairman Tracy Varne11
22 Fercho.

23

24 **UNIT DEVELOPMENT & REVITALIZATION CONVENTION REPORT**

25

1 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL FERCHO: I always like to
2 follow Maureen because she's about the same height as me
3 so the microphone is right.

4 Good morning, Madam President Glenda. Here we
5 are, another year has come and gone. It feels like just
6 yesterday I was sitting in the audience about to become
7 the Unit Development & Revitalization Chairman, UD&R,
8 for '23-'24.

9 This year was a trial year for this chairmanship
10 so I did not have a precon, no awards, not even a code.
11 But a little birdie did tell me that this chairmanship
12 will continue next year, so my hope is that we can have
13 a new code and a new UD&R chairman in every district and
14 every unit.

15 I know that we had some UD&R chairmen this year
16 within our districts and it was truly a blessing to have
17 them. To be honest, I had no idea what this detailed
18 for this UD&R Chairman because the last time we had this
19 position was 2009. So I did what every good chairman
20 does, I went to a seasoned member, Linda Workman, and
21 she sent me a lot of information.

22 There was a lot of conversation with Madam
23 President Glenda and Anita Biggs, but I wanted to focus
24 on more revitalizing units that we had and working on
25 conflict resolution. Boy, looking back, I should have

1 re-thought that decision.

2 I was truly honored and humbled by the members
3 reaching out and asking questions or talking about
4 situations that they were having within their districts
5 and units. I was very pleased about how members were
6 able to come together and meet halfway to resolve
7 situations. Trust me, it was not easy.

8 A very, very rough estimate of districts that
9 reach out to this Chairman was about 19 and units were
10 about 46. But to be honest, I really lost track.

11 Some of the things I would like to pass down to
12 you for this chairmanship this year is, one, we need to
13 respect our past, cherish today, and plan for tomorrow.
14 Meaning that we still need to follow proper protocol and
15 procedures, give the respect to our mentors that have
16 led our way to where we are now, cherish today, and
17 understand that we are here only for a short time and we
18 need to make the most of each day and we need to be kind
19 to one another.

20 Plan for tomorrow. Understand that change is
21 coming. We may not like it, but it does come. So
22 instead of fighting it, figure out a way to make it work
23 within your units and within your districts.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Amen.

25 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Amen on that. Number

1 2, we have a lot of different personalities within our
2 organization. And we should. That is how the world
3 works. But being a bully, intimidating others,
4 unnecessary comments, body language, and even using foul
5 language will never get our point across.

6 I know we talk about this all the time and I know
7 a lot of you are tired of hearing it, but let's make a
8 conscious effort in making kindness happen. It will not
9 happen overnight.

10 Being right, does that make you a better person?
11 We have seen so many situations and times where members
12 had to be right. They would go after individuals'
13 reputations, their careers outside this organization,
14 and just down right slander each other which was so
15 unnecessary.

16 I could go on and on, but there's just one last
17 thing I would like to say to Madam President Glenda for
18 believing in me and being able to handle such a delicate
19 part of our organization.

20 To all the Past Department Presidents that helped
21 me with this Chair, I could not have done this
22 chairmanship without you.

23 To Linda Fercho, thank you for being my travel
24 partner and taking notes. Because if anybody knows me,
25 I can't talk and take notes at the same time.

1 Finally, I'd like to reach out to all the units
2 and districts that reached out to make your district and
3 units better. You are the true leaders of this
4 organization.

5 Madam Department President, this concludes my
6 report.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Tracy.
9 Okay. Next we will have Membership. And if you're part
10 of the Membership team, could you please go to the other
11 side of Suzanne. Thank you.

12 All right. I'm sorry. Ladies, you know what
13 Tracy said about changes and change is good, so we're
14 going to make a little change here and we're going to do
15 PPP, Ms. Kathie Martinez, before we do Membership
16 because I think Membership is going to take a little
17 longer. So Membership can be getting organized while
18 Kathie does her report. Thank you.

19 Sorry, Suzanne, but I know you're flexible.

20

21 **PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CONVENTION REPORT**

22

23 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: I won't
24 be that long. Good afternoon, ladies. No, no, it's
25 still morning. Sorry. Okay. There's page 2. Okay.

1 Cool.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Oh, no. I have to
3 learn things all over again.

4 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: The
5 convention meeting on Past Presidents Parley met on June
6 20, 2024 via Zoom. The statistical report of this
7 chairman appears on page 34 of the Book of Reports.

8 Melise Munroe was appointed secretary, Grace
9 Huston offered prayer, and Cassandra Brown was appointed
10 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 13 delegates answered roll
11 call. There were ten visitors present including our
12 Department President. Thank you, Madam President.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you.

14 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: The code
15 was read and the committee agreed on the following
16 proposed change. See page 2.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Oh, no.

18 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: I stapled
19 it.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. I can't
21 lose it.

22 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Neither
23 could I. "The Past Presidents Scholarship has been
24 designated as a nursing scholarship by the Past
25 Presidents Parley and shall be awarded annually in the

1 amount of \$4,000 to a veteran or a veteran's wife or
2 husband, widow or widower or child of a veteran. The
3 veteran's period of service eligibility is April 16,
4 1917 through November 11th, 1918 or any time after
5 December 7, 1941 to the date of cessation of hostilities
6 as determined by the government of the United States.
7 (2022)."

8 If adopted, the code will read: "The Past
9 Presidents Scholarship has been designated as a nursing
10 scholarship by the Past Presidents Parley and shall be
11 awarded annually in the amount of 14-" -- "\$4,000 to a
12 veteran or a veteran's wife or husband, widow or
13 widower, child or grandchild of a veteran. The
14 veteran's period of service eligibility is April 16th,
15 1917 through November 11th, 1918 or any time after
16 December 7, 1941 to the date of cessation of hostilities
17 as determined by the government of the United States."

18 The rationale on this is to include the
19 grandchildren. Madam President, by direction of the
20 committee I move the adoption of this code change.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. We have a
23 motion on the floor for a proposed code change
24 Department Code No. 2. It currently reads: "The Past
25 Presidents Scholarship has designated as a nursing

1 scholarship by the Past Presidents Parley and shall be
2 awarded annually in the amount of \$4,000 to a veteran or
3 a veteran's wife or husband, widow or widower or child
4 of a veterans. The veteran's period of service
5 eligibility is April 16, 1917 through November 11th,
6 1918 or any time after December 7, 1941 to the date of
7 cessation of hostilities as determined by the government
8 of the United States. (2022)."

9 If adopted the new code -- sorry. The Code 2
10 will read: "The Past Presidents Scholarship has been
11 designated as a nursing scholarship by the Past
12 Presidents Parley and shall be awarded annually in the
13 amount of \$4,000 to a veteran or a veteran's wife or
14 husband, widow or widower, child or grandchild of a
15 veteran. The veteran's period of service eligibility is
16 April 16th, 1917 through November 11th, 1918 or any time
17 after December 7, 1941 to the date of cessation of
18 hostilities as determined by the government of the
19 United States." And it will be 2024.

20 Is there any discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none, all
23 those in favor.

24 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed.

1 (No response.)

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

3 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Thank
4 you, Madam President. It was further recommended that
5 the changes to the Department Website, Committee,
6 Program Past Presidents Parley, Program Resources,
7 Scholarships A and under Application 1a to clearly state
8 the eligibility period and include the grandchildren of
9 veterans whose service falls within the membership
10 eligibility requirements. Per approval of the code,
11 this will be submitted to our Webmaster for
12 implementation.

13 Second and third place awards for District
14 Supplemental were announced in committee. And there
15 only two Unit Supplemental reports submitted to this
16 Chairman and the winners will be announced today. I
17 didn't want to give anything away.

18 All certificates and awards will be placed in
19 envelopes for the respective districts. Further
20 discussion by the delegates stated that they appreciated
21 the ability to meet via Zoom and hoped that going
22 forward more meetings would be scheduled allowing more
23 of our members to participate in the various program
24 meetings. This light is really bad.

25 The Chairman reiterated the Past Presidents

1 Parley program is not just a scholarship program, but a
2 mentoring opportunity for all of us. Mentoring our
3 younger members, less seasoned members, is a roadmap for
4 our future success.

5 It was also suggested by one of the delegates to
6 include the Past Presidents, whether District Or Unit,
7 to attend their Girls State teas or orientations.
8 Excellent idea.

9 Second Place District Supplemental was awarded to
10 District 21 Kathy Newlen, Chairman. Third Place
11 District Supplemental was awarded to District 23,
12 Cassandra Brown, Chairman. The PPP committee meeting
13 adjourned with a closing prayer at 7:15.

14 May I continue with my supplemental?

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

16 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: It is
17 hard to believe that this year is over. As I stated in
18 my Mid-Year Report, it's true time flies when you're
19 having fun. This second half has flown by and now here
20 we are at convention.

21 Questions asked regarding the Past Presidents
22 Parley, what do we do, who can be in the Parley, what is
23 the purpose, what scholarships all have been answered
24 and the work began.

25 The statistical information is quite sobering.

1 We have as a department, according to the list I have
2 from the website, 213 units and 29 districts. Of these
3 we have 23 Unit Past President Parleys, organized Past
4 Presidents Parleys, and one District Past President
5 Parleys which translate to 10 percent.

6 I asked at our Mid-Year meeting if you did not
7 have a Past Presidents Parley, to please start one. And
8 I am happy to report that District 28 has three, yes,
9 three new Parleys. Congratulations and thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: The
12 numbers, however, speak volumes. Of the 18 Districts
13 that reported, there were a total of 46 units that
14 reported activity in our program. The majority of the
15 reports indicated that each of these units/districts
16 actively worked to promote mentoring, training,
17 leadership, and an overall spirit of inclusiveness and
18 camaraderie.

19 The Parleys in these Units and Districts met
20 either monthly or quarterly to reacquaint themselves
21 with each other and to discuss any concerns they may
22 have. Once again, I will state in order to mentor our
23 members, we need to have mentors in our units. Each
24 unit should have a Past Presidents Parley comprised of
25 their Unit's past presidents. If you don't have one,

1 get one. Again, please if you are -- if you're a small
2 district, consider forming a District Parley.

3 Madam President Glenda's theme of United as One
4 was reflected in all the reports I received. We are
5 united. One reported stated that their Past Presidents
6 led their units with encouragement in training their
7 members one on one making procedure packets for their
8 new members and their program chairmen.

9 Have you ever thought about wearing a leadership
10 hat? One Unit Past President does just that each
11 meeting and encouraged their members to ask their
12 questions. What a wonderful tool that is. If I could
13 wear a hat, I would do it.

14 Another unit has developed a big sister,
15 auntie/niece program which partners new members with a
16 seasoned member to help them understand our programs and
17 acronyms and to be there when needed. Throughout these
18 report -- throughout these reports, the common theme and
19 statements were the same. This is an important program
20 that encourages leadership.

21 Units are being mentored in how to do mid-year
22 and year-end reports which is vital to our success. If
23 we don't know what you have done, we can't let everyone
24 else know what you did. Social media is being utilized
25 to get the information on our scholarship out to the

1 public. We are continuing to inform our junior members
2 of the scholarships available to them. At District and
3 Unit meetings, contributions to the Department Past
4 Presidents Parley scholarship fund are being encouraged.

5 I know that many of our units are small. Many of
6 us are overwhelmed, but mentoring is not hard to do. Be
7 there when a new member or even a seasoned member asks a
8 question. If they knew the answer, they wouldn't ask
9 the question.

10 I would like to give a big shout out to District
11 21 on their promotion of the Nurse's Scholarship
12 Program. Unit 79 awarded two \$1500 scholarships to
13 local college students enrolled in the RN nursing
14 program and Unit 500 -- and Unit 500 awarded \$300 to
15 three high school seniors who are pursuing the nursing
16 field.

17 And speaking of scholarships, I would like to say
18 thank you to the two units who submitted applications.
19 In reviewing -- not judging; I don't judge it -- the
20 applications I accepted were amazed at the work these
21 students are doing and can only guess what type of
22 professional they will become. We were fortunate enough
23 to be able to award the scholarship this year. A \$4,000
24 recipient will be presented to you at the Past
25 Presidents Parley luncheon, and I am sure you will be

1 amazed by this person.

