

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
98th ANNUAL CONVENTION
SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME III

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

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1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
3 98th ANNUAL CONVENTION
4 SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017; 8:35 A.M.
5 RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA
6

7 CALL TO ORDER
8

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Sharon Moore, our
10 Department Chaplain, will please offer invocation.
11

12 INVOCATION
13

14 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Heavenly Father,
15 thank you for this day. Thank you for all the works that
16 have been described this weekend. We thank you for our
17 president. We thank you for all our officers and chairmen
18 and we thank you for all members that have done so much
19 for this organization. I ask that you be with us today
20 and always. In your name I pray, amen.
21

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Amen.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Madam Secretary,
24 will you call the roll of the Department Officers,
25 Chairmen, and District Presidents.
26

27 ROLL CALL

28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
29 Madam President Wendy O'Brien.

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I am here.

31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Department Vice
32 President Loretta Marsh.

33 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Present.

34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Secretary Ruby. I
35 am here.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We can't hear you.
37 Can you turn the mike up a little bit?

38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Hello? Hello?
39 Hello? Is that better? Okay. NEC Woman Susie Tozier.

40 NEC MEMBER TOZIER: Present.

41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chaplain Sharon
42 Moore.

43 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Here.

44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Historian Dolly
45 Rios.

46 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Here.

47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Parliamentarian
48 Diane DeLashmit.

49 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Somebody stole my
50 foghorn.

1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: Call the
2 cops.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I want to thank
4 whoever that was.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: It was probably
6 Ruby.
7 DELEGATE: I have another foghorn for you.
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Great. Musician
9 Joyce Patton.
10 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATTON: Music is back.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sergeant-at-Arms
12 Liz Doidge.
13 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: Seize the day.
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Marshal Susan
15 Morgan.
16 MARSHAL MORGAN: Retiring my tail today.
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Chairman
18 Terry Mikesell.
19 DELEGATE: She's outside.
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Committee
21 Senior Member Linda Hayes.
22 FINANCE COMMITTEE SENIOR MEMBER HAYES: I'm
23 present.
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Committee
25 Junior Member Brenda Preston.
26 FINANCE COMMITTEE JUNIOR MEMBER PRESTON:
27 Present.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Chairman
29 Anita Biggs.
30 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good morning,
31 Ruby.
32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
33 Advisory --
34 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: I'm sorry.
35 I'm wrong. Heading for the north.
36 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: Go ahead.
37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Advisory
38 Committee Pilar Reyes.
39 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER REYES: Heading south.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Committee
41 LuAnn Capazzi.
42 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CAPAZZI: Heading east.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Committee
44 Linda Fercho.
45 ADVISORY COMMITTEE FERCHO: Heading home to the
46 west.
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past National
48 President Nancy Brown-Park.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excused.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Americanism Kathy

1 Smith.
2 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: Here.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Auxiliary
4 Emergency Fund Ellen McClurg.
5 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Here. Here.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Children & Youth
7 Kathie Martinez.
8 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good
9 morning.
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
11 Community Service Dee Ann Graham.
12 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Ahoy.
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Constitution &
14 Bylaws Tamra Duron.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'm sorry.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Tamra Duron.
17 DELEGATE: She's waiting for a reporter.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Convention Estella
19 Avina.
20 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: Show me the way to go
21 home.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Convention
23 Commission Genieca Risner.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excused.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Elections Danielle
26 White.
27 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN WHITE: Heading to France.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Distinguished
29 Guest Chairman Linda Workman.
30 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: My feet
31 are no longer going.
32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Editor Estella
33 Avina.
34 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Still here.
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Education Linda
36 Fariss.
37 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I saw her.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Linda Fariss? I
39 saw her.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, there she is.
41 Yes, good morning.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Elections Jackie
43 Cleveland.
44 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Good morning,
45 Ruby.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
47 Girls State Elissa Kirkland.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excused.
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Girls State
50 Director Dona Enright.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excused.
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior Activities
3 Mindy Sinclair.
4 JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN SINCLAIR: Here.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior Conference
6 Director Ann Philcox.
7 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: Good
8 morning, Ruby.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
10 Leadership, Gloria Williams.
11 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good morning,
12 Ruby.
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
14 Legislative Susie Tozier.
15 LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN TOZIER: Still here.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Membership Loretta
17 Marsh.
18 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: I'm here.
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: National Security
20 Tracy Varnell.
21 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR VARNELL: The Sea Horses
22 are back in the corral.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past Presidents
24 Parley Anita Biggs.
25 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good morning, Ruby, this
26 time.
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Poppy Kim Vincent.
28 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Here another day.
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Public Relations
30 Jennifer Bieger.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excused.
32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Resolutions
33 Madeline Lee.
34 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Here.
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules Glenda
36 Schultz.
37 RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Here.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Veterans Affairs &
39 Rehabilitation Joan Cannon.
40 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Going safely back to the
41 shore.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ways & Means Jean
43 Cooley-Desmeules.
44 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Can't
45 wait to give you my report to give you the good news.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'm always -- I'm
47 always for that good news.
48 District 1, Marialice Canclini.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 2, Judy

1 Henderson.
2 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: The lonely
3 little Sea Captain from the USS Mountain is ready to head
4 on north.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 3, Lola
6 Ramey.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 4, Geri
9 Fitzpatrick.
10 DISTRICT 4: Ahoy, Captain Wendy. District 4 is
11 ready to set sail. Toot, toot.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5, Sandy
13 Paxton.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 6, Glenda
16 Schultz.
17 DISTRICT 6: My Wendy lies over the ocean. My
18 Wendy lies over the sea. And when this convention is
19 over, please send back my Wendy to me.
20 (Applause.)
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 7, Linda
22 Harmon.
23 DISTRICT 7: Good morning, Ruby.
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
25 District 8, Tammy Manini.
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 9,
28 Helaine Dolly Rios.
29 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 10, Liz
31 Parshal.
32 DISTRICT 10: Good morning, Madam President.
33 Anchors away.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 11,
36 Marcia Munroe.
37 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT MUNROE: Present.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 12, Ann
39 Kelley.
40 DISTRICT 12: Good morning, President Wendy.
41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 13, CeCe
42 Harvey.
43 DISTRICT 13: Good morning, Madam President.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 14,
45 Gloria Sinopoli.
46 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: On our way home.
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 15, Zana
48 Chaney.
49 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: On her way
50 to Girls State, both of those ladies.

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 16, Terry
2 Oclaray.
3 DISTRICT 16: Captain Wendy, your Sweet 16
4 Coastal Breeze is sailing after a very rewarding year of
5 cruising under your direction. Thank you.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, ladies.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 17 -- I
8 mean, Gail Pouliot. Rachel -- I'm sorry. Rachel Wang.
9 I'm sorry, Rachel.
10 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT WANG-YEE: Good morning,
11 Ruby. Good morning, Madam President.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 18 Gayle
13 Pouliot.
14 DISTRICT 18: Sailing, sailing, between the
15 shining sea. District 18 is here to say goodbye to our
16 Wendy. Sailing, sailing, we sail a bid to you. For many
17 that we help a day until vets are home again.
18 (Applause.)
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 19, Becky
20 Bullard.
21 DISTRICT 19: Hello. Goodbye. Farewell.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 20, Nancy
23 Heinisch.
24 DISTRICT 20: Ahoy, Madam President. Cruise Ship
25 District 20 has a clean sweep. Its eight bells and all is
26 well. We wish you fair winds and calm seas as you hand
27 the bridge to Loretta Marsh.
28 (Applause.)
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 21, Susan
30 Romero.
31 DISTRICT 21: Good morning, Madam President.
32 We're all ready to sail. Ahoy.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 22, Donna
34 Smith.
35 DISTRICT 22: Bon voyage, Madam President.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 23,
37 Patricia Patrick.
38 DISTRICT 23: Float like a butterfly, sting like
39 a bee. We're going to miss you, President Wendy. Happy
40 sailing from the USS Mohammed Ali District 23.
41 (Applause.)
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24,
43 Deloris Artis.
44 DISTRICT 24: Good morning, Madam President.
45 Goodbye, Wendy, it's time to go. We have all had fun as
46 you know. We hate to leave you, but we really must say
47 goodbye, Wendy, goodbye.
48 (Applause.)
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 25, Maria
50 Granado.

1 DISTRICT 25: Our Sea Shells and Sea Horses
2 worked hard to serve our vets doing legislation so their
3 needs can be met. Lighthouses kept us holy, Sea Flowers
4 grew with pride. The year was simply wonderful as we
5 worked side by side. Bye, Madam Department President
6 Wendy.
7 (Applause.)
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26 Louann
9 Johnston.
10 DISTRICT 26: Chug boats are heading home.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 27, Vicky
12 Goodchild.
13 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: Good morning.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 28, Karol
16 Adams.
17 DISTRICT 28: Good morning, Madam President.
18 District 28 USS Majestic is leaving port.
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 29, Carol
20 Borgman.
21 DISTRICT 29: Going to the beach.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 30, Kim
23 Vincent.
24 DISTRICT 30: Farewell and following seas going
25 back to Sacramento.
26 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fort Miley,
27 Lorraine Sullivan.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Northern
30 California Sacramento, Leticia O'Quinn.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excused.
32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno, Sandy
33 Dowell.
34 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE DOWELL: I'm here.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's here. Oh,
36 yeah.
37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Palo Alto Connie
38 Raya.
39 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE RAYA: Good morning.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Livermore Grace
41 Huston.
42 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HUSTON: Present.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Loma Linda Jerry
44 L. Pettis, Mavis Kanka.
45 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KANKA: Here.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Long Beach, Pat
47 Alvarez.
48 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ALVAREZ: Good morning.
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Greater LA,
50 Earlean Paige.

1 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE PAIGE: Good morning,
2 Ruby.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning. San
4 Diego, Susie Tozier.
5 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE TOZIER: I'm here.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Barstow,
7 Evangeline Acosta.
8 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA: Good morning,
9 Ruby.
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chula Vista, Lois
11 Cornish.
12 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: I've been lost
13 and been found.
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno VA, Rosalie
15 Taylor.
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Lancaster Linda
18 Hayes.
19 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HAYES: Good morning.
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Redding Vets Home,
21 Terry Mikesell.
22 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE MIKESELL: Present.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ventura, Madeline
24 Lee.
25 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE LEE: Here.
26 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: West LA Ruth
27 Hackney.
28 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HACKNEY: Good morning.
29 It's been fun.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yountville Peggy
31 Grabski.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And that concludes
34 your roll call, Madam President.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Ruby,
36 could you please give us communications.
37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We have some
38 lovely sunglasses here that are lost and found that
39 belongs to somebody. And Lois Cornish in District 22
40 lost --
41 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: It was found.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Her bag was found.
43 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: I can go home
44 legally now.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies,
46 while yesterday was quite a challenging day -- can you
47 turn the mike up, please?
48 Hello? Okay. Yesterday we were going to
49 complete the budget, we were hoping, however we didn't get
50 that done so this morning that will be the first thing

1 that we take care of. If we can -- oh, okay. Sorry.
2 Cancel that thought. Put those away and let's go back.
3 Okay. Hold on a moment. Can the Election
4 Committee please come up and give their report? Who are
5 you? Jackie Cleveland.
6 DISTRICT 18 DELEGATE: Madam President, I'm
7 sorry. District 18 has a time sensitive communication.
8 Can we share that real quickly as they're coming up?
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The communication
10 will be with Ruby.
11 DISTRICT 18 DELEGATE: A note was sent up to
12 Ruby, but I don't know if she's gotten it yet.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Please come up and
14 talk to her. Thank you.
15
16 ELECTIONS CONVENTION REPORT (CONTINUED)
17
18 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Good morning,
19 Madam President.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
21 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Madam President,
22 this was a task. I would like to thank all the committee
23 members that helped in the counting. We spent many hours
24 working. Will all the committee members please stand?
25 (Applause.)
26 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: I would like to
27 say thank you. Leslie from 21 even made a song from --
28 yes, you did. She said she would be singing all day long.
29 I would like to say thank you for this appointment.
30 Now I do have the results and I would like to say
31 thank you, Diane, for your wonderful assistance.
32 (Applause.)
33 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: As you know we had
34 Glenda Schultz, Linda Harmon, Gwen Woody, Joan Cannon,
35 Kathy Smith, Angel Van Glider, Gloria Jean Sinopoli, Dee
36 Ann Graham, Darlene Duncan, Pamela Dixon Hicks, Jean
37 Cooley-Desmeules, Nancy Heinisch, Anita Biggs, Deloris
38 Artis, Donna Scott, Linda Workman, LuAnn Capazzi, and
39 Carol Borgman.
40 Okay. These are the results. As you know we had
41 to vote for 15. It would have been so easy if they had
42 only voted for ten on the ballot. Okay. The first one is
43 Linda Workman. Second is Anita Biggs.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Wait. Slowly.
45 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Okay. Linda
46 Workman received 385. Anita Biggs received 384. Joan
47 Cannon received 366. LuAnn Capazzi received 360.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Do you just have
49 the one copy?
50 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Yes, yes.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'll keep track on
2 this paper.

3 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Okay. I'll slow
4 down. Okay. Joan Cannon is 366. LuAnn Capazzi, 360.
5 Donna Scott, 352. Gloria Jean Sinopoli, 338. Glenda
6 Schultz, 293. Kathy Smith, 290. Jean Cooley-Desmeules,
7 288. Pamela Dixon Hicks, 287. Dee Ann Graham, 272.
8 Nancy Heinisch, 256. Linda Harmon, 252. Deloris Artis,
9 244. Darlene Duncan, 222. Carol Borgman, 212. Gwen
10 Woody, 186. Angela Van Glider, 135. We had a total of
11 5,122 names that we had to go through.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. So these
13 are the members that are elected to be our delegates.
14 Okay. Linda Workman, Anita Biggs, Joan Cannon, LuAnn
15 Capazzi, Donna Scott, Gloria Jean Sinopoli, Glenda
16 Schultz, Kathy Smith, Jean Cooley-Desmeules, Pamela Dixon
17 Hicks, Dee Ann Graham, Nancy Heinisch, Linda Harmon,
18 Deloris Artis, and Darlene Duncan. It's done. Okay.
19 Those are our delegates for convention.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Now we have to
22 vote on the alternates. I'm sorry. We did? Where was
23 this?

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We did. You
25 were there.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, I don't
27 think we voted for the alternates. Yeah, we have to do
28 the names and then -- okay. One moment, ladies.

29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Do you want me to
30 go through the entire districts, even the one that's
31 passed or just the ones --

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No, just our
33 alternates. Just the alternates.

34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: The nominees.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, the
36 nominees.

37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5, Lynn
38 Jewel. District 6, Ramona Tafoya. District 7, Bonnie
39 Bradbury. District 10, Susan Marsh. District 11, Grace
40 Huston. District 12, Victoria Ferriera-Allen. District
41 13, Sandy Jacob. District 14, Deborah Hurado. District
42 15, Zana Chaney. District 16, Linda Fercho. District 18,
43 Teresa Lugo-Nunez. District 19, Sheraton Green. District
44 21, Leslie Vondra. District 23, Gloria Williams.
45 District 24, Martha Romano. District 25, Cyd Kintzer.
46 District 26, Louann Johnston. District 27, Danielle
47 White. And District 29, Pat Alvarez.

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

50 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
2 (No response.)
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The elections are
6 complete. Thank you, ladies.
7 (Applause.)
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam President?
9 Madam President, may I continue with --
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, yes, you may.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Don't say it,
12 please. I don't know what to say anymore. District 18 is
13 in the process of setting up an account for Angel
14 Quinones. We will let the department know when it is all
15 done. Anything in excess and not needed will go to the
16 Department VA&R. Angel will be here between 9:00 and
17 10:00 this morning in our delegation.
18 (Applause.)
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, we
20 have a motion on the floor from yesterday we need to take
21 care of. Louann.
22 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Yes, ma'am.
23 Louann Johnston, 26th District. I withdraw my motion.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Okay.
25 The motion has been withdrawn. That was fast.
26 Okay. So now we will have Terry Mikesell, Linda
27 Hayes, and Brenda Preston please come up to give your
28 report. Oh, you're already here. You guys are good. If
29 you will give them a few minutes to give them -- did you
30 give everyone who wasn't here yesterday --
31 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Madam
32 President, that wasn't my job.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Was it somebody's
34 job?
35 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: I gave you the extra
36 copies. Are they down there?
37 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: There's only a few
38 extra budgets, and I reminded you yesterday to bring your
39 budgets today. Now it was up to the districts to keep an
40 extra copy for the lady that was out of the room. While
41 we're waiting for that, I'm Terry Mikesell. This is Linda
42 Hayes and this is Brenda Preston.
43 (Applause.)
44 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: Those that need one,
45 raise your hand.
46 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: And if I know you,
47 I'm going to have to murder you.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, please,
49 ladies. Only let the ladies that were in the other room
50 taking care of business have one first. Then if there's

1 any extras for the ones that forgot them, they can have
2 the extras, please.

3 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: You're so nice,
4 Wendy.

5
6 FINANCE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT (Continued)
7

8 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Does everybody now
9 have their budget? We gave the committee report yesterday
10 when you ladies were out of the room in order to save
11 time.

12 Okay. So I'm not going to read -- I'm going to
13 start off with GF42408 Online Dues, 43,106. 42409
14 Americanism Donations, \$6,500. 42410 Dues Membership
15 308,401. Dues Unit 1000 42411, 12,800. 42412 Dues -
16 Auxiliary News Assessment, 20,000. Postage Income 42413,
17 2,380. 42415 Ways and Means, 3,000. 42416 Current
18 Department President's Pins, 4,500. 42417 Donations - In
19 Loving Tribute, 1,200. Donations - President Club, 42418,
20 500. Interest Income 42419, 6,941. Administrative Income
21 - Other Accounts 42420, 25,000. Fidelity Bond 42422,
22 \$1,050. Delegates Fees - Convention 42423, 17,000.
23 Income/Reimbursement from National 42424, 500. Convention
24 Proceedings 42425, 150. California Disaster Fund 42426,
25 2,500. Live Units 42449, 1,920. I'm off a line. 1,700.
26 The Sweepstakes 42450, 1,920. Department President
27 Special Project 42453, 15,000. Leadership Cards 42454,
28 \$25. Convention Banquet 42460, \$3,000. Past Presidents
29 Parley Luncheon 42461, \$500. Midyear DEC Meals 42462,
30 4,500. 42477 National Convention Income, 2,000. National
31 Candidate Campaign Fund 42478, 500. 42490 General Fund
32 Miscellaneous, 1,600, for a total of \$486,273. Now are
33 there any questions on that section?

34 Okay. Expenses. 62401 Salary, 86,142. 62402
35 Payroll Tax, 17,500. Insurance 62403, 4,300.
36 Insurance --

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No.

38 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Oh, supplies -- maybe
39 I ought to put my glasses on. 3,000. Postage and Mailing
40 Service 62405, 3,000 -- 2,000. Okay. I'm going to have
41 to move my paper. Well, I can put them on, but it's not
42 going to do us any good.

43 Telephone and Telecommunications 62406, 3,500.
44 Computer License 62407, 150. Employee Transportation
45 Allowance 62408, 1,100. Workmen's Comp 62409, 1,600.
46 Equipment Rental and Maintenance 62410, 18,000. Fidelity
47 Bond 62412, 1,300. Finance Committee 62414, 3,000.
48 Accounting and audit 62415, 11,000. Payroll Service
49 62416, 2,200. Auxiliary News Editor 62417, \$50.
50 Auxiliary News - Publishing 62418, 18,000. Finance -

1 Chairman 62419, 50. Filing Fees 62420, 600. Bank and
2 Return Checks 62422, 750. New Computer/Office Equipment
3 62423, 1,000. Contract Services 62424, \$1,650.
4 Charitable Trusts 62426, \$75, for a total of \$176,967.
5 Are there any questions on that section?
6 Okay. 62425 Relocation, 1,200. National Dues
7 62431, 160,000. Department President Pins 62432, 2,000.
8 Fundraising Pins and Charms 62433, 1,500. Department
9 President Special Project 62437, 15,000. PUFL 62441,
10 2,500. Live Units 62442, 2,130. Temporary Office Staff
11 62443, 10,000. Online Dues 62444, 28,000. American
12 Legion War Memorial Commission 62446, 2,400. General Fund
13 Miscellaneous 62447, 150. Total general fund, 224,980.
14 Okay. 62451 Department President, 75,000. Vice
15 President 62452, 2,000. District Presidents 62453, 4,400.
16 Training and Program Workshop 62454, 5,200.
17 Parliamentarian, \$25. And Diane spent all of her money at
18 one time.
19 Okay. 62456 Authorized Travel, 2,000. 62457
20 Executive Committee, 16,000. Distinguished Guests 62458,
21 400. Secretary/treasurer Travel Allowance 62459, 500.
22 Past Department President's Pin 62460, 450. National
23 Candidates Reserve, 500. Musician 624 -- oh, wait a
24 minute. National President's Visit 62462, 1,500.
25 Musician 62466, \$25. General Fund Expense, 38,700.
26 62471 Department Convention, 21,000. Department
27 Convention Proceedings 62472, 400. Convention Reporter
28 62473, \$3,500. Convention Committee Chairman 62474, 200.
29 Convention Department Chairman 62675, \$150. National
30 Convention 62477, 3,000, for a total of 32,500.
31 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: You're off one.
32 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Oh, did I forget
33 that? We raised that from 2500 to 4,000. Sorry about
34 that, ladies.
35 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The total was \$32,250.
36 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm sorry. Can you state the
37 total on that? I thought you stated a different total.
38 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Well, I did so let me
39 give me the correct one. 32,250.
40 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's not what you said today.
41 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Well, you know, I've
42 got to tell you I had a late night so you have to excuse
43 me. Besides that, I'm on somebody's bad side.
44 Okay. 62481 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman,
45 50. 62482 Americanism Chairman, 75. Constitution &
46 Bylaws Chairman 62483, \$225. Chaplain 62484, \$300.
47 Community Service Chairman, 50. Historian Chairman 62486,
48 375. Junior Activities Chairman 62487, \$50. Leadership
49 Chairman, 62488, \$150. Legislative Chairman 62489, \$50.
50 American Legion Auxiliary DC Conference 62490, \$500.

1 Membership Chairman 62491, \$350. Membership Promotion
2 62492, \$500. National Security Chairman 62495, \$50.
3 Public Relations Chairman 62497, \$50. Public Relations
4 Press Book 62498, \$50. Ways & Means Chairman 62499, \$50.
5 Americanism Essay Awards 62598, \$6,200. California
6 Disaster Fund Expense 62597, \$2,500. Americanism
7 Administrative Fee 62599, 1,800, for a total of 13,375.
8 Are there any questions on that?

9 (No response.)

10 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. The summary is
11 486,273. So when we go down the General Fund
12 Administrative, 176,967. Other, 224,980. Executive,
13 38,700. Convention Expense, 32,250. Committee Expense,
14 13,375, for a total of 486,272. And the -- or we have a
15 dollar to the good.

16 Okay. The restricted funds --

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: The title of
18 that line on the summary that you have that total of
19 \$486,273 should be expense. That's what it says down
20 here, so it's just titled wrong.

21 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: That I'm blaming
22 Linda Hayes. We don't know.

23 Okay. General Fund Reserves and Restricted
24 Summary. General Fund Reserves, \$283,660.40. Americanism
25 Essay, \$56,113.48. California Disaster, 44,890.78.
26 Auxiliary News, 28,652.35. Display Case, 3,093. Total
27 General Fund Reserves, 416,410.01.