2 Our second scholarship in the amount of \$1,000
3 was awarded to Priscilla Villalvir sponsored by Cecil M.
4 Anderson Unit 589, District 28.

5 (Applause.)

6 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ:

7 Congratulations to District 28. Also in my Mid-Year
8 Report I shared an excerpt from an email I had received
9 about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody,
10 Nobody. Well, here's another one, and I think this is
11 really on point considering what we heard yesterday.

12 How to kill a post. Don't attend the meetings.
13 If you do, arrive late. Find fault in the officers and
14 members. Never accept an office if it's easier to
15 criticize than doing that. Nevertheless, get annoyed if
16 you are never appointed to a committee. If appointed to
17 a committee, don't attend the meetings. If asked by the
18 Chairman to give your opinion, say nothing, but then
19 afterwards in the canteen tell everybody how things
20 should have been done.

21 Do no more than necessary when others are rolling
22 up their sleeves. Hold back your dues for as long as
23 possible or even don't pay them. Don't bother getting
24 new members, but if you do, make sure they are grippers
25 like yourself. On point for some of us? Thank you.

1 Okay. I am confident that --

2 (Applause.)

3 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: But I am
4 confident that no one in this audience is anything like
5 this. And I want to express my sincere thanks for all
6 that you do not only for this program, but for our
7 organization. It is imperative that we as Past
8 Presidents, whether it be Unit, District, Department or
9 National, take our leadership and share it. We have
10 been blessed by those who have gone before us with this
11 knowledge. Let us not -- let it not go to waste.

12 Madam President, may I take a personal point of
13 privilege?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

15 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: To Chino
16 Unit 299 in District 25, I would like to express my
17 sincere sympathy and heartfelt sorrow at our recent
18 loss. Diane was my Department President. I was one of
19 her Circus Acts. As a Past Department President she
20 took her responsibilities of being a mentor seriously.
21 She was always there for anyone who asked a question.
22 As the Past Presidents Parley is truly a mentoring
23 program, her loss will be sorely missed.

24 (Applause.)

25 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Madam

1 President, may I proceed with my awards?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

3 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Okay.

4 You got my notes that I sent out earlier, District 28,

5 29? Okay. First Place District Supplemental is awarded

6 to Esther Lepore, District 28.

7 (Applause.)

8 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Thank

9 you. Be sure to give it to her. First Place Unit

10 Supplemental is awarded to Unit 291, District 29 Cindy

11 Edes.

12 (Applause.)

13 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ:

14 Congratulations. Second Place Unit Supplemental was

15 awarded to Unit 496, District 19. It was placed in

16 their envelope.

17 (Applause.)

18 PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY CHAIR MARTINEZ: Madam

19 President, I wish to thank you for this most rewarding

20 appointment. It has been a pleasure to serve as the

21 Past Presidents Parley Chairman. United as One. Thank

22 you.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Kathie.

24 So now we're going to do what our UD&R Chairman talked

25 to us about and that was about adapting to change. So

1 because we've run out of time, we're going to ask the
2 membership people to please be seated and our UD&R
3 Chairman is going to give the Community Service report
4 for our Chairman Patty Galaitoto that could not be here
5 today.

6 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Everybody needs a
7 little stretch. I think a little stretch might be on
8 the order for two seconds, if that's okay.

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Certainly.

10 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: If anybody would like
11 to stand up and give a little shimmy shimmy, that would
12 be good for two seconds. I know we're running out of
13 time, but I know you guys have been amazing so thank
14 you.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. We have
16 three minutes.

17 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: We have two minutes.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: So we'll see if
19 she can adapt to change.

20 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Oh, I can adapt to
21 change. Just don't tell Patty if I blow her report.

22

23 **COMMUNITY SERVICE CONVENTION REPORT**

24

25 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: So, ladies, we're

1 going to get started with the Community Service report.
2 Patty unfortunately wasn't able to be with us, and so we
3 do send out our prayers and our thoughts to her today.
4 So we'll go ahead and get started.

5 Congratulations, California Districts and Units.
6 Thank you for your talents, skills, hard work,
7 achievements, accomplishments, and your dedication to
8 our Veterans which you have contributed to the State of
9 California Community Service success. We have --

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Please quiet.
11 She's speaking.

12 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Oh, I'm speaking.
13 Sorry.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sorry.

15 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: I'm like did I say
16 something wrong?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: No, they were --

18 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Okay. We are proud
19 to announce that 23 districts consisting of 185 units
20 have reported end-of-year statistical reports for
21 Community Service. This can be found on page 27 in the
22 Book of Reports.

23 Units in District 2 have been volunteering in
24 libraries, museums, resource centers and local schools,
25 churches, fire departments, community service clubs and

1 Chamber of Commerce.

2 Unit members in District 16 volunteer their time
3 and resources at local hospitals, care centers, senior
4 centers, medical clinics -- it says "clients" -- medical
5 clinics, libraries and museums. A member of Unit 482 in
6 District 16 Consuelo Macedo has donated \$20,000 to the
7 Cambria Historical Museum.

8 District 16 also has a project called Boots on
9 the Ground. This activity supports Stand Downs, monthly
10 transportation for veterans to medical centers, uniting
11 with other community organizations to build a stronger
12 support system for veterans, military families and their
13 local community. For special holidays in District 16
14 they also place flags throughout their community. I
15 know that because that's my district.

16 Allied Unit 302 in District 17 spent their days
17 and nights searching for homeless veterans along
18 freeways, underneath bridges, parks, and a lot of
19 parking lots around in the hills of Los Angeles and on
20 Skid Row in Downtown Los Angeles. That could be kind of
21 scary so thank you, Rodi, for doing that because none of
22 us want to do that, but --

23 DISTRICT 17 ANDRESSCI: Come with me next time.

24 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: This Unit works with
25 VASH counselors offering homeless veterans housing and

1 helping them with VA benefits. Once a homeless veteran
2 is housed, this unit brings the veterans their much
3 needed supplies.

4 District 20 had 100 percent reporting.
5 Congratulations to District 20. And units participated
6 in National Days of Service. Eighty-two veterans and
7 their family members worked together in preventing
8 veteran homelessness. Units in District 20 participated
9 with Saddles For Soldiers.

10 Unit 817 in District 20 volunteers at local food
11 banks and at women's shelters. Unit 311 in District 20
12 works with other organizations such St. Jude, ASPCA,
13 Toys for Tots, Salvation Army and food banks. These
14 unit members volunteer at their local soup kitchen
15 serving up warm meals.

16 Unit 519 in District 21 assists the homeless who
17 live around their post by donating food, clothing, and
18 blankets. Unit 591 hosts a food drive three times a
19 year and donates the food to their local Veterans
20 Village. Unit 519 also participated in a baby shower
21 held at March Air Force Base for female veterans.

22 District 25 proudly announced that Unit 256, Unit
23 244, and Unit 777 had received proclamations from the
24 mayors of their cities proclaiming April 27th as
25 American Legion Family Day.

1 (Applause.)

2 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: District 27 in Big
3 Pines, California has a small population. Big Pine
4 consists of four units. Their community is so small
5 that the Auxiliary members follow the motto of
6 "Participate, don't duplicate." So instead of picking
7 one big project, their members go out into the community
8 and participate in projects that best fit their
9 individual talents.

10 Districts 28 consists of three counties:
11 Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz. Members volunteer
12 countless hours of Community Service in their cities and
13 post homes.

14 District 28 members have volunteered throughout
15 their cities, members worked in food banks, homeless
16 shelters, Meals on Wheels, participated in Veterans Day
17 Parades. District 28 units also gathered to help cook
18 and serve meals in the community. Thanksgiving dinners
19 to 450 to 500 people providing gifts and food for
20 veterans in the Veterans Transition Center.

21 Units have volunteered in medical clinics
22 including Marina Veterans Clinic and Units conducted
23 recycling programs at their homes and their posts. A
24 new program in District 28 had all units working
25 together in Hometown Banners where veterans can have

1 their uniform pictures made into banners and displayed
2 on Main Street in their towns.

3 Memorial Day in District 29 begins their year.
4 Units participate in Veterans Memorial ceremonies at
5 Forest Lawn. Members of the Legion Family work
6 together. Unit juniors join in by handing out programs
7 and giving out flags and presenting the colors.

8 9/11 is always a busy day for District 29. One
9 unit gathers the Semper Memento which is a memorial with
10 beams from the World Trade Center. This event is joined
11 by first responders as the community together joins in a
12 moment of silence as they surround the monument.

13 Districts and Units throughout this Golden State
14 of California participated in National Night Out
15 promoting the American Legion Family. This was a huge
16 success for California. Now is the time to prepare for
17 National Night Out. Contact your local law enforcement
18 and reserve your spot to promote the American Legion
19 Family.

20 Madam President, this conclude my platform
21 remarks. May I pass out her first place winners?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

23 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Okay. So for the
24 First Place -- sorry. I was -- I was getting this
25 right. I'm a little behind the time here.

1 Okay. First Place District goes to -- for the
2 Best Community Service goes to District 28.

3 (Applause.)

4 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Thank you.
5 Congratulations. Also for First Place Unit Supplemental
6 also goes to District 28 and it's in Unit 589, Jennifer.

7 (Applause.)

8 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Thank you.
9 Congratulations. There was one last thing, Madam
10 President. Patty did want to hand out an Honorable
11 Mention to District 16, Unit 482 Consuelo Macedo for her
12 donation of \$20,000 to the Cambria Historical Museum of
13 Community Service.

14 (Applause.)

15 UD&R CHAIR VARNELL-FERCHO: Madam President, this
16 concludes Patty's report. I hope I did it justice.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you so much,
18 Tracy. You adapted.

19 We're going to have some Golden Notes here, a
20 bunch of Golden Notes.

21 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Number one is the
22 Department Page badges are in a thin box somewhere in
23 this hall. If anybody sees it, please let me know.
24 It's a thin box with yellow ribbons.

25 POPPY CHAIR FALKENBERG: It's in the office.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Oh, it's in the
2 office now?

3 POPPY CHAIR FALKENBERG: It's that table in the
4 back.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Oh, it got moved to
6 that back table. So if you need a Page badge, come see
7 me in the office.

8 If anybody else has gotten sick from eating at
9 the restaurant, please go talk to Myra, the manager. We
10 need to notify them of everybody who's gotten sick just
11 so they're aware. Yeah, the restaurant here. Hailey
12 got food poisoning. She was out completely yesterday
13 throwing up all day. Erika and Donald both got sick as
14 well and I heard of at least two other people. So if
15 you have, please let Myra know at the restaurant so that
16 they're aware.

17 For any Chairmen that are reporting today, please
18 make sure you give me a full list of your winners.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Respect, please.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Anybody who's
21 reporting today, please give me a full list of your
22 winners that I can post in the office.

23 Bonnie's Prom -- Bonnie's Prom Princesses and
24 Sandy's Colonels will meet in the back of the room after
25 session today. Or if they want to make a donation,

1 please send it to Bonnier Christner in District 20.

2 There are two people that have already seen Kathy
3 asking about PPP luncheon tickets. Please come see her
4 again because there are a couple extra. If there are
5 people interested in tickets for the luncheon today, see
6 Kathy. We might be able to accommodate.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Where is it?

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I have that note
9 too. Anita's District Presidents and the Team Captains
10 will meet for lunch Saturday, June 29th at noon in the
11 Marriott Hotel restaurant.

12 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: We will see.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Sorry.

14 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: We'll just be
15 having water.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: The PPP luncheon
17 will be upstairs in Sequoia A and B.

18 And then Kathie's Eagles -- you were the Eagles;
19 right? -- and Terry's Treasures and Diane's Circus Acts
20 will meet in the back of the room tomorrow at lunch.

21 And then I have one more that I've misplaced, but
22 Donna Mattox, can you please stand? Donna Mattox has a
23 collection of Diane DeLashmit's Circus Act pins. If
24 anybody is interested in one, see Donna. She has them
25 for donations.

1 I've got a collection of I think a glasses case.
2 I've still got the Hoops pin that Anita is going to take
3 if nobody else does. I've got a round earring. I've
4 also got a dangling earring with a gem of some sort like
5 almost like a pearl but not a pearl. And I've got
6 someone's keys.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Just
8 quickly, those of you that are making nominations for
9 our office for 2024-2025, please be on stage when you
10 return from lunch.