28 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. Welfare
29 Fund, 44500. On the 44501 Poppy Orders, 50,000. 44502
30 Poppy Distribution, 11,000. 44503 Interest Income, \$40.
31 44504 Poppy Donations, 500. 44505 Poppy Fund
32 Miscellaneous, 275, making a total for Poppy Production
33 Fund Income of 61,815.

34 Okay. And then we go down to 64500 Poppy
35 Production Fund Expense. So 64501 Postage - Poppy
36 Production Manager for 2,200. 64502 Poppy Proceeds
37 Distribution, 1,200. 64503 Administrative Fee, 489 --
38 4,891. 64504 Poppy Production Labor, 25,000. 64505 Poppy
39 Production Poppy Kits, 19,000. 64506 Poppy Awards, 200.
40 64507 Poppy Chair, 175. 64508 Bank Fees/Service Charges,
41 \$20. 64509 Poppy Fund Miscellaneous, 875, for a total of
42 6 -- or 53,561. Is there any questions?

43 (No response.)

44 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. Poppy Fund
45 Reserves is 15,693. Okay. The Welfare Fund. 48501 VAR
46 Donations is 18,000. 48502 Poppy Proceeds Distribution,
47 300. 48503 Donations, \$14,029. 48504 Interest Income
48 Restricted, 2900. 48505 VAR TFA is 955. Okay. Then
49 total is 36,184. Any questions?

50 (No response.)

1 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. Welfare
2 Fund Expense/VAR. 86501 Administrative Fee is 5,000.
3 86502 TFA Cases, 9,250. 86503 is Patient Welfare Funds,
4 \$1,200. 86504 is VAMC Tours, \$1900. 8650 -- 68. Sorry.
5 I'm nervous up here. Sorry. 68505 Gift Shop/Patient
6 Remembrance is 13,759. 86 -- no. 68506 Hospital
7 Representative Announcements/Midyear, \$2500. 86509
8 Chairman is 400. No. 68. Sorry. 68510 Bank
9 Fees/Service Charges, \$275. 68515 Miscellaneous, nothing.
10 Okay. Total Welfare Funds Expense/VAR is \$34,284. And so
11 we were under budget by \$30. Okay.

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Excuse me,
13 Madam President. Harriet Clendenin, Past Department
14 President. If you subtract the welfare fund 48500 and
15 then from the 86500, you get actually \$1,900. So the
16 34,314 I believe is a miscarry and a typo on the VA&R
17 welfare. Okay. Where it says total WF68500 Welfare Fund
18 -- I'm sorry. Underneath it it says over/under and it
19 says 34,314. Shouldn't that be 36,184? Thank you, Madam
20 President.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Harriet is
23 correct. So we are over budget 11,900. Is that right?
24 Oh, one thousand -- one thousand.

25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: 1,900.

26 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: We are under
27 budget 1,900. Thank you, Harriet.

28 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. Continuing
29 on with Welfare Fund/Children & Youth. 48621, CY
30 Donations/Units Income, 7500. And so that made a total of
31 7500. And then 68600 Welfare Fund Expense.
32 Administrative Expense, 1,906. And 68602 TFA is 6150.
33 And the Chairman for 68603 is 150, for a total expense of
34 8206. And so that gives us \$706. Any questions on
35 reserves?

36 (No response.)

37 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. And then
38 Welfare Fund, 48730, ED Donations/Income is 8600. And
39 48732 Poppy 10 percent Distribution is 300. And 48734
40 Income Poppy Seals, 1400. And 48736 Connie Settle
41 Memorial Scholarship, 5,000, for a total Welfare Fund
42 Education of \$15,300.

43 And then the expenses. 68701 Administrative Fee
44 is 2150. Scholarships is 68702 for 10,000. 68704 Poppy
45 Seals, \$250. 68705 Chairman, 150. And then 68703 Connie
46 Settle Memorial Scholarship, 5,000. So the total welfare
47 fund expenses is 17,550 making a reserve of --

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No. Deficit.

49 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: We have a
50 question?

1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Susie Tozier,
2 District 22. In the code it states that you cannot give
3 out scholarships if you don't have enough money in the
4 account. So there's -- we're \$15,000 in the hole so how
5 can we give out scholarships?
6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: No, we're in
7 the hole 2250. We're in the hole 2250.
8 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: What's the
9 15,000 deficit?
10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It's income.
11 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: It's income.
12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Oh, oh. It's
13 confusing this year.
14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: And so there
15 should be brackets around the 2250.
16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Okay.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Terry, could you
18 please come over here for just a minute?
19 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. On the bottom
20 of page 8 where it says 15,500, that's the income.
21 Turn --
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: 300.
23 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: 15,300. Top of page
24 9, 2250 is a deficit. So you need to send in more money.
25 But the -- it was changed to increase the amount of
26 scholarships, so that's what we had to budget for. So
27 send in more donations, buy more poppy seals. Okay? Make
28 more donations to Education. And we do apologize, but
29 we've been jumping from computer to computer, flash drive
30 to flash drive to flash drive. I'm old, I know, so --
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Terry, excuse me
32 just a moment. On the 15,300, that should not be in
33 brackets; correct? And the one on the next page for the
34 2250, that should be in brackets?
35 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Correct.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you.
37 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Yes, thank you.
38 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. We'll move
39 on to Welfare Funds. 48841 PPP Donations, 7800. 48842
40 Poppy Fund Distribution, 300, for a total of \$8100. And
41 Poppy Fund Administrative Fee is \$1950. 4882 -- or 802
42 Nurse Scholarships, 10,000. 68 -- I'm sorry -- 803
43 Chairman, \$100. And 68800 Welfare Fund PPP Luncheon
44 Awards, \$500, for a total of 12,550. And that leaves a
45 balance of -- we're in the minus \$4,450.
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So just a moment.
47 There should be brackets on that; correct?
48 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Correct.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you.
50 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Madam

1 President?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, Linda. Would
3 you go to the microphone, please?

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Ladies, I
5 think if you look at that one, with the 12,550 as the
6 expense and then above that the 8,100 is the income, when
7 the committee here put this in the computer program, this
8 particular program put brackets around the 8,100 because
9 they want to subtract it from the 12,550. And you'll see
10 that throughout this whole report. What isn't happening
11 is they are not subtracting it. So the 4,450 in most
12 cases if you're going to look through this whole report
13 should have brackets. And it's all about a formula. If
14 you put the formula in backwards, it comes out a plus
15 instead of a negative. So I think you'll see that
16 throughout, but I think that's kind of an explanation of
17 why we have brackets where we do.

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Linda.

19 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: So I'm going to tell
20 you, they didn't hire us for our computer skills. So we
21 can add and subtract with a piece of paper and a pencil.
22 Thank you.

23 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. The
24 summary of the Welfare Programs. 48500 Welfare Fund,
25 36,184. 48620 Welfare Fund/Children & Youth, 8600. 48700
26 Welfare Fund Education, 15,300. And 48840 -- sorry.
27 Welfare Fund PP Parley, 8100, for a total of 68,184. That
28 was income. And then now expenses. 68500 Welfare Fund
29 Expense/VAR, 34,284. And 68600 Welfare Fund Expenses
30 Children & Youth is 8206. And 68700 is Welfare Fund
31 Expense, 17,500 -- or 550. And 68800 Welfare Fund/PPP is
32 12550, for a total expenses of 72,590. So that's -- the
33 net is a deficit of \$4,406, not counting that correction
34 like we did earlier I think.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hold on just a
36 moment.

37 JUNIOR FINANCE MEMBER PRESTON: Okay. Summary of
38 Welfare Reserves. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation,
39 \$235,542.24. Welfare is 228,847.13. Poppy Fund is
40 15,692.48, for a total Welfare Reserves of 480,081.85.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Hold
42 on just a moment.

43 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: Diane
44 DeLashmit, Past Department President. On this summary of
45 welfare reserves, Education is not listed. And that's on
46 the last page 10 of 10. And on page 9 of 10 it says
47 Welfare Education Fund Reserves. There's nothing in that
48 spot. I know that they have money in reserves for
49 Education. And somebody was saying, well, how can we
50 spend what we don't have. That's what these reserves are.

1 And we shouldn't have a tremendous amount of money in some
2 of these funds. Whatever your budget is for -- for a
3 particular program, you can -- the rule of thumb, I've
4 been told, is if you have three times that amount for
5 years that you don't bring in income, to take it from that
6 account. We need to know how much money is in all of
7 these accounts and if we need it, we take it out of there.
8 There's nothing for Education and we -- we need to get
9 that fixed.

10 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: The Education is
11 under the auspices of welfare. Ameritrade -- we have
12 several accounts at Ameritrade, but the welfare does cover
13 Education and Children & Youth. Past Presidents Parley is
14 under that.

15 So, Diane, I have all that documentation over
16 there, my last Ameritrade statements.

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: And I
18 understand that, however, we as a body need to know how
19 much is in welfare so we know we can move a certain amount
20 of money. That's not on here. We don't know so we can't
21 make an intelligent decision on how many scholarships and
22 things we can give because whoever said earlier, I think
23 it was Susie that made the comment that we can only give
24 as many scholarships as we have money for, but if we don't
25 know how much is in reserves that we can use for some of
26 those because we're short. I looked at that particular
27 part of the code, but it was up -- at one time was \$13,000
28 is what was there that we could use, but if you don't have
29 \$13,000 you can only give what you have. However, there
30 is money in reserves we should be using. We shouldn't
31 just be putting things in reserves and not ever using
32 them. Some of this we have more money than what we should
33 have in those accounts.

34 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Madam
35 President, Anita Biggs, Past Department President and Past
36 President Parley Chairman. One thing as well and what
37 Diane is saying, we were told the budget was increased
38 because of reserves for scholarships. In particular, Past
39 Presidents Parley nursing scholarships went up to 10,000
40 because we had so much money in reserves. And I take
41 issue with it stating that on here that in the remarks
42 that the PPP went 3,000 and I think that means Education
43 in the hole to 2250. Just the statement here is
44 misleading.

45 We're not in the hole and we should state clearly
46 that the funds for the deficit amount is taken from the
47 reserves. I think we should be clear so the body knows
48 that we're not in the hole, per se. We would like more
49 donations, of course, but we have funds, more than enough
50 funds to cover these amounts I think should be stated on

1 here.

2 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: In the
3 previous budgets it was broken out. It wasn't just one
4 sum. The total for the Ameritrade trade and all that,
5 that's the total amount you have to come out. But in the
6 previous budgets it was broken down by PPP, Education,
7 Children & Youth, VA&R, all the welfare funds. Even the
8 general fund had theirs.

9 So that's my concern is it's not broken out.
10 It's just lumped together so we -- really we're going to
11 lose visibility. That was Susie Tozier, Unit 6, District
12 22.

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
14 much, ladies.

15 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. Wendy? Okay.
16 The summary of welfare fund reserves, this was 2015-'16,
17 and I'm sorry it's not on this budget, VA&R at that -- at
18 that point in time was \$115,415.70. 115415.70. Children
19 & Youth, 32,975.91. 32,975.91. Education reserves,
20 42,397.60. That was Education, 42,397.60. Past
21 Presidents Parley, 44,753.03. Once again, Past Presidents
22 Parley, 44753.03. Total Welfare Fund Reserves was
23 235,542.24. Total Welfare Fund Reserves 235,542.24. Are
24 there any questions on those amounts? Is there a joker in
25 the house?

26 Okay. And on the back the last two pages of the
27 budget is Girls State and Junior Conference. That's for
28 information only.

29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Excuse me, Terry.
30 Okay. We have some questions about the reserves. On the
31 form you have, the total of welfare reserves 480,081.85,
32 which one is correct? Is it the 235,000 or is it the
33 480,000? I'd like to have 480,000 because it's better,
34 but --

35 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: We get copies of
36 these Ameritrade statements.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

38 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARISS: This question is
39 for Terry Mikesell. Linda Fariss, Unit 314, District 19,
40 current department president -- department president. I
41 can see into the future. No. Current Department
42 Education Chairman. I believe you stated at the beginning
43 of this list of reserves that's from 2014 which is two
44 years ago. That's why they're not matching. I don't even
45 understand why they were given. The 20 --

46 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: 2015-2016 budget that
47 was given at convention, that's where those figures came
48 from.

49 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARISS: So that was a year
50 ago?

1 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Correct.
2 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARISS: We should pat
3 ourselves on the back. We doubled our reserves.
4 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: But we haven't
5 doubled our reserves yet.
6 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARISS: Well, I wanted to
7 comment too that I instead of the \$43,000 in reserves for
8 Education, and I don't know if they included the Connie
9 Settle 40,000 in that report -- that report from last
10 year. Now it's in there.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: It should be
12 separate.
13 DISTRICT 19 DELEGATE FARISS: But shouldn't it be
14 mentioned somewhere?
15 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Can I resign? Madam
16 President, please accept my resignation.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I do not accept
18 your resignation.
19 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Darn. Okay. I have
20 the reconciliation detail for Ameritrade for welfare
21 funds. I have the little copy little thing right here.
22 228,847.13. Now I'm sorry I misled everybody putting that
23 in the VA&R. I'm sorry. Can I resign now?
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No. Okay.
25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: All right.
26 Anita Biggs, Past Department President. The totals that
27 Terry gave added to 235,542.24 plus the Poppy fund,
28 15,692.48 would make the total of the welfare reserves
29 251,234.72. Strike that out, the 480,081.85. Replace
30 that with 251,234.72.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Repeat the
32 numbers.
33 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: 251,234.72.
34 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Thank you, Anita.
35 I'm sure glad there's no more questions. Hint, hint.
36 Diane, you're going to have to hang me. Thank
37 you.
38 Madam President, I move acceptance of the
39 corrected budget.
40 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Second.
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion
42 to accept the budget as corrected. Any discussion?
43 (No response.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Please. All those
45 in favor, say aye.
46 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
48 (No response.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
50 Thank you so much, ladies.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: That is an
3 extremely difficult job. For any of you who aren't aware
4 of that, it is very, very stressful. Okay. So can the --
5 can the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the
6 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort to this stage
7 Angel Quinones.
8 (Processional.)
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And all the PDGs,
10 the gophers.
11 PDG QUINONES: I don't know what to say. Good
12 morning, delegation. Please have a seat. I don't know.
13 This is my sister, Kathlina. And Margaret was always
14 working for the good of the Auxiliary and worked for
15 veterans and for God and country. Thank you.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. I thought
18 someone said that the Sons were in the --
19 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR VARNELL: Madam
20 President, they went over to the Legion real quick.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. So we'll
22 catch them when they come back.
23 (Processional.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Could the
25 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
26 Chairman please escort to this stage our PDG leader Peter
27 Douglas.
28 (Processional.)
29 PDG DOUGLAS: Good morning, ladies. Good
30 morning, Auxiliary, Past Department Presidents, Junior
31 President, All Distinguished Guests.
32 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.
33 PDG DOUGLAS: On behalf of four of the gophers
34 that are present, we would like to make a donation to
35 President Wendy's special project. And that's for you.
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
37 PDG DOUGLAS: And I do want to say one last
38 thing. Norma Duvall is no longer Duvall. She's Norma
39 Douglas now.
40 (Applause.)
41 PDG KAPSALIS: I'm Art Kapsalis, Ruby's best
42 half. Prior to two nights ago we went to Post 79. There
43 was eight of us PDGs there. R.T. Lee, if you know, is in
44 a wheelchair. He's almost completely blind. Bob Melgard
45 was with us. He was in a wheelchair. They had karaoke,
46 so we -- Pete did a great job, so R.T. had to sing. He
47 can't see the screen. He sang Unchained Melody, and I
48 have never seen so many young ladies go up there and kiss
49 this guy. He had cameras flashing. We had more respect
50 that night than we've ever seen. We were the hit.

1 (Applause.)
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ladies, this
3 gentleman right here is our webmaster extraordinaire.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: He has worked so
6 hard and I -- I mean, he puts things on the website that I
7 didn't even think about this year. So I -- and he does it
8 all out of the kindness of his heart. So please, please
9 give him a big round of applause.
10 (Applause.)
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We sincerely
12 appreciate everything you do.
13 PDG DOUGLAS: I do want to recognize Skipper
14 right here.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: That's right.
16 PDG DOUGLAS: And -- I'm sorry. That's Gilligan.
17 Gilligan. I didn't see the Skipper.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: No, he's at home.
19 PDG DOUGLAS: But take care of -- take care of
20 Gilligan for us so when we come back next year, we'll be
21 able to raise some more money for you. All right. Thank
22 you, ladies.
23 (Applause.)
24 (Processional.)
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And those
26 gentlemen added to the President's Special Project, which
27 is TFA for veterans, \$220. Thank you so much.
28 (Applause.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. So we
30 would -- will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the
31 Distinguished Guest Chairman please bring to this station
32 the Sons of the American Legion Department of California.
33 (Processional.)
34 SAL JUNIOR COMMANDER PARSONS: Please be seated,
35 ladies. My name is Matt Parsons. I'm the -- now after
36 addressing you yesterday, I am now the Junior Past
37 Commander of the Detachment of California. And --
38 (Applause.)
39 SAL JUNIOR COMMANDER PARSONS: You can clap
40 louder. It was a fantastic year and I am so happy to have
41 this cover as opposed to that cover. It is my great
42 privilege to introduce our new state commander, Mr. Tommy
43 Dan Jordan.
44 (Applause.)
45 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Thank you. It's an honor
46 to be here. I'd like to introduce my staff for this year.
47 Starting on my right, Senior Vice Commander James Fischer.
48 (Applause.)
49 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Junior Vice President
50 James Eubanks.

1 (Applause.)
2 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Adjunct Ned Fox.
3 (Applause.)
4 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Chairman Jeff White.
5 (Applause.)
6 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Sergeant-at-Arms Bruce
7 Way.
8 (Applause.)
9 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: First Area Vice Commander
10 Steve Culp.
11 (Applause.)
12 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Area 2 Vice Commander
13 Bryon Libby.
14 (Applause.)
15 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Area 3 Walt Butler.
16 (Applause.)
17 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Area 4 Lavon Shock.
18 (Applause.)
19 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Area 5 William Hernandez.
20 (Applause.)
21 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Area 6 Art Carlos.
22 (Applause.)
23 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: The Judge Advocate Robert
24 Stover.
25 (Applause.)
26 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: And then we have our soon
27 to be National Vice Commander Don Ramirez.
28 (Applause.)
29 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: And again I'm Tommy Dan
30 Jordan from J.B. Clark Post 149, District 22, Area 5.
31 It's great to be here. It's great working with all of
32 you. If it wasn't for you ladies, we wouldn't be here.
33 One of our projects this year is we wanted to come up with
34 our own type of a junior program so we can get our youth
35 more involved.
36 (Applause.)
37 SAL COMMANDER JORDAN: Great, great leaders. Now
38 hopefully I'll get the word soon that our new Historian is
39 going to be a seven-year-old. Let's bring him in. And so
40 we're really doing a big push, but again loved working
41 with you. My old post, I've learned a lot from the ladies
42 there at 291. I'm enjoying 149 and looking forward to
43 working with you this whole next year, our whole crew.
44 It's an honor. It's a pleasure. Thank you.
45 (Applause.)
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
47 Thank you so much.
48 (Processional.)
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Congratulations.
50 Okay. Is that it? That's it. Well, it looks like we

1 have a couple more chairmanships to get to this morning.

2 Could I have the Ways & Means Chairman Jean
3 Cooley-Desmeules, Karen Munch, and Marion Rocha-Carlos
4 please come up front. And then Resolutions please be
5 ready to give your report.

6 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: She's
7 watching the tables for us.

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Okay.

9
10 WAYS & MEANS CONVENTION REPORT

11
12 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Okay.
13 The Royal Turtles of Treasure would like to thank all of
14 the members that stopped and purchased our opportunity and
15 50/50 tickets. All tickets have been pulled and the
16 juniors are now passing out the winning notifications for
17 these prizes. Please after all reports are completed
18 today and President Wendy has closed your convention,
19 please stop by and pick up your prizes.

20 With your help we have taken in 4,300 and --
21 excuse me. \$4,318.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You didn't do that
23 right.

24 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: I know.
25 Typo here. \$4,381.30 cents. That is from the charms, the
26 tickets, and the retail. The 50/50 took in \$665, and that
27 means the winner is going to go home with \$332.50, which
28 brings our grand total to \$4,713.50.

29 (Applause.)

30 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Madam
31 President, can I ask you to please pull the winning 50/50
32 ticket?

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Sure.

34 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: And they
35 have been shaken at least a thousand times by anybody who
36 I can find.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'm trying to get
38 all of you. I'm not in there.

39 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: The
40 lucky winner is Carol McMahon.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Maybe you're not
42 pronouncing her name.

43 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES:
44 M-C-M-A-H-O-N. It's a green ticket. She's from over
45 there. All right.

46 (Applause.)

47 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Well,
48 she is not going home.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Please come to the
50 microphone. Thank you.

1 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT GRANADO: It's Carol
2 McMahon and she is with District 25. She's not here
3 today, but she's with District 25.

4 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: We'll
5 let the District President take it to her and surprise
6 her. She's getting \$332.50.

7 (Applause.)

8 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: I would
9 like to introduce my team for the past year, Marion and
10 Karen.

11 (Applause.)

12 WAYS & MEANS CHAIRMAN COOLEY-DESMEULES: Without
13 these two ladies working as a team we would not have
14 accomplished what we did. Thank you again for this
15 awesome support of the Royal Turtles of Treasures, aka
16 your Ways & Means Committee.

17 Madam President, thank you for this appointment.
18 We wish smooth sailing home. And that concludes my
19 report. And your present is outside so I will give it to
20 you later.

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. More
22 presents. Thank you so much, ladies. You did an awesome
23 job, an absolute awesome job. Thank you so much. We're
24 going to have special presentation from our Past
25 Department Presidents.

26 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CUCCARO: Madam
27 Department President, as well everybody knows the Past
28 Department Presidents meet with their District Presidents
29 at the Department Convention. Well, we did meet and
30 seeing that I'm a president, Past President from 1971-'72,
31 a long time, we still have one of our Performers in the
32 audience who has been faithful all these years. And we
33 donated with her help with the Classy Penguins, we had \$20
34 for the Past Department President's Junior Scholarship and
35 \$80 to TFA. Thank you.

36 (Applause.)

37 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hello. I'm
38 Pilar Reyes and Ruby Kapsalis, 2010-'11, and Ruby's
39 2000 -- 1996, yeah. I was under Ruby. Anyway, on behalf
40 of six groups: Ruby's All Stars, Pilar's Musicians,
41 Margaret's Dream Catchers, Shelby's Actresses, Goldie's
42 Golden Links, and Geri's Cards, the donation that we
43 collected totaled \$705. And so the group had decided to
44 donate to three. VA&R in the name of Margaret Quinones
45 \$305, and for PDP's Junior Scholarship \$100, and TFA \$300.
46 And I would like to request all the members of these six
47 groups to please stand up. District Presidents under
48 these Past Department Presidents, kindly stand up.

49 (Applause.)

50 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So thank you

1 all very much. And it will go to good cause. Thank you.

2 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Are there
3 any Linda's Workmen in the group? Please stand. On
4 behalf of Linda's Workmen, we'll be sending \$10 to the
5 Past Departments Presidents Junior Scholarship and \$100 to
6 the VA&R.

7 (Applause.)

8 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: And then
9 Downtown Brown is at Girls State, so Park's Patriots --
10 are there any in the group? Oh, there she goes again. So
11 they will be donating \$10 to the Junior Scholarship and
12 \$60 to the VA&R.