11 We are now in recess until 2:00 p.m. If you can
12 be back a little bit early, it would be appreciated. We
13 have a lot to do. So be in your seats at 2:00 o'clock.

14 (Lunch recess taken: 11:53 a.m.)

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

AFTERNOON SESSION - 2:00 P.M.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I have a couple of things before we -- ladies, please. We have a couple of things. If you're looking for your banquet tickets, we do not have them yet. The convention center is making them for us. They're supposed to be ready this afternoon. If not, they promise first thing in the morning.

In addition to that -- ladies, please. The unit president from Unit 108 in District 11, Liz Giordano, I hope I'm saying it correctly. Giordano. Thank you. Lost her house and everything this morning. So we are passing around two buckets for donations. She will be going to the California Disaster Fund and to AEF, but they need money now so this is why we're doing this. So anything that you can do, they will greatly, greatly appreciate. Thank you. A house fire. From early this morning. Maybe Joan can help me.

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CANNON: She lives way in the country. It was in a quarter acre near her home. It was really early in the morning, like 2:00 a.m. They had very little time to get themselves out. It was them or stop and get everything out. They went out because we can always replace stuff.

1 Unfortunately, if you don't know much about fire
2 insurance, when you live in the Foothills, it's
3 extremely expensive. Like, you know, Past Chaplain
4 Grace Huston, hers was \$1,000 a month for her cabin up
5 in the Foothills. So it's very, very expensive so their
6 insurance probably wasn't what it should have been. So
7 any donation would be mostly appreciated.

8 But, yeah, they're safe. It's just everything
9 else burnt to the ground. And of course they don't know
10 how the fire started, but the fire marshals will
11 investigate. And we can update people as we find out.
12 But thank you all. We appreciate it.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Joan.
14 I'm not sure where they -- no, it hasn't come by here
15 yet. Thank you.

16 The convention is reconvened. At this time we
17 will proceed with the Nomination of Department Officers,
18 Senior Member of Finance, Junior Member of Finance,
19 Candidates for National Office and Delegates and
20 Alternates to National Convention. If there are no
21 objections, the Chair will open the nominations.

22 Ladies, I know you're crowded over there, but --
23 ladies. Thank you.

24

25 **NOMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2024-2025**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Nominations are now open for the Office of Department President. The Chair recognizes Marcy Velador from District 28 for the purposes of a nomination. I'm sorry. It's her fault. Sorry, Marcy.

The Chair recognizes Bonnie Christner for the purposes of a nomination. I'm sorry.

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: I need to apologize to Marcy. I just butted my little butt right in here saying I'm just going to read this nomination for Linda. Since I did it last year, I figured I could do it this year too. Okay. It's her fault.

Madam Department President and ladies, Linda Hayes worked in Action-Agua Dulce Community District -- School District as a district clerk, school secretary, payroll, budgeting, classified certificated personnel, human resources, and administrative secretary to the superintendent of schools and she retired after 28 years.

On a personal level, she is a mother of two boys, American Legion Baseball players, grandmother of two boys and two girls and a great grandmother of two boys and one girl. I don't think there's been any additions since last year.

1 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT HAYES: I've got
2 another great granddaughter.

3 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Oh, great,
4 she's got another great granddaughter. She remarried in
5 2000 and became a stepmother to three more boys and
6 later became grandmother to two more girls.

7 On the department level -- we're not going to do
8 the District because you know there was so much. On the
9 Department level there's a lot too. Her chairmanships
10 included Junior Activities Chairman, Girls State Two
11 Year Chairman, Finance Committee three years, Auxiliary
12 Emergency Fund Chairman, Constitution & Bylaws Chairman
13 two years -- remember that good ole COVID --
14 representative to the Lancaster Cal Vet Home for eight,
15 nine years. Or is it still eight? Nine because we
16 turned it over to our wonderful little Marcy over there.

17 Last year it was an honor for me to come up here
18 and nominate my dear dear friend Linda Hayes who's been
19 a member of the Auxiliary for 32 years. She has worked
20 so very, very hard to get to where she is. And as I
21 told you last year, I believe in my heart and my soul
22 that Linda Hayes is the person that we need to be our
23 Department President.

24 So, Madam Department President Glenda, I place
25 the name of Linda Hayes -- I nominate -- Anita got me

1 last year -- I nominate our candidate who was endorsed
2 by District 20 and Unit 348 for the Department President
3 office for 2024-2025.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Are there any
6 further nominations for Department President?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
9 nominations for Department President are now closed.

10 Nominations are now open for the office of
11 Department Vice President. The Chair recognizes Rebecca
12 Glenny from District 18 for the purposes of -- 28.
13 Sorry, I moved you -- for the purpose of a nomination.

14 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT GLENNY: Madam President
15 Glenda Schultz and esteem members of the American Legion
16 Auxiliary, it is with immense pride that I stand before
17 you as the District 28 President to nominate an
18 exceptional individual for the Department of California
19 Vice President position for 2024-2025 Susan Baker.

20 (Applause.)

21 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT GLENNY: I've got a little
22 more. Susan embodies our motto Service, Not Self. Her
23 dedication and selflessness are reflected in the
24 prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award she received from
25 President Joe Biden this past year for recognizing her

1 32,000 hours of volunteer service for the American
2 Legion Auxiliary.

3 (Applause.)

4 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT GLENNY: Susan's
5 eligibility stems from her father's service as a World
6 War II U.S. Army veteran and Pearl Harbor survivor.
7 Inspired by his and her family's sacrifices, Susan
8 joined the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 694 in 2003
9 after a distinguished 32-year career in public service.

10 Her family's deep military commitment extends to
11 her uncle, a World War II U.S. Navy veteran, her
12 brother, a U.S. Air Force Vietnam veteran, her husband
13 John, a U.S. Marine Corps, and her husband's son, a U.S.
14 Navy veteran of the Global War on Terror.

15 This legacy of service is shared by her daughter
16 Katherine and husband John who are both Auxiliary
17 members.

18 In her two decades of American Legion Auxiliary
19 membership, Susan has demonstrated outstanding
20 leadership and passion for service. She has served as
21 Unit President three times, District President twice
22 guiding her peers with wisdom and integrity. Her
23 involvement includes roles such as Chaplain, Education,
24 Membership, Children & Youth, and Veterans Affairs &
25 Rehabilitation at the Department level.

1 Whatever Susan embarks, she does it with the
2 highest standard of excellence and integrity. Susan is
3 a regular volunteer with the American Legion Auxiliary
4 Post 694 family, participating in special events, meal
5 services, and celebrations of life.

6 Her dedication extends to District 28 and
7 Department of California levels. She contributes to
8 initiatives, programs, and training that benefit members
9 and veterans statewide. Her unwavering commitment
10 underscores her role as a pivotal leader and advocate
11 for our organization.

12 Susan's ability to balance her role as a mother,
13 grandmother, and great grandmother with her spirit of
14 selfless service and remarkable achievements make her
15 the ideal candidate for the Department of California
16 Vice President. We are confident that her vision,
17 experience, and passion will undoubtedly elevate our
18 mission ensuring continued support for our veterans and
19 their families.

20 Therefore, it is with great enthusiasm,
21 confidence and full support and approval from District
22 28 that I nominate Susan Baker for the position of
23 Department of California Vice President 2024-2025. And
24 remember, vote for your gnomey, homey.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Are there any
2 further nominations for the office of Vice President?

3 (No response.)

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
5 nominations for Department Vice President are now
6 closed.

7 Nominations are now open for the office of
8 Department Senior Member of Finance. Nope, I'm not
9 wrong on this one. Nominations -- because Ann was
10 appointed by the DEC, she has not been voted by the
11 membership, so that's why she's continuing the year to
12 fill out Junior Member of Finance, but she's running for
13 Senior.

14 Nominations are now open for the Office of
15 Department Senior Member of Finance. The Chair
16 recognizes Jennifer Turner from District 6 for the
17 purposes of a nomination.

18 DISTRICT 6 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT TURNER: Good
19 afternoon, Madam President, representatives and
20 membership. It is my distinct honor to represent
21 District 6 in nominating Ann Sanchez for the position of
22 Senior Member of Finance.

23 Ann Sanchez has been a dedicated member of the
24 American Legion Auxiliary since 2013 and is a charter
25 member of Unit 223 in Elk Grove. She joined our ranks

1 under the proud service of her husband Henry, a U.S.
2 Army veteran, and her father who served in the Navy
3 during World War II.

4 Ann's commitment to our organization and the
5 values we uphold is evident in her extensive service
6 history. Throughout her tenure Ann has held numerous
7 chairmanships to include Unit and District President,
8 demonstrating her leadership and unwavering dedication.

9 For the past nine years she has served as Unit
10 Treasurer and for the last five she has also been the
11 District Treasurer. Her financial acumen and meticulous
12 attention to detail have been instrumental in
13 maintaining the fiscal health of our unit and district.

14 When the call of duty came unexpectedly, Ann did
15 not hesitate to step in mid-year as Junior Member of
16 Finance. Her willingness to serve in times of need
17 exemplifies her commitment and reliability.

18 Beyond her financial responsibilities, Ann has
19 also contributed as the Junior Conference Nurse and
20 served as Personal Page to two Department Presidents,
21 showcasing her versatility and readiness to support the
22 Department in various capacities.

23 Ann is also a retired registered nurse, a
24 profession that speaks volumes about her caring nature,
25 dedication to service, and the ability to handle any

1 responsibility with compassion and confidence.

2 For these reasons and more, I am proud to
3 nominate Ann Sanchez as Senior Member of Finance.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Are there any
6 further nominations for the Office of Department Senior
7 Member of Finance?

8 (No response.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
10 nominations for the Department Senior Member of Finance
11 are now closed.

12 Nominations are now open for the Office of
13 Department Junior Member of Finance. The Chair
14 recognizes Anita Biggs from District 23 for the purpose
15 of a nomination.

16 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Thank you,
17 Madam President. Good afternoon, members and guests.
18 Sharon Moore is a 34-year honorary life member of Jackie
19 Robinson 252 in the 23rd District.

20 Sharon was born and continues to live in Los
21 Angeles. Sharon is eligible to the Auxiliary through
22 the service of her late father, Willie James Moore, Jr.
23 who served in the United States Army during the Korean
24 War.

25 On the Unit level and District level, Sharon

1 served as president along with most chairmanships. On
2 the Department level, Sharon has served as Rules,
3 Credentials, Mid-Year DEC, Community Service, Auxiliary
4 Emergency Fund Chairmanship, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms,
5 and is currently serving as our Convention Banquet
6 Chairman and Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. Sharon is
7 currently serving as the 23rd District Treasurer and has
8 been for several years.

9 Sharon retired as a senior claims adjuster after
10 working 40 years with AAA. She is the proud mother of
11 three adult daughters: Nicole, Sharee, and Priscilla,
12 five grandchildren. All are members of the American
13 Legion Family.

14 It is with great honor and extreme pride and with
15 the wholehearted support of the 23rd District and Jackie
16 Robinson Unit 252, I nominate one of my own District
17 President Team Captains Sharon Moore for the
18 distinguished office of Junior Member of Finance
19 Department of California 2024-2025.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Are there any
22 further nominations for the Department Junior Member of
23 Finance?

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,

1 nominations for Junior -- Department Junior Member of
2 Finance are now closed.

3 Nominations -- okay. No, I'm going to -- thank
4 you. I just got told by this one. See how bossy these
5 ladies are. They never let me do anything wrong.

6 Will all of our recently nominated officers,
7 chairmen please stand up together so that everybody can
8 see you. And I'll move out of the way.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, ladies.
11 We're all proud of all of you. We can't wait to see
12 what you can do.

13 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: And you're all
14 the same height. That's good. Thank you.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: And Susan and
16 Anita have on the same dresses, so they're really twins.

17 Nominations are now open for National Office.
18 Okay. The Chair recognizes Linda Karnstedt from
19 District 5 for the purposes of a nomination.

20 RULES CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Madam President,
21 fellow members and guests, Melanie Taylor is a 32-year
22 PUFL member of William Russell Ledford Unit 293 American
23 Legion Auxiliary. Her eligibility is through her
24 husband, Robert Taylor, U.S. Navy Vietnam, also through
25 military service of her grandfather, father, brothers,

1 son, daughter, and granddaughter.

2 She has held all officer positions and numerous
3 program chairmanships in her unit and district and
4 served as Department President in 2024 -- 2020 --
5 2004-2005. Twenty years ago. Melanie has served the
6 last 18 years on the National level as Chairman of the
7 Leadership Committee, Americanism, Poppy, Legislative,
8 ALA Girls Nation Committee and Director, Public
9 Relations Committee, Constitution & Bylaws, Two Years
10 National Security Committee, Education Committee,
11 Community Service Committee, as well as various Western
12 Division appointments and Membership Committee Vice
13 Chairman.

14 She also served as a member on the Human
15 Resources Ad Hoc Committee, Strategic Planning Committee
16 Goal 4D as Team Captain.

17 She and Bob have been married for 34 years, have
18 four children, 11 grandchildren and four great
19 grandchildren.

20 Melanie retired in April 2004 from the law firm
21 of Hinton, Cochran & Borba where she was the office
22 administrator and legal secretary for 14 years. In 2008
23 she was asked to come to work as the council registrar
24 for the Redwood Empire Boy Scouts of America after which
25 she retired in 2012.

1 She is a member of the United Methodist Church, a
2 member of Beta Sigma Phi sorority, as well as recently
3 joining the Kiwanis Club of Healdsburg.

4 On behalf of William Russell Ledford Unit 293
5 District 5, I'm proud to nominate Melanie Taylor for the
6 Office of National Historian of the American Legion
7 Auxiliary for the 2024-2025 administrative year.

8 (Applause.)

9 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I should just say
11 are there any further nominations?

12 (No response.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
14 nominations are closed.

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you,
16 Madam President. I just wanted to clear up a
17 misunderstanding or rumor that's going around. I was
18 asked to run for National Historian in Trish Ward's
19 year, '24-'25. I was asked by several Past National
20 Presidents, and so I had agreed to do this.

21 If you all remember last year's convention, I was
22 nominated by my wonderful friend and sorority sister
23 Linda Workman to become the Western Division National
24 Vice President, but that will be in the year '25-'26.
25 So the reason that my name was put forward at last

1 year's convention is it has to be done two years in
2 advance in case the department who would have a
3 candidate for this year steps down, and then I would
4 have automatically moved up. But thank God Alaska does
5 have a nominee and she'll be serving and I get to serve
6 with my wonderful dear friend Pam Ray. So that clears
7 up the mud. Thank you, Madam President.

8 (Applause.)

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: A little bit of a
10 snafu. We are now going to proceed with the nominations
11 for delegates to National Convention, but our wonderful
12 secretary just ran to get the list so it's going to be
13 just a minute.

14 She's back.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Sorry, guys. I
16 thought I did this Sunday, not today.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay, Liz.

18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So Delegates and
19 Alternates for National Convention. Our code, I can't
20 remember which one, states that your President Glenda
21 Schultz, President-Elect Linda Hayes, and Department
22 Secretary, which I'm assuming is myself, are essentially
23 delegates in your own right. So we're automatic.

24 District 2 delegate I have Carolyn Glenn.
25 District 1 I never got a form. District 2 Carolyn

1 Glenn. District 4 pass. District 5 Melanie Taylor.
2 District 6 Jennifer Turner. District 7 Debbie Scanzano.
3 District 8 pass. District 9 Linda Workman. District 10
4 I didn't receive anything. District 11 pass. District
5 12 I didn't receive. District 13 I did not receive.
6 District 14 Gloria Jean Sinopoli. District 15 Dee Ann
7 Graham. District 16 Linda Fercho. District 17 Erika
8 Hernandez. District 18 Julie Morales. District 19
9 Debbie Butler. District 20 Linda Hayes. District 21
10 pass. District 22 Linda Sundberg. District 23 Anita
11 Biggs. District 24 Ruth Kahn. District 25 Tamara Bell.
12 District 26 pass. Well, District 26 they sent in Nancy
13 Brown-Park, but he's a delegate in her own right as a
14 PNP so I just put it as a pass. District 27 Danielle
15 White. District 28 Susan Baker. District 29 Cindy
16 Mayfield, and District 30 pass. That gives us a total
17 of 22 delegates.

18 I have one correction. District 20 -- okay.
19 District 20 I have Linda Hayes, and as I stated before
20 she's up top and so instead we're having Marcy Velador.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Liz.

22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: And actually I have
23 one more correction. District 19 I was just informed
24 that Debbie Butler will not be able to attend and they
25 asked that their alternate be moved up to delegate. If

1 we do that we have -- we still have the correct number
2 of delegates.

3 Can we do that, Anita?

4 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: Yes.

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Okay. Okay. So
6 then District 19 will be Lorrie -- I know I'm loud, but
7 District 19 will be Lorrie Lewellyn. That one is gone.
8 That's 22, and that's how many we get.

9 Now for alternates.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Nominations are
11 now closed for Delegates to National Convention.

12 Nominations are now open for Alternates to
13 National Convention. Will our Secretary Liz Doidge
14 please read the names of the nominees.

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 1 pass.
16 District 2 Judy Sarti. District 4 pass. District 5
17 Linda Karnstedt. District 6 Suzanne Winters. District
18 7 pass. District 8 pass. District 9 pass. District 10
19 no paperwork. District 11 pass. District 12 no
20 paperwork. District 13 no paperwork. District 14
21 Debbie Hurado. District 15 Sherry Core. District 16
22 Madeline Lee. District 17 Teresa Lugo-Nunez. District
23 18 Stephanie Huff. District 19 pass. District 20 Nancy
24 Heinisch. District 19 we moved up, so that's why I was,
25 like, wait. District 21 pass. District 22 Susie

1 Tozier. District 23 Cassandra Brown. District 24
2 Martha Romano. District 25 Barbara Toth. District 26
3 Valerie Hardy. District 27 Susan Zimmerman. District
4 28 Robin Falkenberg. District 29 Pat Alvarez, and
5 District 30 pass. That is a total of 18 delegates -- or
6 alternates.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Nominations
8 are open for four more -- four more?

9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yes.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We'll be calling
11 off by district.

12 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So we do it by
13 membership strength so we start with District 29. If
14 you pass, just say pass. District 29.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: District 29, do
16 you have anyone or are you passing? Pass. Thank you.

17 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 21. Pass?
18 District 25. Go to the mic.

19 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT TOTH: Sorry, Liz. Donna
20 Mattox.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: District 25
22 nominates Donna Mattox.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 22. Pass?

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: District 22
25 passes.

1 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, they pass.
2 District 16.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Sixteen, are you
4 passing? They're talking. They're trying to figure it
5 out over here I think.
6 DISTRICT 16 DELEGATE: Pass.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Pass.
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 19.
9 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE: Pass.
10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 28?
11 DISTRICT 28 DELEGATE: Pass.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: District 18.
13 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT RAMOS: Yes. Maureen
14 O'Brien Sacco. I don't know where to look.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. You should
16 say District 18 nominates.
17 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT RAMOS: I'm sorry.
18 District 18 nominates Maureen O'Brien-Sacco.
19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 20 for
20 alternate. Yeah, you have Marcy.
21 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE: Pass.
22 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 24.
23 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT CARD: District 24
24 nominates Marie Whigam.
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Thank you.

1 District 6. Where is 6?

2 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT WINTERS: We pass.

3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Pass. Thank you.

4 District 26.

5 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT TOYE: I nominate Diane --

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 26

7 nominates --

8 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT TOYE: District 26

9 nominates Diane Rapport.

10 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do I have to go

11 through all of them if we have the four?

12 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: You have four?

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, that's four.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay.

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Madam

16 President, Melanie Taylor, Past Department President.

17 Liz, I hate to be a pain in the behind, but could you

18 reread those? Because I came up with 17 and I counted

19 three times.

20 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN BIGGS: On which side?

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: On the

22 alternates.

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: You're correct

24 because we removed Lorrie Lewellyan.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: So we should be

1 asking for five then.

2 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: We need one more,
3 yes.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you.
5 One more.

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 27.
7 DISTRICT 27 DELEGATE: Pass.

8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: District 23.
9 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT BROWN: District 23
10 nominates Lucy Hunt.

11 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, District 23
12 nominates Lucy Hunt so that's -- so now we do have 22.
13 Thank you, Melanie.

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: You're
15 welcome.

16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Do you want me to
17 read through all of them?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: No. No, no, we
19 have a lot to get done. We can do it tomorrow.

20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: I'll have a form
21 for you guys tomorrow. Sorry about that.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We will now
23 continue with the Department Chairmen reports. And
24 we're going to start with Legislative, Community
25 Service, and Membership. We'll start with Membership

1 then Legislative and then -- oh, we already did
2 Community Service. We can't do Constitution & Bylaws.
3 And then AEF.

4 Before we start, will our Distinguished Guest
5 Chairman please escort Judy Leonardi to the podium for
6 the purpose of talking about American Legion Baseball.

7 (Processional.)

8 LEGION BASEBALL REP LEONARDI: Well, hello,
9 ladies. How are you? Oh, my God. Aren't you guys glad
10 you don't have to drive anywhere or your husbands don't
11 have to drop you off and come all the way back and get
12 you? You can just walk on over. It's so nice.

13 I'm Judy Leonardi. Actually I am an Auxiliary
14 member for District 22, Unit 365. And we have District
15 22 in the house? Yes. Absolutely.

16 I am actually a spokesperson for the Department
17 of California American Legion Baseball and I go around
18 inviting all of our Legion Families to help with the
19 fundraising campaign because \$100,000 needs to be met
20 for the state tournament to fulfill the pillars of
21 children and youth.

22 And let me tell you guys something. You guys are
23 daughters, wives, sisters, grandmothers to a veteran and
24 you guys serve selflessly in an organization. And,
25 honestly, you guys are the backbone. So when I go and

1 speak everywhere, it is a backbone of our Auxiliary that
2 keeps the Legionnaires sustained. Yes or yes?
3 Absolutely.

4 See, we do have skin in the game, even though
5 some will say no, because we have to deal with the men
6 when they come home. And everything behind closed doors
7 stays behind closed doors. Don't you agree? And it's
8 very, very difficult. I know. My dad is a Vietnam
9 veteran, and if you know what flashbacks are and
10 experienced that as a child, we were very much one of
11 those families.

12 So you guys have innate characteristics to
13 nurture and that is something that every woman
14 possesses. And I am so grateful to be part of the
15 American Legion Auxiliary, but also to help our
16 Legionnaires in so many ways. And this is one of them
17 that I get to give back as well as you do.

18 And I can tell you right now, District 14
19 Auxiliary 365 and Auxiliary 291 have been instrumental
20 in -- and as well as 460 this year have been
21 instrumental in supporting American Legion Baseball.

22 So you guys had fliers on your chairs today, so
23 thank you so much to the Junior Auxiliary. But if you
24 don't know much about Legion Baseball, it started in
25 1924. So next year it's going to be the 100th

1 anniversary. And Babe Ruth was our director of
2 operations.

3 Now our Legion Baseball, we're going to have a
4 hundred anniversary next year and we plan on being the
5 California state championships going to the World Series
6 which is advertised on ESPN. But here's the key.
7 Without you guys, we can't do it. I can tell you I only
8 named a few of the Auxiliary, but there's other
9 Auxiliaries that help in so many different ways.

10 So this year this tournament is going to be in
11 Chapman University in Orange County instead of UCLA
12 because UCLA wants to charge us 45 percent more which is
13 like not a good thing. But UCLA is on veteran grounds
14 and it was built by the American Legion, so we don't
15 understand why that is.

16 But God works in mysterious ways, so Chapman
17 University, their field is called W.O. Hart Park. W.O.
18 Hart was the first commander of the American Legion in
19 Orange County. Isn't that a blessing? Absolutely. And
20 that Auxiliary is going to be amazing in helping us with
21 their banquet and stuff.

22 So you also have a sponsorship form. Now the
23 most popular sponsor level is the game tournament where
24 they come out and they throw the first pitch and they
25 get special seating and they are able to take pictures

1 with the teams. If you guys so choose to sponsor a team
2 that level, please do so because we had our Auxiliary
3 members come out and throw the first pitch. Which
4 honestly they got more recognition and applause than the
5 men did, as they should.

6 So with that, you also have this District and
7 Post Golden Glove. Now I ran over here because I was
8 supposed to speak, but I wanted to put you guys first.
9 The District and Post Golden Glove, if you saw those
10 trophies as you first walked into those doors, the Post
11 and the District, it can be two different entities or
12 two different places will win this award.