13 (Applause.)

14 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT DeLASHMIT: For
15 Virginia Gandy's Engineers, please stand if there's any in
16 the house. Judy's Editors. Any of those here? Please
17 remain standing. And Diane's Circus Acts, if you would --
18 oh, they're all over here. They're great. We have a
19 donation for VA&R -- oh, these are in memory of -- we've
20 lost a lot this year. They were Isla Hill from District
21 16, Margaret Peggy MacIntosh from 18, Mary Garza from 28,
22 Joyce Truxell, and she actually passed about three years
23 ago but we weren't notified until this year. Janene
24 Heatherington from District 15, Lois Ralston from District
25 19, and Tina Tonnelli from District -- it was either 9 or
26 10. 9. So all of these donations are in memory of them.
27 So we have \$200 for VA&R TFA. We also want to include in
28 memory of Margaret Quinones, a special memory for her.
29 And Junior Scholarship \$10 and Children & Youth TFA \$90.

30 (Applause.)

31 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT LEE: I'm Madeline Lee
32 and this is Norma Duvall Douglas. And we are representing
33 Bev's Stars. That's Bev Sparks. Madeline's Love
34 Princesses, and Norma's Birds of Paradise. I was
35 president 2001-2002 and Norma was president in '9-'10.
36 And Bev -- I'm one of Bev's Stars so we -- she was
37 president in I forgot. A while ago.

38 So anyway, we are going to donate \$275 to VA&R
39 and \$30 to the Junior Scholarship.

40 (Applause.)

41 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Sorry I got to
42 lift it up. Melanie Taylor and I am going to make
43 presentations on behalf of Sue's Lighthouses, Melanie's
44 Balloon Pilots and B.J.'s Torch Runners. Do we have any
45 of our Lighthouses, Balloon Pilots, and Torch Runners?
46 Please stand.

47 (Applause.)

48 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TAYLOR: Thank you,
49 ladies. It's my honor to present a total of \$420 to our
50 Department Secretary Ruby. We have decided that \$10 will

1 go to the Past Department President's Junior Scholarship,
2 \$210 to the VA&R TFA Fund, and \$200 to the Education
3 Scholarship Fund.

4 (Applause.)

5 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: I'm Bonnie
6 Christner. I served 2005-2006. Are any of my Prom
7 Princesses out there or up here? Where is Anita? Anita?
8 There she is. On behalf of the Prom Princesses, we would
9 like to donate \$80 to the VA&R memory of my president
10 Margaret Quinones and \$20 to the Past President's Junior
11 Scholarship Fund. So thank you, ladies.

12 (Applause.)

13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Thank you
14 so much. Madam President, may I take just a minute of
15 personal privilege here? We have a District President in
16 District 20 this year who is also a National
17 Representative. Some of you ladies out there think that
18 she got kicked off the stage. She did not get kicked off
19 the stage. We begged her to please come and sit with us
20 because we are so proud of what she has done this year and
21 we really didn't want to share her up here. So there you
22 go.

23 (Applause.)

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT JACOBS: Hello, ladies.
25 Is there any of Sandy's Colonels in the room? I've got
26 one. Good. Oh, okay. Okay. Good. Four, five. Wow.
27 Thank you, ladies. Glad to have you here with us. On
28 behalf of Sandy's Colonels we're going to do \$80 to TFA
29 VA&R and \$20 to the PPP scholarship. It's \$100. Thank
30 you.

31 (Applause.)

32 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: So do I have
33 any of my Ship Captains out there? Shout out "Ahoy."
34 Where are you? There you are. Thank you. We are
35 donating \$90 to the VA&R TFA fund in memory of Margaret
36 Quinones and the PDP Junior Scholarship \$90 for a total of
37 \$180. Thank you, ladies.

38 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Do I have any
39 of my Rodeo Queens? I know I have one right up here.
40 Very, very proud. There's Joan Cannon coming in as Vice
41 President. Must have done something good. We are going
42 to donate \$375 to TFA VA&R in memory of Margaret, my
43 daughter's other mother, Junior Scholarship 25, and TFA
44 for Children & Youth 25 for total of \$425.

45 (Applause.)

46 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Terry
47 Mikesell. Terry 's Treasures. And if you're not ashamed
48 to, stand up. Please, stand up. Thank you, ladies.
49 We're going to donate \$10 to the Past Department
50 Presidents Junior Scholarship and \$140 to VA&R TFA in

1 memory of Margaret Quinones.

2 (Applause.)

3 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: And it's my
4 pleasure -- I'm Past Department Presidents Secretary this
5 year, so would the PDP please stand up. Yeah, okay.
6 We're going to donate \$50 to the Junior Scholarship Past
7 Department Presidents and \$100 into VA&R in memory of
8 Margaret Quinones. Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Would Anita's
11 Team Captains please stand? I was president 2013-2014.
12 And my most generous lovely Captains are donating a total
13 of \$675. I got more money, ladies, by the way. So we're
14 going to give \$125 to the Past Department President Junior
15 Scholarship and we're going give \$550 to the VA&R TFA in
16 memory of Margaret Quinones. Thank you, ladies. You're
17 the best.

18 (Applause.)

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Good
20 morning, ladies. Will my -- this is Harriet Clendenin,
21 '14-'15. Will my Quilters please stand? Okay. With
22 their generous support we are donating \$25 to Junior
23 Scholarship and \$275 to VA&R in memory of Margaret
24 Quinones. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

26 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: And last, but
27 not least, our caboose. Would all of Susie's Farmers
28 please stand. We would like to donate \$135 in memory of
29 Margaret Quinones to the TFA VA&R program. Thank you.

30 (Applause.)

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
32 ladies. It's always fun to get money.

33 Can we have Madeline Lee and Patricia Patrick and
34 Karol Adams. I knew that. Thank you, ladies, for helping
35 her.

36
37 RESOLUTIONS CONVENTION REPORT

38
39 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Good morning, ladies.
40 The Resolutions Committee met on Thursday, June 22nd in
41 the upstairs Room 7 of the Riverside Convention Center.
42 By consent of the delegates, Patricia Patrick of District
43 23 served as Secretary, Rosemary Weber of District 16
44 served as Chaplain, and Gwen Heath of District 16 served
45 as Sergeant-at-Arms. The meeting was opened with prayer
46 and Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call showed 17 delegates
47 and ten guests present.

48 The committee agreed on the following report:
49 Packets were distributed containing Resolution Code,
50 sample resolution forms and deadline dates to submit

1 resolutions. The code was read and no changes were made.
2 This chairman reported that no resolutions were received
3 prior to the convention and there were no emergency
4 resolutions. We had a very lively discussion about
5 resolution formats, deadline dates, possible future
6 resolutions, and some recommendations for enhancing the
7 resolutions program. These recommendations will be passed
8 onto the next chairman. The meeting was adjourned at
9 12:00 noon.

10 This concludes the Resolutions Committee Report.
11 Madam President, we will now would like to present the
12 courtesy resolutions. May they be accepted by consent?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, they may.

14 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Assisting me today in
15 reading the resolutions are Patricia Patrick, District 23,
16 Karol Adams, District 28. And thank you so much for
17 giving me these wonderful ladies to assist me. I really
18 enjoyed working with them. So now we will have
19 Patricia -- Karol start the resolutions.

20 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE ADAMS: Madeline is letting
21 me go first because I get real nervous when I have to
22 speak.

23 Whereas, the management and staff of the
24 Riverside Marriott have been efficient and courtesy, and
25 whereas, they have made our stay most comfortable and
26 enjoyable. Now therefore be it resolved, that a copy of
27 this Resolution be given to Tammy Gonzales, senior sales
28 manager, Riverside Convention Center to show our
29 appreciation for their great service.

30 Whereas, the Department of California is grateful
31 for the outstanding services provided to our organization
32 by the following dedicated members of the Legion Family.
33 And whereas, they have contributed greatly toward making
34 this year's program successful. Now therefore be it
35 resolved, that we express our sincere appreciation for
36 them for operating their skills, times, and talents so
37 unselfishly. Henry Sanchez, outstanding gopher and
38 photographer; Dave Smith, excellent DJ with lively and
39 upbeat music; Art Kapsalis, creative, informative, timely
40 website. And be it further resolved that a copy of this
41 resolution be given to each of them.

42 Whereas, Jolina Freeman has served our department
43 well as honor representing the Juniors of our department
44 with grace and dignity and proven herself a worthy role
45 model for our younger Juniors. And whereas, she has
46 attended this convention to bring greetings on behalf of
47 the Juniors of California to Department President Wendy
48 and the members and guests assembled here. Now therefore
49 be it resolved, that we convey to Jolina our appreciation
50 and our pride in her service and contribution to our great

1 organization. And be it further resolved that a copy of
2 this resolution be sent to Jolina Freeman.

3 (Applause.)

4 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE ADAMS: I'm not done.

5 Whereas, Convention Chairman Estella Avina, co-chair Judy
6 Bendzala -- I hope I said that right -- and her committee
7 have done an outstanding job of providing for our comfort
8 and enjoyment during this Department Convention. And
9 whereas, President Susan Romero and members of District 21
10 have extended their warm and gracious hospitality. Now
11 therefore it be resolved, that we express our appreciation
12 to Estella and her committee for being such wonderful
13 hosts and for making this meeting successful. And be it
14 further resolved that a copy of this resolution is sent to
15 Estella Avina.

16 (Applause.)

17 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE PATRICK: Whereas, a number
18 of distinguished guests found time from their busy
19 schedules to attend our convention meeting and bring
20 greetings. And whereas, it was an honor to welcome them
21 and hear their informative remarks. Now therefore be it
22 resolved, that we express our appreciation with a round of
23 applause to the following for their attendance at this
24 meeting. And be it further resolved that a copy of this
25 resolution be mailed to each and that a copy be sent to
26 the American Legion department office. The following
27 individuals are: Janet Wilson, National Executive
28 Committeewoman, The American Legion; John Bart, Department
29 Adjunct, The American Legion; Clay Baxter, Vice Commander
30 5th Area, The American Legion; Edward Romero, Commander
31 District 21, The American Legion; Susan Romero, President
32 District 21, American Legion Auxiliary; Matt Parsons,
33 Department of California Detachment Commander Son of The
34 American Legion; and early apologies for mispronuciations
35 of the name. Mick Sobczak -- did I mispronounce it? Mick
36 Sobczak, President, The American Legion Riders; John
37 Ellis, California American Legion Press Association.
38 Whereas, The American Legion Department Commander Gary
39 Leach has graciously taken the time out of his busy
40 convention schedule to join us at this meeting of The
41 American Legion Auxiliary. And whereas his cooperation in
42 working together cements the bond within the California
43 Legion Family and furthers the programs of our
44 organization. Now therefore be it resolved, that we
45 express our appreciation to Commander Leach for his
46 cooperation and courtesies for our Department President
47 during their travels throughout the department and for his
48 presence at our convention. And be it further resolved,
49 that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Department
50 Office of The American Legion.

1 Whereas, throughout the years the Past Department
2 Presidents continue to serve, to participate in, and
3 support the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary,
4 Department of California. And whereas, they have shared
5 their valuable knowledge and they have added much by their
6 presence at this Department Convention. Now therefore be
7 the resolved, that we express our appreciation to the Past
8 Department Presidents for their dedication and continued
9 service to our organization by giving them a standing
10 ovation to show our love and gratitude.

11 (Applause.)

12 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Thank you. Whereas,
13 the Department of California takes great pride in the
14 members of this department through our serving in the --
15 for the National organization. We ask that they rise and
16 remain standing until all of the lists have been called.
17 Now therefore be it resolved, that we express our
18 appreciation to the following for their honor and
19 privilege that they bring to the Department of California.
20 Mrs. Nancy Brown-Park is not here, but we are recognizing
21 her. She's our Past National President and serves on
22 several National committees. Mrs. Susan Tozier, National
23 Executive Committeewoman.

24 (Applause.)

25 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Mrs. Melanie Taylor,
26 National Girls Nation Chairman.

27 (Applause.)

28 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Mrs. Anita Biggs,
29 Western Division VA&R Chairman.

30 (Applause.)

31 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Mrs. Linda Workman,
32 back there, Western Division Leadership Chairman.

33 (Applause.)

34 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Mrs. Nancy Heinisch,
35 Western Division Public Relations Chairman.

36 (Applause.)

37 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Let's give these
38 ladies a big round of applause.

39 (Applause.)

40 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Now would the Vice
41 President assume the chair and have the President come
42 over here.

43 All right. All right. Department -- whereas,
44 Department President Wendy has given a year of outstanding
45 service to The American Legion Auxiliary. And whereas,
46 she has shown capable leadership and friendliness as she
47 has represented our great organization. And whereas, her
48 theme of "Serving Veterans From Sea to Shining Sea" has
49 inspired our members to reach new heights of service for
50 veterans and motivated our members to have fun and

1 fellowship while cruising the high seas. And whereas, she
2 has powered her cruise ship very successfully with dignity
3 and grace. And now therefore be it resolved, that the
4 members and guests assembled at this convention express
5 our love and appreciation to Department President Wendy
6 with a standing ovation for a job well done.

7 (Applause.)

8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
9 much.

10 RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN LEE: Thank you. Thank you.
11 Madam Department President, thank you for this
12 appointment. It has been a pleasure to serve you and the
13 Department as Resolutions Chairman. And this concludes my
14 report.

15 (Applause.)

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Madam Secretary,
17 will you please read the minutes of the Post-Convention
18 Executive Meeting held in January -- on January 13th in
19 the Double Tree Hotel in Newark, California and
20 Preconvention Executive Committee held on June 23rd here
21 in Riverside.

22
23 READING OF MINUTES

24
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Minutes Department
26 Executive Committee Meeting, Newark/Fremont, 14-15 January
27 2017. The Department Executive DEC Meeting was called to
28 order by Department President Wendy O'Brien on Saturday,
29 January 14th, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. and reconvened on Sunday,
30 January 15th at 8:30 a.m. and adjourned at approximately
31 11:00 a.m.

32 The meeting was dedicated in memory of Past
33 Department President and Past Western Division National
34 Vice President Margie Shank. Moved by Finance Senior
35 Member Linda Hayes, seconded and carried to retain the
36 auditor of Erwin C. Laranang, CPA of Van Sloten & Laranang
37 for 2017 for the amount of \$11,000. Moved by Finance
38 Senior Member Linda Hayes, second and carried to accept
39 2017 Girls State budget as presented.

40 Announcement of candidates for 2017-'18.
41 President Loretta March, Unit 56, District 16. Vice
42 President Joan Cannon, Unit 249, District 11. Junior
43 Member of Finance Martha A. Romano, Unit 283, District 24.

44 Moved by Americanism Chairman Kathy Smith,
45 seconded and carried to accept the following Americanism
46 essay titles for 2017-'18. Category I, Grades 4 through
47 5, Why We Should Respect America. Category II, Grade 6
48 through 7, What Does Community Service Mean to Me.
49 Category III, Grades 8 and 9, Why Do We Have the
50 Constitution of the United States. Category VI, Grades

1 10, 11, and 12, What Values Should Our Leaders Have.
2 Category V, Exceptional Needs, Why is America a Great
3 Country.

4 The following motions were made by the respective
5 district presidents, seconded and carried. In the absence
6 of District President A, Ruby Kapsalis, Past Department
7 President and Secretary/Treasurer moved with regret to put
8 Unit 1 on probation. Citrus Heights Unit 637, District 6
9 was placed on probation. Was to remain on probation. San
10 Francisco, Unit 1, District 8 was placed on probation.
11 Richmond Unit 10, District 10 placed on probation. Excuse
12 me.

13 Willow Glen Unit 318, 318, removed from
14 probation. LeMoore Unit District 14 remained on
15 probation. Firebaugh Unit 346, District 14 remained on
16 probation. State Simeon 511, District 14 remain on
17 probation. San Dimas Unit 475, District 18 placed on
18 probation. City of Paramount Unit 134, District 19
19 remained on probation. Clyde F. Hager Unit 465, District
20 19 placed on probation. Hollydale Unit 723, District 19
21 remained on probation until 6/17. South Gate unit 335,
22 District 23 remained on probation. Ontario Unit 112,
23 District 25 remained on probation. Colton Unit 155,
24 District 25 placed on probation. Guy Wynton Morris Unit
25 710, District 25 remained on probation. Corregidor Of
26 Imperial Valley unit 597, District 30 remained on
27 probation.

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ruby, could you
29 please go back to Unit 346 in Firebaugh?

30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Firebaugh?

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, in District
32 14. Are they -- let me see. Where am I? Were they
33 removed from probation or did they remain on probation?

34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: No, they were
35 remained on probation.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I thought that's
37 what you handed me. Oh, no, no. Go ahead. Thank you.
38 Thank you.

39 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. And on
41 District 30 for the Corregidor Of Imperial Valley 597,
42 District 30, are they placed on it or removed?

43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Placed on.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: They were placed
45 on. Thank you.

46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Would you
47 like for me to make a motion to accept the Minutes of the
48 Executive Board Meeting?

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. I move that

1 the Department of California accept the Minutes of the
2 Department Executive Board Meeting.
3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There's a
5 motion on the floor to accept the minutes from the
6 executive board meeting in January. Any discussion?
7 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: I need to make a
8 statement. District 9, it was Unit 10.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Who are you,
10 please?
11 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Dolly Rios, District
12 9.
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Right.
15 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Is that what you
16 said?
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yeah.
18 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Okay.
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She just misspoke.
20 Any others?
21 (No response.)
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
23 favor, say aye.
24 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
26 (No response.)
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. The minutes
29 of the Department Executive Committee Meeting Riverside,
30 California, 22 June 2017. The Department Executive
31 Committee, DEC meeting was called to order by Department
32 President Wendy O'Brien on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. The
33 following motions were made by the respective district
34 president, seconded and carried in the absence of District
35 President A, Terry Mikesell, Finance Chairman and Past
36 Department President moved with regret to keep Unit 1 on
37 probation. Citrus Heights Unit 637, District 6 remained
38 on probation until January 2018. San Francisco Unit 1,
39 District 8 remained on probation. Richmond Unit 10,
40 District 9 remained on probation. LeMoore Unit 100,
41 District 14, the charter was revoked. Firebaugh Unit 346,
42 District 14 removed from probation. State Center Unit
43 511, District 14 remained on probation. San Dimas Unit
44 475, District 18 removed from probation. City of
45 Paramount Unit 134, District 19 remained on probation.
46 Clyde F. Hager Unit 465, District 19 remained on
47 probation. Hollydale Unit 723, District 19 remained on
48 probation. Idyllwild Unit 800, District 21 remained on
49 probation. South Gate Unit 335, District 23 charter was
50 revoked. Ontario Unit 112, District 25 removed from

1 probation. Colton Unit -- Colton Unit 155, District 25
2 remained on probation. Yucaipa Valley Unit 426, District
3 25 remained on probation. Bloomington Unit 497, District
4 25 remained on probation. Guy Wynton Unit 710, District
5 25 removed from probation. Santa Ana Unit 131, District
6 29 remained on probation. Corregidor Of Imperial Valley
7 Unit 597, District 30 remained on probation. Bombay Beach
8 Unit 801, District 30 remained on probation.

9 Terry Mikesell moved that the Auxiliary give the
10 office staff 50 cents pay raise for both Imelda Cruz and
11 Julie Frisch. Motion is seconded and carried. I move the
12 acceptance of these minutes.

13 DISTRICT 25 DURON: Madam President, Tamra Duron,
14 Past Department President District 25. Yucaipa 426 was
15 placed on probation, not remaining on probation.

16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Okay.
17 Thank you.

18 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Madam Secretary,
19 Judy Henderson, District 2. I believe you said the
20 meeting started at 9:00 o'clock, and that is not what time
21 it started, so I think that was misread.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It may -- it may
23 not have, it may have. I don't know what time it started.
24 It's a blur. I don't know. But that's okay. It's not
25 that important anyway.

26 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: It was 7:00.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: That's why it's a
28 blur. It was 7:00.

29 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Diane DeLashmit, Past
30 Department President. 801 I think, it's Bombay Beach, was
31 placed on probation rather than remained.

32 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. I move to
33 accept the minutes as amended.

34 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Second.

35 DISTRICT 25 DURON: Tammy Duron, the Past 25th
36 District President again. In DEC meeting, Bloomington
37 Unit 497 was placed on probation. Did we mention that?

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, we did.

39 DISTRICT 25 DURON: Okay. Thank you.

40 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT ROMERO: Madam President,
41 District 21, Susan Romero. We placed 800 on probation
42 this last Thursday.

43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Remains.

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Correct. Right.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion
47 on the floor to accept the minutes from the DEC here in
48 Riverside as corrected. Any other questions?

49 (No response.)

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in

1 favor, say aye.
2 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
4 (No response.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam President, I
7 do have two announcements.
8 (Singing.)
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Let's not
10 do that again.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: It is with deep
12 regret that I must let everyone know that Elaine Gallagher
13 who fell and went in the hospital and was going to have
14 surgery has passed.
15 And also District -- Lois Nelson, District 14,
16 Unit 509, 44 plus year member passed away. Funeral
17 services will be June 29th, viewing from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
18 Clovis Funeral Palm Grave Site, Friday, June 30th, Clovis
19 Cemetery 11:30. Memorial service at 509 to follow.
20 Questions, you can call Sandy Felix.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Ruby.
22 Is there any further business?
23 (No response.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Is there any new
25 business to be brought to the assembly?
26 (No response.)
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Will the
28 Department President Elect Loretta Marsh please announce
29 the time of the installation and give us any last minute
30 instructions.
31 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: The
32 installation will follow as quickly as we get it set up.
33 Estella, how long do you think you need?
34 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: A week. Yeah, because
35 we have to strip down the stage and put up the chairs and
36 everything. So at least 20 minutes.
37 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thirty minutes.
38 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Yes.
39 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Okay. Until
40 11:30. The program asked you to come dressed this
41 morning. I see everybody is dressed. I don't see anybody
42 without their clothes, so --
43 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Me.
44 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: So I presume
45 you're ready. If you will please line up quickly when the
46 time comes and move through. And when things are passed
47 out afterwards for the meeting immediately following, the
48 quicker, the more organized you stay the quicker we can
49 get out of here. And I don't know about you, but the
50 quicker I get out the better I'll like it. And I'm sure

1 you all feel the same. I know you're all tired. So try
2 to keep it as organized and quick moving as we can. We'll
3 get it done and get out of here. Thank you.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. So, ladies,
5 we have to -- before we leave, as you're leaving could we
6 please have everyone that has a flag come up here because
7 we're going to have that procession. We were unable to
8 have it yesterday.

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: Meet over here by the
10 doors.

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, meet over here
12 by the doors as quickly as possible, ladies. Okay. Are
13 we ready? Okay. Here we go.

14
15 RETIRING OF COLORS

16
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All right. Here
18 we go, Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal and the Color Bearers,
19 please retire the unit and district colors.

20 (Processional.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you all for
22 attending the 98th Convention. At this moment -- oh,
23 yeah. I'm going to give -- I'd like to have the
24 Presidents Club awards given out and I would like to have
25 someone from Unit 48 in District 16, 167 in District 20,
26 Unit 299 in District 25, 521 in District 6, 739 in
27 District 21, 79 in 21, 249 in District 11, 460 in District
28 22, 585 in District 26. Susan Baker, Ruby Kapsalis,
29 Glenda Schultz, and Ellen McClurg, I thank you very much
30 for participating in the President's Club. Please come
31 forward. Thank you for -- I don't have to say goodbye
32 now, do I?