13 Now this award entitles you to the invitation to
14 the VIP Golden Glove Game prime seating. How many of
15 you remember when you had kids and you told them go get
16 me a drink of water. Go do something for me. Right?
17 Go get the clothes out of the dryer. Here, you'll have
18 a personal escort to tell them to go get you food and
19 drinks. So that would be awesome. It would bring back
20 memories, wouldn't it?

21 You'll get a swag bag for your group. They must
22 be a Legion Family member and you must bring your card
23 because the swag bag is about 130 to \$150 worth of
24 stuff. No water, no granola bars. They are actually
25 swag stuff like beach towels, mugs, battery packs. It's

1 just amazing how many people want to donate.

2 Anyone who's involved in the District or the
3 Post, those commanders, those Auxiliary present will be
4 able to run the bases, throw out the first pitch, get
5 recognized. And as well as that banquet that Post 132
6 will have over there for the players on July 24th, you
7 guys will be recognized by an MLB player. How many
8 baseball players are here, baseball fans?

9 (Applause.)

10 LEGION BASEBALL REP LEONARDI: Oh, my gosh. So
11 my personal friends, David Justice and Jermaine Dye
12 played for the Atlanta Braves. They went to the World
13 Series, won a VIP, won a Corvette, as if they really
14 needed it, but, you know, thank goodness for them. And
15 they'll be there to congratulate you, give you the
16 Golden Grove trophy and you guys are going to be amazed
17 at the results.

18 So it's for all Legion families for that Post.
19 If you have a VFW in there, please encourage them to
20 deliver some checks. And I take cash, checks, credit
21 cards. I got you all covered. I don't want you to miss
22 out.

23 But most importantly we had -- where is Anita
24 Biggs? She had to leave. Okay. So the first all-women
25 Color Guard were able to come out and do the color guard

1 ceremony on that field. And let me tell you, they got a
2 lot of recognition, as woman should. Yes or yes?
3 Absolutely.

4 So if you guys so choose, go out there and
5 there's a board out there that looks like little checks.
6 I have some of the boards inside the Legion room, but if
7 you want to donate and have your Auxiliary unit
8 recognized, donate. I take fives, tens, \$100 bills. If
9 you want to add a zero to that 100, please do so. I'll
10 accept.

11 And I want to leave you with this. Patriotism
12 needs to be taught to our younger generation and not be
13 lost with our senior veterans. All those in favor, say
14 aye.

15 DELEGATES: Aye.

16 LEGION BASEBALL REP LEONARDI: Baseball,
17 American's national pastime, is that bridge and nothing
18 is more important, more wholesome and American than
19 apple pie, baseball, and our veterans. Amen? Amen. I
20 look forward to seeing you out there. Thank you so very
21 much. You're more than welcome. I will send you a
22 personal invitation to attend our banquet. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Judy.

25 (Processional.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Do we have Donna
2 Smith? Suzanne?

3 Okay. Next up we will have our Membership
4 Chairman.

5

6 **MEMBERSHIP CONVENTION REPORT**

7

8 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Well, I've got to
9 revise my script here, Madam President, because it says
10 good morning on here. But good afternoon, Madam
11 President. I would like to thank you for this
12 appointment to Membership.

13 When you asked me a year ago to do this, it was
14 very overwhelming. But like everybody says out here,
15 Melanie when she was up here and Kathie, they said find
16 a mentor. I had so many fabulous mentors and it comes
17 from the PPP. So get yourself a mentor. It's been a
18 great learning year for me and personal growth.

19 Our preconvention meeting for Membership was held
20 on Thursday, June 27th at 9:15 in the Mineral King B
21 Room. Liz Tungate was appointed secretary, Chandra
22 Young was appointed chaplain, Deloris Artis was
23 appointed sergeant-at-arms. There was a total of 20
24 delegates, six gifts -- six guests. Lots of gifts all
25 the time.

1 The statistical report can be found on page 33 in
2 the Book of Reports. The 85, 95, and 100 percent
3 certificates were passed out in committee along with a
4 lot of ribbons. And they will be in the folder that was
5 given to the different districts.

6 The committee read the code and the change is per
7 the committee as a change, but we're eliminating an
8 award. So if you -- I've given the code up there. It's
9 highlighted and it's under the Department Awards No. 6.
10 And per the committee, I'll go ahead and read this:
11 "The Edward Elks Memorial Award (formerly the Colleen
12 Award, Marjorie McDonald). A citation plus \$100 to be
13 used to promote the program of Education. This award
14 will be under the jurisdiction of the Department
15 Membership Chairman with the following rules: 6.a. Unit
16 must have received a Department Goal Citation. (2022).
17 6.b. Unit must have filed an activity report with
18 District President. 6.c. Activity report must show
19 participation in the following programs: Americanism,
20 Children & Youth, Education, Legislation, Poppies, and
21 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. (2009). 6.d. Unit
22 shall attach a written supplemental report which shows
23 activities in each program, hours spent, and dollars
24 spent. (2010)."

25 The reason why we are removing this from the code

1 is because it is no longer being funded. So on
2 recommendation of the committee, I move that we remove
3 Award 6 Edward Elks Award and a, b, c, and d.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
5 on the floor to remove under Department Awards No. 6.
6 Is there any discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those in
9 favor.

10 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed.

12 (No response.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

14 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Oh, my gosh that was
15 so easy. Thank you. Madam President, can I proceed
16 with my floor presentation?

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

18 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Well, I want you to
19 know I only received two supplementals, one from the
20 District and one from the Unit. And I found this a
21 little sad because this is your time to shine. You can
22 tell us everything that you are doing and, you know,
23 when you just read it on a piece of paper of your
24 statistics, it doesn't really tell us what you're doing.
25 So I really encourage all of you to do supplementals.

1 Seventy-nine units made 100 percent, sixty-four
2 units received the Josie Melgard award, nine districts
3 reached 100 percent, and 30 received National ribbons
4 that I got on Thursday. And those ribbons were also in
5 your packets.

6 Madam President, at this time can I hand out my
7 certificates?

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

9 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Thank you. The first
10 certificate goes to the Best Unit Supplemental. And
11 that is Joyce Patton from Unit 253, District 23.

12 (Applause.)

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: 252.

14 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: 252. Congratulations.
15 Our next best supplemental is going to District 21 Ellen
16 Federowski.

17 (Applause.)

18 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Good job.

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Ellen, stay there.
20 Stay there.

21 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Ellen, come back. Oh,
22 do you want us to take another picture?

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: No, I just was
24 looking at your next award.

25 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Oh. So this goes to

1 District 21.

2 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT FEDOROWSKI: That would be
3 -- girls, stand up and show them what you do.
4 (Applause.)

5 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: This is the Estella
6 Hanell Award -- oh, thank you. I had lunch now and I
7 need a nap. But this unit -- or this District had 332
8 new members.
9 (Applause.)

10 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: So if your unit out
11 there is struggling right now, I think you need to come
12 talk to this District. I think they can give you some
13 tips.

14 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT FEDOROWSKI: We bribed
15 them.

16 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Job well done.
17 (Applause.)

18 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT FEDOROWSKI: Can I sit down
19 now?

20 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Yes. Our next is the
21 Ethel Flynn Award and it goes to Unit 519. So is 519
22 here?

23 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT FEDOROWSKI: Yeah.

24 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: 519 for the largest
25 numerical per unit. 519, 108 new members.

1 (Applause.)

2 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Amazing. That was an
3 amazing job. Thank you. So we're all going to have you
4 do a little class on how to get members.

5 The next award that I would like to talk to you
6 about -- well, actually what I would like to do is bring
7 up my Area Support Team. Ladies.

8 Okay. Carol, Rebecca, Cassandra. Who else is --
9 come on up here if you're part of the Support Team. I'm
10 not sure how many of you are here. This has been a very
11 amazing experience for me getting to know some of you,
12 but I could not have done this without these ladies.
13 They -- they're the -- they are just amazing. You guys
14 have made my life so great, and I would like to thank
15 each of you. Thank you. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: The next award I would
18 like Diana, Doreen, and Debbie to come forward. The
19 next award that I'm going to be handing out is the Josie
20 Melgard. Josie happened to be their mother. And this
21 award is given in honor of their mother. And this is
22 Josie's legacy up here. And they are all so active in
23 the American Legion Auxiliary. They're just wonderful,
24 wonderful ladies, so I've asked them to come up and help
25 me present these awards.

1 But before I do that, I want to read to you who
2 Josie was. So the Josie Melgard Award is presented to
3 each Unit President whose Unit obtains its membership
4 goal plus two on or before the Department close of
5 books. This special angel lapel pin, there's a little
6 pin in there, is given in honor and memory of the Past
7 National President Josie Melgard.

8 Josie joined the American Legion Auxiliary
9 through the eligibility of her husband, Bob, who served
10 in the U.S. Navy during World War II. She was a proud
11 member of Reagan Unit 36 part of the 14th District. She
12 quickly assumed leadership roles becoming the Unit 36
13 President in 1953-'54 year and President of the 14th
14 District in 1961-'62.

15 Josie was elected President of the Department of
16 California serving from 1971 -- or 1970-'71. District
17 Presidents during her term in office were known as
18 Josie's Angels and membership was her key focus.

19 After her tenure as Department President, she
20 took on increasingly important chairmanships at the
21 National level. These roles accumulated in the -- in
22 the great honor of being elected the ALA American Legion
23 Auxiliary National President 1985-'86. She was the
24 fourth National President elected from California.

25 Throughout her levels of service in the American

1 Legion Auxiliary, Josie knew that growing membership was
2 critical to the success of this organization. Unit
3 growth means District growth which translates to
4 Department growths which equals more veterans served.

5 The Josie Melgard Award was begun as a means to
6 recognize those units who not only achieved their annual
7 membership goal, but go beyond to grow their unit
8 strength. Congratulations to each recipient. Wear
9 your pin proudly because you're now one of Josie's
10 Angels.

11 So on with the show. So District 1, Unit 204.
12 Is anybody here from District 1? District 2, Units 9 --
13 and I'm having the District Presidents pick these up.
14 So it's District 2, 92, 369, and 720 are the recipients
15 from District 2.

16 District 4, hopefully there's somebody from
17 District 4, and it would be Unit 95. District 5 is Unit
18 101, 208, and 293. Yes. District 6 -- and you can just
19 give that to me I guess. District 6 is Unit 77 and 233.
20 District 7 is Unit 119, 169 -- and I just want to
21 mention that Unit 169 is Glenda's unit. You go -- and
22 264.

23 I have three minutes to do this. Now you have to
24 tell me where I am. I go fast because I lose my place.
25 District 12 is Unit 168. District 15, Unit 124 and 221.

1 District 16 is Unit 50, 432, 482, 534, and 741.
2 Congratulations.
3 Next would be District 17, Unit 302 and 628.
4 District 18 is Unit 108, 261, 241, 790, and 830. 180.
5 Sorry. That's exactly what I have written too, 180.
6 Okay. Next district is District 19, Unit 184,
7 272, and 411. Next is District 20, Unit 348, 377, 507,
8 and 817. District 21 is Unit 200, 328, 519, 574, 595,
9 and 742. Next we have District 24, Unit 283. So it's
10 District 24 Palisades. It's 383. Oh, did I not do 22?
11 Oh, my God, I already have 22 on there. There's a 22, I
12 just didn't put it on my slip.
13 So District 22 there's five units: 434, 460,
14 468, 552, and Unit 853. That's why I need all these
15 ladies up here keeping me straight. Congratulations.
16 Okay. Are we on to 22? Okay. Twenty-four is
17 238 -- 283. I need some water. I'm getting really
18 sticky up here. So District 25 is Unit 112, 229, 422,
19 497 -- thank you -- 650 and 835.
20 What district am I on? Thank you. Unit 26 is --
21 or District 26 is Unit 82. District -- so the next will
22 be District 28. You've got Unit 31, 512, 589, and 694.
23 Next is District 29 and it -- Unit 133, 277, 281, 354,
24 555, and 716.
25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What about District 24?

1 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: I already said it. I
2 said the wrong number. Did you get your award? Then
3 all is well. I hope that all of you can one day stand
4 up here looking at all your smiling faces.