33 Okay. We're 30 minutes, so how about meet here
34 at 11:30 for installation of the 2017-'18 officers.

35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam President,
36 may I please ask all new chairmen to please pick up their
37 procedure books before they leave today. And the delegate
38 packets are over on the Finance Chairman's table, so
39 please pick those packets up.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
41 much. We're in recess.

42 (Recess at 11:04 a.m.)

43
44 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018

45
46 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Okay. Good
47 afternoon. My name is Melanie Taylor. I'm a Past
48 Department President and it's my pleasure to introduce the
49 installing team. I will be the installing officer this
50 year for the 2017-'18 Department Officers and Chairmen.

1 Honorary Distinguished Guest Chairman is Linda Workman.
2 Our Honorary Sergeant-at-Arms, Darlene Duncan. Honorary
3 Marshal, Tracy Varnell Fercho. Honorary Chaplain, Donna
4 Scott, and Honorary Musicians, Cathy and Dave Smith.
5 Color Bearers for the 16th District will be represented by
6 our Honorary Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal and the color
7 bearers for Loretta's Unit 66 colors are Terry Oclaray and
8 Karen Munch.

9 We will now proceed with the installation of
10 Department Officers for 2017-2018. Will the Honorary
11 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
12 Chairman please escort the honor guard for today's
13 installation, District 16 Honor Guard.

14 (Processional.)

15 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
16 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
17 Chairman please escort the Department Chairmen for
18 2017-2018.

19 (Processional.)

20 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
21 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
22 Chairman please escort the District Second Vice
23 Presidents.

24 (Processional.)

25 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
26 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
27 Chairman please escort the District First Vice Presidents.

28 (Processional.)

29 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: I'm getting caught
30 up. Sorry. Will the Sergeant-at-Arms -- Honorary
31 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
32 Chairman please escort the District Presidents.

33 (Processional.)

34 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
35 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
36 Chairman please escort the department officers
37 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit, Sergeant-at-Arms Karen
38 Herrera, Marshal Rosemary Weber, Historian Deloris Artis,
39 and Chaplain Estella Avina.

40 (Processional.)

41 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
42 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
43 Chairman please escort the Junior Member of Finance Elect
44 Martha Romano.

45 (Processional.)

46 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Don't make her run.
47 Will the Honorary Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the
48 Distinguished Guest Chairman please escort the Vice
49 President Elect Joan Cannon escorted by her fiance Fred
50 Stute.

1 (Processional.)

2 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
3 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please present the colors of
4 District 16 and Honorary Corporal Marshal N. Braden Unit
5 56.

6 (Processional.)

7 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
8 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest
9 Chairman please escort the Department President Elect
10 Loretta Marsh escorted by her husband, Harold.

11 (Processional.)

12 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: The installation of
13 our newly elected and appointed officers is one of the
14 most important and impressive ceremonies of our Department
15 Convention. As we begin this transition from one
16 administration to another, we wish to express our
17 appreciation to the retiring department and district
18 officers for their outstanding contribution to the grand
19 history of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of
20 California.

21 As we turn from the memories of a successful year
22 we have just completed, let us all look forward with
23 renewed dedication and enthusiasm to a new year conducted
24 by our new department and district officers as we honor
25 and serve our veterans, their families, and our country.

26 We congratulate our new officers and wish for
27 them a year filled with many accomplishments and superhero
28 deeds for our veterans and lots of fun and excitement
29 while remembering real heroes wear dog tags, not capes.
30 District Vice Presidents --

31 (Applause.)

32 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: -- District
33 Presidents and Department Officers, please rise. District
34 Vice Presidents, District Presidents, and Department
35 Officers. Okay. My fellow members, you have been chosen
36 to fill the various offices of the American Legion
37 Auxiliary Department of California. You will I know
38 vindicate the trust that has been reposed in you and
39 fulfill in every way the obligations which that trust
40 entails. You will familiarize yourself with the duties of
41 your respective offices as given in the Department Bylaws.
42 Always remember that the welfare and success of this
43 administration depends upon you and upon your shoulders
44 rests the burden of preserving the integrity of the
45 American Legion Auxiliary. You must protect its good name
46 before the people of the United States and at all times
47 endeavor to have them understand its policy and its
48 purpose.

49 Always remember the tolerant spirit of the
50 American Legion Auxiliary. Allow no distinction of class

1 or creed to appear among our members. There is no rank
2 among us, for each serves as equal of her fellow members
3 and all strive towards the same goal, which is the
4 realization in the life of republic, of the ideals of
5 justice, freedom, democracy, and loyalty. Pardon me. I
6 could spit cotton.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Please don't.
8 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Please raise your
9 right hand and repeat after me giving your name where I
10 give mine. I, Melanie Taylor.
11 (Response.)
12 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Promise to perform
13 faithfully.
14 (Response.)
15 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: All the duties of the
16 office I'm about to assume.
17 (Response.)
18 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: And I further pledge.
19 (Response.)
20 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: That I am not a
21 member of.
22 (Response.)
23 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: And do not subscribe
24 to.
25 (Response.)
26 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: The principles of any
27 groups.
28 (Response.)
29 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Opposed to our form
30 of government.
31 (Response.)
32 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: You may be seated.
33 District Second Vice Presidents, please rise. Into your
34 helpful hands is placed the responsibility of assisting
35 the First Vice Presidents in all their duties. Your
36 responsibilities will contribute much success to this
37 year. Congratulations. You may be seated.
38 (Applause.)
39 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District First Vice
40 Presidents, please rise. To you is given the active
41 cooperation with the president for the continued
42 development of your district programs. In the absence of
43 the president, you will be prepared to assume the duties
44 of her office. This year can be a rewarding learning
45 experience for you and prepare you for future goals.
46 Congratulations.
47 (Applause.)
48 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District Presidents,
49 please rise. You are assuming the tremendous
50 responsibility in living the day-to-day activities of your

1 district as a deputy to the Department President. You are
2 the most important member of the official family, for you
3 represent the link between the members of this great
4 department and the Department President. With full
5 confidence in your abilities you have been chosen by your
6 district to fill this important position. May your year
7 of service as the Department Power Rangerette be a happy,
8 exciting, and rewarding adventure for you and your
9 district. Congratulations.

10 (Applause.)

11 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the
12 Parliamentarian Diane DeLashmit, please rise. Diane, your
13 duty is to advise the Department President on procedural
14 matters in the deliberation of this department. The
15 benefit of your experience and wise counsel will be a
16 great asset to her in the performance of her duties as it
17 has been for so many of us. Congratulations.

18 (Applause.)

19 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Historian Deloris
20 Artis, please rise. Deloris, to you is given the rather
21 awesome responsibility of compiling the history of this
22 administration. Many memorable accomplishments will occur
23 this year and your official record will give -- excuse me.
24 Will preserve those golden moments for those to follow.
25 Congratulations.

26 (Applause.)

27 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Chaplain Estella
28 Avina, please rise. Estella, you have been asked to serve
29 as a spiritual leader of this department. The love and
30 empathy which you perform the duties of your office will
31 do much to help lighten the sorrows that may fall upon our
32 members. You will have the opportunity of offering
33 prayers that will be uplifting to us and to assist our
34 members to develop a sense of inner strength gained from
35 God's blessings. Congratulations.

36 (Applause.)

37 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Marshal Rosemary
38 Weber. Rosemary, you are responsible to assist the
39 Sergeant-at-Arms and to perform the duties of
40 Sergeant-at-Arms in her absence. Congratulations.

41 (Applause.)

42 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Sergeant-at-Arms
43 Karen. Oh, that's right. She went to Girls State. Okay.
44 Junior Member of Finance Martha Romano. Martha, you are
45 entering a three-year term as the Junior Member of
46 Finance. The Finance Committee is a very important
47 committee of the department. Study carefully your
48 responsibilities as outlined in the bylaws and policies.
49 Always remember that you were elected by the membership to
50 represent their best interests. We know you will consider

1 well your duties and enjoy your service on this committee
2 as the department superheroes, the Ninja Frogs, guarding
3 our finances. Congratulations.

4 (Applause.)

5 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: At this time I will
6 ask Past Department President Linda Fercho to please
7 escort Department Vice President Elect Joan Cannon to the
8 podium. Past Department President Linda will give the
9 charge and present the pin to the vice president.

10 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: I'm so proud
11 of you. And Wendy was one of my presidents when I was
12 president, one of my Rodeo Queens. Joan was one of my
13 Rodeo Queens. I'm so proud of them all.

14 Joan, as the Vice President in the department
15 theme of "Real Heroes Wear Dog Tags, Not Capes," you are
16 Loretta's right hand. The president may call on you for
17 counsel or to represent her on specific occasions. You
18 should be prepared to do so as well as assuming the duties
19 of her office if the need should arise. Your enthusiasm
20 and cooperation will add much to the success of the
21 administration.

22 May this year be a rewarding year and learning
23 experience and help prepare you for your future goals.
24 Congratulations. At this time it is my honor to pin the
25 Department Vice President pin over your heart. Please
26 wear it with pride. That's not it. It's in the mail.
27 That and the check.

28 (Applause.)

29 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Loretta just wanted
30 to hold onto it a little bit more. It's in her purse.

31 Will Past Department President Madeline Lee
32 please escort the Department President Elect Loretta Marsh
33 to the podium. Madeline will give the charge and present
34 the President's pin.

35 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT LEE: Loretta, we are
36 so proud of you. I am especially and the whole Sweet 16.

37 (Applause.)

38 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT LEE: Department
39 President Loretta, great trust has been reposed in you by
40 your election to the highest office within the Department
41 of California. I charge you to carry constantly in your
42 mind the obligation which is yours, that of upholding the
43 four great principles expressed in the preamble to the
44 constitution: justice, freedom, democracy, and loyalty.

45 As Department President you have the great
46 challenge of developing and improving the programs of the
47 American Legion Auxiliary. You have been selected by the
48 members to fulfill this challenge. We have faith in your
49 ability and integrity. We know that you will exemplify
50 the qualities of leadership that the members expect from

1 the Department President. You will be the spokesperson
2 for all of us to the public. Our members will look to you
3 for guidance, inspiration, and understanding.

4 Loretta, we know that you will continue to use
5 your talents, your special talents, your strength, and
6 your love of the American Legion Auxiliary in the best
7 interests of all of our members. Your leadership will
8 inspire our members to achieve goals never before thought
9 possible in all of our events. Your theme of superheros
10 and motto, "Real Heroes Wear Dog Tags, Not Capes" will
11 inspire and unite our membership as they work as a team
12 united in service, ideals, and commitment to accomplish
13 service, not self to you as president. As president of
14 the superheros unit, your superheros await your direction
15 as they work to accomplish their goals for the Department
16 of California this year. Congratulations and best wishes.

17 (Applause.)

18 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT LEE: Now I have the
19 daunting task of pinning your pin. Okay. I know that you
20 will wear it with a great deal of pride uniting your
21 members in service, ideals, and commitment leading for
22 another successful year of service to others, not self.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MARSH: I wore double layers
24 so she didn't have to worry about it.

25 (Applause.)

26 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: At this time I will
27 ask Department President Wendy to please come to the
28 podium for a presentation along with the newly elected and
29 installed Department President Loretta.

30 (Applause.)

31 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will all the newly
32 installed officers please rise. Members and guests -- you
33 keep forgetting, huh? Members and guests, I present to
34 you the officers for the Department of California for the
35 year 2017-2018.

36 (Applause.)

37 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: My fellow members, I
38 share in the pride that is yours for these officers whom
39 you have chosen to guide our organization this coming
40 year. They have been charged with serious
41 responsibilities and I in turn charge you likewise.

42 Will all members of the American Legion Auxiliary
43 please rise raise your right hand and repeat after me. I
44 solemnly promise.

45 (Response.)

46 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: To renew my pledge of
47 service.

48 (Response.)

49 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: To the American
50 Legion Auxiliary.