5 There is no District 30, but is there anybody --
6 there is -- there's -- Bradley Keffer 138, is anybody
7 here representing them today?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

9 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Okay. That's kind of
10 what I got. Thank you. Thank you, ladies.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Congratulations to
12 all of you.

13 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Yeah, this is amazing.
14 If you feel like you didn't get an award and that you
15 needed one or you deserve one, come see me because I am
16 only human, could have made a mistake.

17 Oh, District 5. So there you go, District 5. It
18 was 101, 208, and 293. Okay. Perfect. Again,
19 congratulations.

20 The other thing that happened on Thursday when I
21 was here is I got all the National ribbons and my
22 roommate and I stayed up and wrote all the names on the
23 ribbons. The ribbons are in your packets that I handed
24 out, but I just want to let you know who got National
25 ribbons. And they were District 1, 145; District 2, 720

1 92, 293; District 5, 208; District 6, 233; District 7,
2 119, 169; District 15 was Unit 124; District 16 was Unit
3 50, 432; District 17 was 628; District 8 was 241, 180,
4 790, 830; District 20 is 817, 348, 377; District 21,
5 328; District 22, 552 and 258; District 24, wow, it's
6 283.

7 Is that correct, Palisades? Did I get it right
8 this time? Yes. Okay. Good. District 25 is 497, 112;
9 District 28 is Unit 512, 593; District 29, 133, 354 and
10 555.

11 Okay. So we are currently right now -- I don't
12 know, has Liz checked the numbers for today? Do you
13 know, Liz or Glenda? Have we heard?

14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: No.

15 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: We've been kind of
16 busy. I don't know why we've been so busy. But anyway,
17 the other day we were at 11th place in National. We
18 were 345 members short of meeting our National goal. So
19 we are so close to being there and I know we can do it.

20 So the goal for National is by the 14th. And I
21 have a \$20 bill right here and I have some golden
22 buckets to collect your golden nuggets so we can get the
23 money to pay the per capita and reach our goal of a
24 hundred. Oh, I think Madam President might have
25 something that there -- is that --

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Liz, how many
2 Juniors do we have left? There's approximately 250
3 Junior members that we could pay, and if we just pay the
4 per capita of \$2, Liz?

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Four. It's \$4 for
6 Department. To pay National it's only 2.50.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: So we only need to
8 pay 2.50 for those members and that will get us -- I
9 mean it would make us 100 percent almost. Almost.

10 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: Look at all those
11 golden nuggets out there. I love it. Okay. We can do
12 it right now. We can reach our 100 percent and when we
13 go back to National in New Orleans -- I'm getting goose
14 bumps and I am just sweating. I know that we can do
15 this.

16 So as we're passing that golden bucket, Madam
17 President, I would like to -- I would like to thank you
18 for this opportunity to serve the Department of
19 California Membership Chairman. It has been an
20 education. It was actually fun. I've met so many
21 great, great members this year.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I'm sorry. I
23 missed the last part of what you said.

24 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: I said I love you.

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I love you too.

1 Thank you.

2 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WINTERS: But anyway, thank you,
3 Glenda, for this opportunity. We'll see you in New
4 Orleans. That's the end of my report, Madam President.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes. Thank you.

6 Donna, thank you. I know you were up here ready
7 and Suzanne just jump in front of you. But thank you.
8 There you are. And I'll have to figure out who we're
9 doing after her. After Donna we will do the Editor.
10 I'm not sure who's -- she told me who was doing her
11 report.

12 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Madam President, I'm
13 doing Editor.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Nancy is not able
15 to do her report. Her husband needs some full-time care
16 right now.

17 And then, Linda Karnstedt AEF, can you be ready
18 after Donna? Where is she? Thank you. We kind of had
19 to re-adjust because Girls State is going to do Zoom and
20 the Junior President is there and we're going to do them
21 by video in the morning with a couple of other delegates
22 from Girls State who want to talk. So we're trying to
23 get as much as we can do in this afternoon because the
24 next couple of days are going to be pretty packed.

25 I know when you look at the Book of Reports it

1 said we were going to reconvene at -- recess, I'll get
2 it, at 3:30, but we're going to go a little past that.
3 I'm sorry. My stand-in parliamentarian keeps telling me
4 3:30.

5 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: I've got Madam
6 Parliamentarian's here and hers says 3:30.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: And we all know
8 our other parliamentarian, so she changes stuff.

9 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: And then she tells me to
10 follow it. Okay.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I'm sorry, Donna.
12 We'll be quiet. Go ahead.

13

14 **LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION REPORT**

15

16 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Good afternoon, Madam
17 President, members and guests. Madam Department
18 President Glenda Schultz, this Legislative Committee met
19 on Tuesday, June 18th via Zoom. By consent of the
20 delegates, Lauree Camarato of District 22 served as
21 secretary, Linda Sundberg of District 22 served as
22 chaplain.

23 The statistical report for this Chair appears on
24 page 32 of the Book of Reports. The meeting was opened
25 with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. A total of 19

1 District delegates answered roll call. There were 19
2 visitors present.

3 The code was read. By the direction of the
4 Legislative committee, I present the following changes:
5 Code No. 2 currently reads: "The Department Chairman
6 shall attend the American Legion Auxiliary Washington
7 D.C. Conference sponsored by the American" -- excuse me
8 -- "sponsored by the National Organization. The
9 Chairman's expenses cannot exceed the amount budgeted
10 annually to help defray the cost of attending the
11 American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference."

12 Proposed amendment is to replace the word "shall"
13 with the word "may." If adopted will read: "The
14 Department Chairman may attend the American Legion
15 Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference sponsored by the
16 National Organization. The Chairman's expenses cannot
17 exceed the amount budgeted annually to help defray the
18 costs of attending the American Legion Auxiliary
19 Washington D.C. Conference."

20 By the direction of the committee, I move for the
21 adoption of this change.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
24 on the floor to Department Code No. 2 to change -- it
25 currently reads: "The Department Chairman shall attend

1 the American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference
2 sponsored by the National Organization. The Chairman's
3 expenses cannot exceed the amount budgeted annually to
4 help defray the cost of attending the American Legion
5 Auxiliary Washington D.C. Conference."

6 If adopted it will read: "The Department
7 Chairman may attend the American Legion Auxiliary
8 Washington D.C. Conference sponsored by the National
9 Organization. The Chairman's expenses cannot exceed the
10 amount budgeted annually to help defray the costs of
11 attending the American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C.
12 Conference."

13 Is there any discussion?

14 DISTRICT 14 DELEGATE HURADO: Debbie Hurado --

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Oh, you're in
16 front of me. I thought, I'm sorry, she was waiting for
17 a Page.

18 DISTRICT 14 DELEGATE HURADO: Yes. Debbie
19 Hurado, District 14, Unit 191. And this just might be
20 me because I know this was made after we had our Zoom
21 and everything, but I was -- I had the old code and I
22 thought the old code said "may" and it was being changed
23 to "shall." So that might be me, but I got it from
24 someone else.

25 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: There you go.

1 DISTRICT 14 DELEGATE HURADO: Okay. Thank you.

2 I just wanted clarification because I had -- I had
3 misstepped.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you. Any
5 further discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
8 we'll vote. All those in favor.

9 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Those opposed.

11 (No response.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

13 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Thank you, Madam

14 President. Proposal No. 2 is Department Code No. 7.

15 The current reading is: "Units and Districts shall be
16 urged to subscribe to The Dispatch and Unit Chairmen or
17 Unit Presidents share the bulletin with members
18 particularly when purchased with Unit funds."

19 The proposed amendment is: "Unit and District
20 shall be urged to sign up for the American Legislative
21 Action Alerts emails and encourage Unit Chairman and
22 Unit Presidents to also sign up and share the
23 information with members."

24 And if adopted that is the wording for the
25 proposed amendment. And the reason behind that is that

1 there's no fee. They're free now. By the direction of
2 the committee, I move for the adoption of this change.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
5 on the floor for Department Code No. 7, currently reads:
6 "Units and Districts shall be urged to subscribe to The
7 Dispatch and Unit Chairman or Unit President share the
8 bulletin with members particularly when purchased with
9 Unit funds."

10 If adopted the code will read: "Units and
11 Districts shall be urged to sign up for the American
12 Legislative Action Alerts emails and encourage Unit
13 Chairmen and Unit Presidents to also sign up and share
14 the information with members."

15 Is there any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Seeing none, we'll
18 vote. All those in favor.

19 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed.

21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

23 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Thank you, Madam
24 President. Certificates were handed out for the
25 following: Second and third place for District and Unit

1 Supplementals.

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

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.
6 Sorry.

7 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: That's okay. To say it
8 was an honor to serve as the Department Legislative
9 Chair is an understatement. It has been a remarkable,
10 busy and productive year and there were so many bills
11 that were supported by the American Legion.

12 California's assistance with the Legislative
13 program is an essential factor in helping shape public
14 policy. Meeting with legislators in person is the most
15 effective way to get your message across. Thirty-eight
16 units participated in a Legislative rally. Fourteen
17 units participated in Meet the Candidates Night. 671
18 letters were sent out which included the follow
19 recipients: U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, the
20 White House, as well as State and local officials.

21 Many of our members develop relationships with
22 some of these elected officers. We have some units
23 promote federal bills such as Assembly Bill 46 which was
24 to exempt military pensions from state income tax as
25 well as the PACT Act and S1072 Homeless Veterans

1 Prevention.

2 Big Pine Unit 467 is not an incorporated city,
3 therefore, they have no direct elected officials.

4 However, this unit attended meetings with the Inyo
5 County representative, sheriff, fire chief, and school
6 administrators.

7 District 22 held a Legislative Day with the
8 Legion Family. The Washington Conference was held
9 Sunday, February 25th through Wednesday, February 28th
10 in DC. American Legion Post 365 hosted this event which
11 allowed the Legion Family to view this event together as
12 the events unfolded online.

13 The Department of California wholeheartedly
14 supports legislation that ensures the safety of all our
15 veterans. And it extends beyond providing quality
16 medical care. We must do more to improve oversight of
17 VA policing.

18 And now for the awards. The first place for the
19 Best Supplemental for Unit is Unit 742, District 21.

20 (Applause.)

21 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: And first place for the
22 Best District was District 20. Hang on. I don't have a
23 district. District 20. She's here.

24 (Applause.)

25 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Madam President, I

1 would like to thank you for this awesome appointment.

2 It was very challenging, but I enjoyed.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Donna.

4 You've done a fantastic job.

5 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. We will now

8 have AEF and Donna Mattox. Oh, I'm sorry, we're doing

9 Editor. You can go ahead and go on up.

10 Donna, would you be ready after -- thank you.

11

12 EDITOR CONVENTION REPORT

13

14 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: A special thank you to

15 Madam President Glenda for this appointment. It has

16 been a challenging but very awarding chairmanship that I

17 have thoroughly enjoyed.

18 The Convention Committee on Editor met on June

19 19th, 2024 via Zoom. Carolyn Glenn, Unit 92, District 2

20 was appointed secretary. Grace Huston, Unit 249,

21 District 11 was appointed chaplain, and Lynn Jewell,

22 Unit 165, District 5 was appointed sergeant-at-arms. A

23 total of 16 district delegates were presented.

24 The Editor code was read and the committee agreed

25 that no code changes were necessary.

1 (Applause.)

2 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: The American Legion
3 Auxiliary News Hub is the official publication of the
4 Auxiliary Department of California and sister
5 publication to The Legionnaire. It is formatted as a
6 magazine and is posted on the Department website. It
7 showcases recent accomplishments, spotlights awesome
8 volunteers, and highlights past and upcoming events.
9 The goal of our newsletter is to engage volunteers,
10 recruit new members, and increase our brand visibility.

11 It also provides a useful information and unique
12 information on topics members care about and that they
13 might not get anywhere else. Because all the articles
14 for The Hub are submitted voluntarily by the talented
15 writers and photographers, there is a wide range of
16 topics, everything from word puzzles to first-person
17 narratives to profiles on individuals. Sorry about
18 that.

19 It is a unique medium for sharing our ideals to
20 promote our mission. This year 45 gifted writers and
21 photographers submitted items to The Hub.

22 The Editor position was expanded this year to
23 include editing and proofreading fliers, bulletins, and
24 letters. Much appreciation to Proofreaders Barb Toth,
25 Department Secretary Liz Doidge, and Webmaster Linda

1 Workman for their contributions.

2 Madam President, may I present my Writing Award?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I don't think Lyle

4 would like it if you said Linda did his job.

5 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: I'm sorry?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: For the Webmaster,

7 I think you said Linda Workman, but it's Lyle Workman.

8 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: She paid me.

9 (Applause.)

10 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: Lyle Workman for their

11 contributions. I'll give you your money back.

12 The Auxiliary News Hub Writer Award for 2023-2024

13 goes to Anne Marie Fuller, Unit 197, District 2.

14 (Applause.)

15 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: This concludes her

16 report.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Donna.

18 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SMITH: You're welcome.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Are you over

21 there, Linda? I can't see you.

22 AEF CHAIR KARNSTEDT: I am. I'm over here. I

23 apologize, my precon form for you guys isn't ready.

24

25 **AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CONVENTION REPORT**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: The Convention Committee on the Auxiliary Emergency Fund met on June 27th, 2024 in Sequoia A at 10:30. The statistical report of the Chairman appears on page 25 of the Book of Reports.

Carolyn Glenn was appointed secretary, Ann Hall offered prayer, and Phyllis Meyi was appointed sergeant-at-arms. There were a total of 16 District delegates answered roll call and there were three visitors.

By the direction of the AEF committee the following code changes are proposed. For the ladies at the head table, you will see the code changes. You will also see a sheet that has it -- has it able to be read a little bit easier.

For all of you that don't know, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund is actually a National Auxiliary Foundation grant money. It comes from the grant money. In reviewing the codes while I took over this chairmanship, I found that there were several areas of our code that needed to be updated based on National's requirements on their website and their brochure.

I was lucky enough to have wonderful conversations by both email and by phone with a gentleman named Dean Sanders who is the development

1 administrator for the AEF Fund at the National
2 Foundation level. So just to let you know, these words
3 have been agreed upon and proposed in conjunction with
4 myself and Dean.

5 Proposal No. 1: Department Code No. 4. The
6 current wording: "The purpose of the fund is to provide
7 temporary assistance to eligible Auxiliary members who
8 have suffered a financial setback or crisis resulting
9 from an emergency. The types of aid available are
10 temporary assistance during time of financial crisis
11 when no other source of aid is readily available to pay
12 for shelter, food, and utilities; disaster relief for
13 food and shelter to eligible members related to
14 weather-related emergencies and natural disasters; and
15 educational assistance for training when the eligible
16 member becomes the main means of support for their
17 family to help them obtain the necessary skills and
18 training needed to enter or re-enter the workforce or
19 needed to upgrade skills and training to obtain a better
20 paying position, suddenly finding themselves in need of
21 funds and no other sources are immediately available.
22 The program includes assistance to displaced Auxiliary
23 Members who find themselves as head of households and
24 are in need of funds to update and/or acquire skills in
25 order to work" -- "in order to enter the work field."

1 The rationale for the proposed change, it's a
2 total rewrite per the development manager for the AEF
3 program. And the educational assistance component was
4 actually removed from the National website or was
5 actually removed by the NEC in February 2021. The
6 decision was to remove the education assistance, to
7 focus exclusively on disaster and hardship.

8 The proposed -- proposed amendment now reads:
9 "The purpose of the AEF fund is to provide assistance to
10 eligible Auxiliary members who have suffered a financial
11 setback, other personal crisis or because of a natural
12 disaster. AEF hardship assistance will consider funding
13 only for past/overdue expenses related to retaining your
14 primary shelter (rent or mortgage), essential household
15 utility expenses (electric, gas and/or water), and/or
16 loss of income due to medical and/or employment reasons
17 that includes proper documentation such as a landlord
18 letter, mortgage statement, full utility statements,
19 and/or employer/medical professional documentation for
20 loss of income. AEF disaster assistance funds may be
21 used to provide emergency assistance to eligible
22 Auxiliary members whose primary residence has been
23 devastated by disasters, such as flooding, hurricane,
24 tornado, earthquake, fire, or other damaging severe
25 weather. Funds may be awarded for interior/exterior

1 structure damage to the vital viable" -- "to the vital
2 livable portions of the primary structure, personal
3 items, household contents, major appliances, furniture,
4 HVAC units and/or for eligible emergency expenses that
5 includes proper documentation such as photos, supportive
6 documentation and full receipts."

7 Madam President, by direction of the committee I
8 move to adopt this change.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I second it.

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I'm a little bit
11 confused, if you can't tell. Department Code No. 4,
12 that's what you're changing?

13 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Yes.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: And when I looked
15 at the current reading on this sheet, it didn't sound
16 like what you were reading.

17 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: The current reading?
18 No, I read the current reading. Now I'm -- I read the
19 proposed reading.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay.

21 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: I read the proposed. I
22 read the current reading, and then I read the proposed
23 reading.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Okay. Proposed
25 code change Department Code No. 4 currently reads: "The

1 purpose of the fund is to provide temporary assistance
2 to eligible Auxiliary members who have suffered a
3 financial setback or crisis resulting from an emergency.
4 The types of aid available are temporary assistance
5 during time of financial crisis when no other source of
6 aid is readily available to pay for shelter, food, and
7 utilities; disaster relief for food and shelter to
8 eligible members related to weather-related emergencies
9 and natural disasters; and educational assistance for
10 training when the eligible member becomes the main means
11 of support for their family to help them obtain the
12 necessary skills and training needed to enter or
13 re-enter the workforce or needed to upgrade skills and
14 training to obtain a better paying position, suddenly
15 finding themselves in need of funds and no other sources
16 are immediately available. The program includes
17 assistance to displaced Auxiliary Members who find
18 themselves as head of households and are in need of
19 funds to update and/or acquire skills in order to enter
20 the work field."

21 If adopted the code will read: "The purpose of
22 the AEF fund is to provide assistance to eligible
23 Auxiliary members who have suffered a financial setback,
24 other personal crisis or because of a natural disaster.
25 AEF hardship assistance will consider funding only for

1 past/overdue expenses related to retaining your primary
2 shelter (rent or mortgage), essential household utility
3 expenses (electric, gas and/or water), and/or loss of
4 income due to medical and/or employment reasons that
5 includes proper documentation such as a landlord letter,
6 mortgage statement, full utility statements, and/or
7 employer/medical professional documentation for loss of
8 income. AEF disaster assistance funds may be used to
9 provide emergency assistance to eligible Auxiliary
10 members whose primary residence has been devastated by
11 disasters, such as flooding, hurricane, tornado,
12 earthquake, fire, or other damaging severe weather.
13 Funds may be awarded for interior/exterior structure
14 damage to the vital livable portions of the primary
15 structure, personal items, household contents, major
16 appliances, furniture, HVAC units and/or for eligible
17 emergency expenses that includes proper documentation
18 such as photos, supportive documentation and full
19 receipts. (2024)."

20 Is there any discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: May I? I forgot to put my
23 shoes on.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Just pretend that
25 she has shoes on.

1 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: Here we go. I'm wondering
2 where this additional wording is coming from. Oh,
3 that's right. She stands over here. Because we're
4 being very specific as to the disaster that we can
5 cover. You know, hurricanes, flooding. Where is this
6 wording coming from?

7 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: This is coming directly
8 from Dean Sanders, the development manager who
9 administers the American -- the National Auxiliary
10 Fund -- National Auxiliary Foundation which funds the
11 Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

12 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: Thank you.

13 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: So --

14 NEC PERSON MARTINEZ: Just a clarification.

15 Thank you.

16 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Okay.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Any further
18 discussion?

19 (No response.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
21 we'll vote. All those in favor.

22 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those opposed.

24 (No response.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

1 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Madam President,
2 Proposal No. 2, Department Code No. 5. Again this was a
3 rewrite per the development manager for the National AEF
4 program. The current wording says: "The Auxiliary
5 Emergency Fund is available to assist members who have
6 been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for the
7 immediate past two consecutive years and whose
8 membership dues are paid. It is intended to provide
9 short-term temporary financial help until financial
10 stability is reestablished."

11 The proposed amendment is: "An applicant must be
12 an American Legion Auxiliary member who has maintained
13 annual ALA membership for three consecutive years (the
14 current year applied and immediate past two years).
15 Applications for disaster assistance must be received
16 within six months of a disaster event. One grant
17 (disaster or hardship) per grantee will be awarded
18 within a 12-month period. (2024)."

19 By the direction of the committee, I move that we
20 adopt this change.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I second it.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Any -- whoops. We
23 have a motion on the floor to change Department Code 5
24 that currently reads: "The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is
25 available to assist members who have been a member of

1 the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past two
2 consecutive years and whose membership dues are paid.
3 It is intended to provide short-term temporary financial
4 help until financial stability is reestablished.
5 (2007)."

6 If adopted, the code will read:

7 "An applicant must be an American Legion
8 Auxiliary member who has maintained annual ALA
9 membership for three consecutive years (the current year
10 applied and immediate past two years). Applications for
11 disaster assistance must be received within six months
12 of a disaster event. One grant (disaster or hardship)
13 per grantee will be awarded within a 12-month period.
14 (2024)."

15 Is there any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
18 we'll vote. All those in favor.

19 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those opposed.
21 (No response.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

23 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Madam President, by the
24 direction of the committee I propose the following code
25 change: Department Code No. 6 current reading: "Units

1 wanting to admit" -- "Units wanting to submit an
2 application for an eligible member can obtain a copy of
3 the application on the Department or National Website.
4 A copy can also be obtained from the Department
5 Chairman."

6 The new proposed amendment is being applied
7 because the new application procedure ensuring applicant
8 confidentiality was to have AEF application submitted
9 directly to the ALA National headquarters versus through
10 an -- versus through an ALA entity first. This was
11 approved during the Mid-Year 2020 NEC meeting.

12 So the proposed change is: "An eligible member
13 can obtain a copy of the application on the Department
14 or ALA National websites. A copy can be obtained from
15 the Department Chairman. (2024)."

16 I move -- sorry. I move to adopt this change.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I second it.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
19 on the floor for Department Code No. 6 that currently
20 reads: "Units wanting to submit an application for an
21 eligible member can obtain a copy of the application on
22 the Department or National websites. A copy can also be
23 obtained from the Department Chairman."

24 If adopted, the code will read: "An eligible
25 member can obtain a copy of the application on the

1 department or ALA National websites. A copy can also be
2 obtained from the Department Chairman. (2024)."

3 Any discussion?

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Madam
5 President, Bonnie Christner, Past Department President,
6 District 20, Unit 311. I just filled out an application
7 for that fund for my stepdaughter who had long COVID and
8 is no longer able to work for a while. I don't
9 remember -- I'm not sure why you're asking us to go to
10 the chairman for an application when I had to go
11 directly to the ALA National website to get that
12 information to send it to them.

13 I had to download all of the documents myself,
14 scan them on my computer, download them, and send them
15 directly to National. So I just -- I'm sorry, I need a
16 little clarification on that.

17 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: That's exactly what you
18 are supposed to do.

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Yes.

20 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: That's exactly what
21 you're currently supposed to do now. Our code says
22 units wanting to submit an application. This is a new
23 code is basically saying the eligible application and I
24 assume as a family member are to go to directly to the
25 ALA website. It means the unit is not to do the

1 application process.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Right,
3 right, right, but did you also say -- did I
4 misunderstand this, that you said that you could get the
5 application from the chairman or was that the old code?

6 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: No. The current reading
7 says units wanting to submit an application for the
8 eligible member can obtain a copy on the -- on the
9 Department or National website. A copy can also be
10 obtained from the Department Chairman.

11 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: So the
12 Department Chairman can give them an application?

13 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: No. That is our current
14 wording. The proposed change --

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Oh.

16 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: -- says an eligible
17 member can obtain a copy of the application on the
18 Department or ALA website. A copy can also be obtained
19 from the Department Chairman. A copy of the application
20 can be obtained by anybody because you just go to the
21 website and get it. But to file the application, you
22 have to do that yourself.

23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Yes, you
24 have to do that yourself so I'm not understanding why
25 you would go to your Department Chairman to get the

1 application in the first place when all you have to do
2 is --

3 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Any one of us could go
4 on the National website --

5 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Yes.

6 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: -- and download the
7 application.

8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Yes. Again
9 why are you going to the Chairman of the American --

10 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: It says a copy may also
11 be obtained from the Department Chairman.

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Okay. I'm
13 going to give you a little advice, ladies. I just did
14 this. I'm telling you don't bother the Chairman of the
15 Department of California. Go on the National website,
16 fill out your paperwork, download your documents, and
17 send it off to the National organization.

18 God bless them. They sent my daughter \$3,000
19 because she was, like I said, had long COVID and could
20 no longer work. She was out of work for a year. Her
21 father sold his motorcycle to help support her. So I'm
22 telling you just go to the National website. It's
23 pretty easy. They make it very easy for us.

24 Go ahead and change your code. Go ahead and
25 change your code. I'm sorry I interrupted. I just

1 wanted to let you ladies know how easy it is for
2 National to give us money.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Bonnie.

4 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT GLENN: Carolyn Glenn,
5 District 2. In a disaster I would think there might be
6 Internet outages so I think that's an option if the
7 applicant is not able to go to the website. I think I
8 view it as an option, they could go to their Department
9 Chair and perhaps have it mailed to them. So that's --
10 I think that's the intent.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I think if they
12 just had a disaster, they might not be able to access a
13 computer. I mean --

14 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: It does give an option.

15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Somebody will have
16 to get it. Is there any further discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
19 we'll vote. All those in favor.

20 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Opposed.

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

24 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: All right. One more,
25 ladies. Just one more.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: One more.

2 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: One more, Madam
3 President. The following proposal for Department Code
4 No. 7 currently reads: "Units shall be reminded to
5 follow instructions carefully and completely. Only
6 applications that are filled out correctly shall receive
7 consideration for assistance. Completed applications
8 shall be forwarded to Department Secretary for a
9 validation of the applicant's membership eligibility,
10 then to National Headquarters for consideration and
11 approval."

12 The proposed changes were made because the new
13 application procedure ensuring applicant confidentiality
14 was to have AEF applications submitted directly to the
15 ALA National headquarters versus through an ALA entity
16 first. This was approved during the Mid-Year 2020 NEC
17 meeting.

18 The proposed change if adopted will read:
19 "Eligible members shall be reminded to follow
20 instructions carefully and completely. Only
21 applications that are filled out correctly shall receive
22 consideration for assistance. All completed AEF
23 assistance applications and provided supportive
24 documentation are to be directly submitted to the ALA
25 National headquarters by email, fax, or mail. (2024)."

1 Madam President, by direction of the committee I
2 move to adopt this change.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: We have a motion
5 on the floor. Department Code No. 7 currently reads:
6 "Units will be reminded to follow instructions carefully
7 and completely. Only applications that are filled out
8 correctly shall receive consideration for assistance.
9 Completed applications shall be forwarded to Department
10 Secretary for a verification of the applicant's
11 membership eligibility, then to National Headquarters
12 for consideration and approval."

13 If adopted the code will read: "Eligible
14 members shall be reminded to follow instructions
15 carefully and completely. Only applications that are
16 filled out correctly shall receive consideration for
17 assistance. All completed AEF assistance applications
18 and provided supportive documentation are to be directly
19 submitted to the ALA National Headquarters by email,
20 fax, or mail. (2024)."

21 Do we have any discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Hearing none,
24 we'll vote. All those in favor.

25 ALL DELEGATES: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: All those opposed.

2 (No response.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Motion carried.

4 (Applause.)

5 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Thank you, ladies. This
6 concludes our -- this concludes our preconvention
7 meeting.

8 Madam President, may I proceed with my
9 supplemental report?

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Yes, you may.

11 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Thank you, Madam
12 President, for having faith in me to be able to handle
13 this appointment. I have -- I have learned so much
14 about this valuable program and what it offers to our
15 members. Having worked with National -- this is an
16 aside. Having worked with National was a wonderful
17 experience. If anybody has to work with any of the
18 National people, you will thoroughly be enjoying your
19 communication with them, their responsiveness. And
20 finding out really the importance of this program was
21 really quite changing for me.

22 I also appreciate all the District Chairmen that
23 submitted end-of-year reports. I received more reports
24 -- I received more reports than at Mid-Year so I'm able
25 to report some impressive numbers.

1 The 2023-'24 AEF end-of-year reporting
2 information was received from 21 districts. That
3 represents 70 percent reporting. That included 73 units
4 reporting activity and 43 units reporting no activity
5 which represented over half the units in the Department,
6 52 percent.

7 Eleven districts had 100 percent reporting.
8 Eight districts donated and/or held fundraisers totaling
9 \$2,140.23 while 67 units donated a total of \$7,287 this
10 year.

11 There were seven individual members, five
12 districts, and 20 units that donated \$100 or more to
13 AEF. Fifty-two units have a line item for AEF in their
14 annual budget and 30 units discussed increasing their
15 AEF budget. Five districts and seven units held
16 fundraisers. Sixty-four units shared about the AEF
17 program and 39 units handed out AEF brochures. Eleven
18 units handed out AEF applications, and ten members
19 submitted applications for grant assistance, seven
20 emergency and three disaster that were reported to me.

21 I received six supplemental reports and was proud
22 at what our Districts and Units have done to support the
23 AEF program, their own members, and their community. In
24 one instance a Unit member lost her home during the
25 floods and her Legion family stepped in. A member lent

1 her family a motor home to live in and she was given an
2 AEF application and received a grant.

3 Other items of note are units, for example,
4 District 22, Alpine Unit 258 where their Junior members
5 were integral to the activities supporting fundraising
6 efforts with volunteering time, collecting recyclable
7 items, and making face masks. This unit whose area was
8 devastated by flooding provided lunch bags and
9 disinfectant wipes to the homeless.

10 Want an idea for a unique fundraiser? Unit 81,
11 District 28 held a cupcake walk again this year, like
12 the old-fashioned cake walk. For those of us old enough
13 to know what that is, I like the idea of a smaller
14 version. Although the weather didn't cooperative this
15 year, the 20 dozen cupcakes were a hit. I applaud
16 districts where their units actively provided AEF
17 information to their members by having brochures and
18 applications on hand.

19 In addition to donating directly to the AEF, some
20 units maintain an individual emergency fund for members
21 for causes they deem worthy to support. An example is
22 District 21, Unit 574 Morrison Memorial in their support
23 of the Hawaiian Relief Fund after the devastating fires
24 in Maui.

25 Again I want to please say thank you to all of

1 our members for supporting the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.
2 Consider holding a Unit or District fundraiser
3 specifically to support these grants. Make sure you
4 spread the word about this important program. When I
5 was speaking with the National AEF Development Manager,
6 he restated that the AEF committee wants to support our
7 members and wishes more members would apply.

8 I was actually pretty surprised at the number of
9 applications they received from the United States was
10 very, very, very small. Globally they get a lot more.
11 So do not feel bad. In our meetings they were saying,
12 well, people feel like they don't deserve. You do
13 deserve. It's a member benefit. You do deserve it. I
14 don't want to apply because I don't feel that I'll get
15 accepted. You don't know you won't get accepted unless
16 you apply.

17 Remember, both application types and the donation
18 forms can be found online on alaforveterans.org or our
19 website also includes all the donation forms.

20 The 11 districts with 100 percent reporting
21 received their certificates at our precon meeting. They
22 were District 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 20, 23, 24, 26, and
23 27. The second and third place awards for Unit
24 Supplemental reports were also given out at that time.

25 Madam President, may I proceed with my awards?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: You may.

2 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Aside from these Unit or
3 District supplementals, there are two awards that I
4 think deserve some honor. The highest monetary donation
5 from a District was \$500 from District 18.

6 (Applause.)

7 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: The highest monetary
8 donation from a Unit is District 21, Unit 79 Riverside,
9 \$1500.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: And I do believe
12 that got a National award.

13 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: The First Place Unit
14 Supplemental, District 21, Unit 574 Morrison Memorial.

15 (Applause.)

16 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Oh, wait a sec. This is
17 also -- thank you. The First Place District
18 Supplemental report goes to District 28, Rebecca Glenny.

19 (Applause.)

20 AEF CHAIRMAN KARNSTEDT: Unit supplemental
21 reports were received from District 16 Unit 282,
22 District 21 Unit 574, and District 24 from Unit 258.
23 The first place supplemental reports and the statistical
24 data are attached to this report.

25 In the spirit of giving, tomorrow -- because you

1 ladies have aptly donated so generously today, so in the
2 spirit of giving, there will be a big container at the
3 back of the room. And I'm asking for everyone to put
4 your change, your pocket change in the container. I
5 know small things can make a big impact. So tomorrow
6 gather up your change and support AEF.

7 Again, Madam President, thank you for allowing me
8 to share our organization, allowing me to serve our
9 organization in this capacity as this year's Department
10 AEF Chairman. This concludes my report.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Ladies. Thank
12 you, Linda. Great job.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I know it's almost
15 4:00 o'clock, so, Donna, we'll take you in the morning
16 if that's fine. Thank you.

17 We'll have one more report, and that's going to
18 be from our Webmaster's bunkmate.

19

20 WEBMASTER CONVENTION REPORT

21

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT WORKMAN: Okay. You
23 have to pretend I'm six-seven and bald, but I'm a real
24 hunk. Okay?

25 Madam President, I hope that you have been happy

1 with the Auxiliary website. I welcome your and the
2 membership's suggestions and comments. If there is
3 anything you feel needs to be added for your online
4 convenience, your suggestions are welcome. Unlike mine.
5 Sorry, he never takes my suggestions.

6 Okay. Please note that there are times when the
7 site goes down due to problems with Netfirms, the
8 hosting company. Please know that we are not always
9 aware of these problems, but do our best to bring it up
10 as quickly as possible.

11 Again, I welcome your and the membership's
12 comments and suggestions, but please be aware that not
13 all suggestions can or will be implemented.

14 Madam President, I took the liberty of binding
15 your year in pictures from the website and Facebook and
16 I hope you will spend many years of enjoyment looking
17 back on these memories.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: I don't even know
20 what to say. Look what Lyle did for me.

21 (Applause.)

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Thank you, Lyle,
23 so, so much. And you are so, so, so deserving of your
24 bunkmaster. He's the Webmaster.

25 Thank you, Donna, for being flexible and adapting

1 when I ask you to come up, and then not come up, and
2 then standing there and waiting so long. But we'll get
3 you in the morning.

4 Do we have any Golden Notes from our Secretary?

5 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: We do. Will Joan's
6 Sunflowers meet at the bar after today's session.

7 Where did my Juniors go?

8 Will Melanie's Hot Air Balloon Pilots meet with
9 her at the back of the convention hall this afternoon
10 after the recess. Or if you'd like to make a donation,
11 please see Melanie.

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: District 5.

13 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Madeline Lee, Susie
14 Tozier's Farmers, and Dee Ann Graham's Beach Bunnies
15 will meet Saturday at noon at the back of convention.
16 And one, two, three. We added somebody. And Linda's
17 Rodeo will be added to that group. Meet Saturday at
18 noon at the back of the convention.

19 And then thank you to everybody who added money
20 to the Membership Fund that just went around. We
21 donated \$846.

22 (Applause.)

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So to hit goal as
24 of Wednesday we needed 323 members. We have 257 unpaid
25 Juniors at two and a half dollars is a total of \$896.

1 So in order to get to that 846 to 896, I asked our
2 Juniors to step up. They've been selling bracelets all
3 weekend, so you guys have been donating to them.
4 They're making up the extra 50 bucks to get that 896 so
5 all of our Juniors will be paid for.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: So add that 257
8 members, we are still 66 short. So if you can get
9 anybody to pay their '24 dues before the end of August.
10 I know we're moving into '25, but if you can get anybody
11 to pay, we would greatly appreciate it for those going
12 to National.

13 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT FEDOROWSKI: Does it
14 include new people?

15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: It has to be
16 '23-'24 dues.

17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: And that, Liz, is,
18 what, \$1100.

19 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY DOIDGE: Yeah, it's 1188.

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: 1188. So with
21 all -- I mean we have over 200 units, so I'm sure 66 of
22 you can pay for one person. It will happen. Thank you.
23 I know it will happen. I have faith in you. Thank you.

24 Okay. Just a quick note. The amount that we
25 collected for our fire friend is \$626.05. Thank you

1 all.

2 This session is now in recess until 8:30 tomorrow
3 morning. Thank you.

4 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention
5 was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.)

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