1 (Response.)
2 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: And to give
3 wholehearted support.
4 (Response.)
5 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: To these department
6 officers.
7 (Response.)
8 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will the Honorary
9 Chaplain Donna Scott please offer prayer?
10 HONORARY CHAPLAIN SCOTT: Let us pray. Our
11 Father God, we pray that you will give wisdom and
12 understanding to these newly installed Department of
13 California officers. Guide them through the year as they
14 work their programs for our veterans and for our
15 communities. Bless each in her own program and see us all
16 through the year and help us to perform faithfully for God
17 and country. Amen.
18 ALL MEMBERS: Amen.
19 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Will Past Department
20 President Linda Fercho please escort our Junior Past
21 Department President Wendy O'Brien to the podium. Past
22 Department President Fercho will present her with her
23 charge, pin, and ribbon. Deep breath.
24 (Applause.)
25 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Wendy, you
26 have come to the close of your year as president of the
27 Department of California American Legion Auxiliary. Your
28 theme, "Serving Veterans From Sea to Shining Sea" inspired
29 a great year for our department. It's been a tremendous
30 experience for you and you can be very proud of what has
31 been accomplished under your leadership.
32 As you retire from this office, be assured that
33 you take with you the love and respect of all our members.
34 We thank you for your taking time out of your busy life to
35 serve as our president. May you have many, many happy
36 memories of your year as Department President.
37 Congratulations on a job well done.
38 (Applause.)
39 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: You all may be
40 seated. Thank you. You may be seated. Department
41 President Loretta, will you please join me at the podium.
42 Madam Department President Loretta, I present you
43 with your gavel, your symbol of authority. May you use
44 this with discretion and always in the best interests of
45 this department.
46 Madam Department President Loretta, may I be the
47 first to congratulate you and wish for you a successful
48 year of heroic deeds and accomplishments to further our
49 service to our veterans. I am so very proud of you.
50 My fellow members, I present to you our

1 Department President Loretta Marsh.

2 (Applause.)

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: Is this
4 because you're afraid I'm going to be a little too hard on
5 Harold with it?

6 Friends, how do I begin to say thank you from the
7 depths that I feel it now. To all the people that have
8 lifted me up and supported me on this journey, thank you
9 so much. My unit, my district, and all my friends I have
10 worked with over the years with working with the
11 department have absolutely been wonderful.

12 Unlike some people that may have dreamed of
13 attaining a position of Department President, it was never
14 really on my radar until the day that Harriet called me
15 and asked if I would take the Children & Youth
16 chairmanship. And when she asked me if I understood the
17 impact of what she was asking, I said yes. But, Harriet,
18 I lied. The true impact of the progression to this point
19 still doesn't really seem a reality. My goal and
20 dedication has always been to just work hard, do my best
21 at the job I've been given, whatever task I've been given,
22 and hope the Auxiliary succeeded a little more from my
23 efforts. And now that I'm here it's still my goal to work
24 hard and to do the very best I can to make this a
25 productive and fun year for you.

26 Trust me, I will make mistakes. After all I've
27 never done this before, but hopefully they will be fairly
28 harmless ones. I have chosen the theme of superheros this
29 year as you will all truly be superheros serving your
30 veterans.

31 As you have heard I'm sure by now, there are
32 copyright issues involved in using these characters, so
33 I've chosen to do spoofs on the real comic characters.
34 That may turn out to be even more fun because you can have
35 more leeway and branch out a little more with your
36 imagination. And since mascots are fun, cute, and
37 playful, each superhero will have a mascot to motivate
38 your theme with. So just plain have fun with it.

39 Our motto is, "Real Heros Wear Dog Tags, Not
40 Capes." My special project is one which the seeds were
41 planted when I was on the VA tour with President Susie.
42 We were privileged to visit the service dog training unit
43 located in the Palo Alto Healthcare facility in Menlo Park
44 known as Paws for Purple Hearts. I immediately fell in
45 love with the dogs and was so impressed with the program.
46 And I've always been deeply concerned and wondered what I
47 personally could do to help severe PTSD patients and
48 prevent suicide among our veterans. It's a great
49 heartbreaking concern.

50 So the two seemed a perfect combination. The

1 dogs are used as therapy during their training with
2 veterans undergoing emotional and physical health with
3 PTSD and battle wounds. The veterans are trained under
4 the close guidance of expert dog handlers to work with the
5 dogs until the dog is placed with the veteran as his
6 full-time service companion. The dogs are even named
7 after the veterans in the program and provided free of
8 cost to the veteran. Golden Retrievers and Labrador dogs
9 are used, so what's not to love about that. I have Golden
10 Retrievers. And when I found out that they were even
11 trained to do laundry, I wanted one for myself.

12 I will be sharing more about this program as the
13 year goes on, but I hope to save some veteran's life by
14 providing one of these dogs.

15 Right now I would like to introduce to you some
16 very special people that are here today. My son-in-law
17 Mike and my daughter Melanie. Stand up.

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: Melanie -- if
20 you remember those little purses I gave out last year,
21 Melanie was responsible for making every one of those.
22 And this year she made your little superhero hand
23 sanitizers for you. So thank you, Melanie.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: And my other
26 daughter Tammy Bort and Glen Bort, her husband.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: Tammy is
29 equally talented, but she's smart enough to live further
30 away from me where I can't get ahold of her. Thank you
31 very much. It means so much to me that you're here today.
32 Thank you.

33 (Applause.)

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: And there's
35 one more person. Well, actually there's a lot of people.
36 Unit 56 stands behind me 100 percent. Would everybody
37 here from Unit 56 please stand so we can thank you. Thank
38 you so much for having my back.

39 (Applause.)

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: And District
41 16, would you please rise?

42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: They're just
44 immeasurable help for me and I just can't describe the
45 camaraderie and the love they give me.

46 It seemed like there was one more person. Oh,
47 yes, the one that does 75 percent of my work, my husband
48 of 55 years, Harold Marsh.

49 (Applause.)

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: Thank you.

1 Harold is a World War II and Korean veteran and his
2 service has never ended. He's the most willing,
3 considerate worker helper, but he's mine so don't -- don't
4 give him too many chores. Thank you, Harold.

5 Again, thank you all. I am humbled and honored
6 by the trust and faith you have placed in me by making me
7 the Department President for 2017 and 2018. And hopefully
8 you won't be saying in a few months: Oh, my gosh, what
9 did we do? Thank you so much.

10 (Applause.)

11 PDG FERCHO: Madam President, may I please come
12 to the podium?

13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: Yes, you may.

14 PDG FERCHO: My congratulations to you and
15 especially to this guy behind me here. Harold, can you
16 please stand? We need to get closer to the Mike. I'm the
17 Junior Past Department Gopher, so I got selected to do
18 this which I'm very proud to do. Being part of the 16th
19 District it's indeed an honor to welcome Harold into our
20 club.

21 Can I please have my Past Department Gophers,
22 will you please stand? And Bob is back there.

23 (Applause.)

24 PDG FERCHO: I've got Peter and I got Thomas and
25 R.T. R.T. is back there. That's great. Thank you. This
26 will accompany you wherever you go. If not we will notice
27 and we can find you. You -- I had a pouch and stuff that
28 he really fit in good. I don't know where the pouch went.

29 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: It's right
30 there.

31 PDG FERCHO: The jewels. If you would please
32 take possession of this. And to my understanding being
33 Navy aviation, I think we can go find a Build-A-Bear and
34 get a set of aviation coveralls or something that you may
35 dress him in. You're in now. There's no going back. Is
36 this the same one as -- see how quick you forget on how it
37 operates. Okay. You can figure it out. Congratulations,
38 Harold, and welcome to the club.

39 (Applause.)

40 PDG FERCHO: I am presenting a PDG badge to Wendy
41 to give to her husband. He's -- well, it's fine.

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

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: You don't
45 know, but this little guy is in trouble because Harold
46 spends his days trapping gophers.

47 PDG FERCHO: Don't use him for bait.

48 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Okay. At this time
49 President Loretta is going to be making a gift or
50 presenting a gift to her District Presidents.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: I was quite
2 frugal with gift bags.
3 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: All right. District
4 1 President Pat Lindley. District 2 President Pat Carey.
5 If you're here go down and see Loretta. She has a gift
6 for you. District 3 Lola Ramey. District 4 Jean Edson.
7 District 5 Sandy Paxton. I know she's not here. District
8 6 Glenda Schultz. District 7 Joanne Shope. Shope. My
9 apologies. She's not here. District 8 Tammy Manini.
10 Okay. District 9 Dolly Rios.
11 (Applause.)
12 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 10 Elizabeth
13 Parshal. District 11 Tony Domdon. Thank you. District
14 12 Lisa Stewart.
15 (Applause.)
16 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 13 CeCe
17 Harvey.
18 (Applause.)
19 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 14 Gloria
20 Sinopoli. I know she's on her way to Girls State.
21 District 15 Zana Chaney. I know she's on her way to Girls
22 State. District 16 Stephanie Reid.
23 (Applause.)
24 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 17 Yoko
25 Parsons-Crooks.
26 (Applause.)
27 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 18 Betty
28 Ramos. Ramos. Thank you very much. District 19 Becky
29 Bullard.
30 (Applause.)
31 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 20 Nancy
32 Heinisch.
33 (Applause.)
34 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 21 Cathy
35 McCoy.
36 (Applause.)
37 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 22 Maureen
38 Giacalone. District 23 Valerie Hill.
39 (Applause.)
40 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 24 Deloris
41 Artis. District 25 Patricia Galatioto.
42 (Applause.)
43 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 26 Louann
44 Johnston.
45 (Applause.)
46 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 27 Norma
47 Billings.
48 (Applause.)
49 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 28 Robin
50 Falkenberg.

1 (Applause.)
2 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: District 29 Carol
3 Borgman.
4 (Applause.)
5 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: And District 30 Kim
6 Vincent.
7 (Applause.)
8 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Are there any
9 presentations at this time for Loretta or for Wendy to be
10 made?
11 UNIT 56 MEMBER: We're going to give you the box.
12 It's going to take a minute. Here's a pair of scissors.
13 Two years ago when I heard Loretta was going to become
14 president, I thought how I want to do something. And the
15 president at the time had the project using the acronym of
16 C.R.A.F.T.S. and I thought, okay, I'll do a craft. And I
17 looked at doing the -- it's going to take some work. I
18 looked at doing lap robes and I thought I don't knit or
19 crochet. It's not going to let me see what I want to. So
20 then there was the lap robe and I thought, well, let's do
21 something where we can see the American Legion Auxiliary
22 emblem and the colors associated with it as well as that
23 for a poppy and that for the American flag. And so I put
24 it together in a very small little lap robe. And around
25 the edges you will see signatures by those of us within
26 Unit 56.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: It's all
29 autographed.
30 UNIT 56 MEMBER: Yes, it is.
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: Gorgeous.
32 Thank you.
33 UNIT 56 MEMBER: You're welcome. And we have
34 this so you will have a place to store it as well.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: It's a lot of
36 hard work. A photo album.
37 (Applause.)
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: A lot of hard
39 work went into that. Thank you.
40 (Applause.)
41 INSTALLING OFFICER TAYLOR: Are there any further
42 presentations to be made?
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ELECT MARSH: At this time I
44 will return the giant gavel to the Junior Past Department
45 President to close her convention.
46 (Applause.)
47 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
48 You wait until you get here. Before I proceed with the
49 closing of this convention, please allow me to say a few
50 words. First off, I'd like to congratulate everyone that

1 was -- that did this year. I know that you will do an
2 outstanding job to continue serving our veterans from sea
3 to shining sea. So congratulations. I hope you all have
4 had a fabulous year as I have.

5 It's a very funny feeling, you know. It was like
6 my feet are killing me, telling me it is done. Girl, you
7 are done. It has been such an extraordinary -- it's been
8 an extraordinary year for me. There's so many people to
9 thank. I want to thank my unit, 521, and my district,
10 District 6, for being there every step of the way.
11 They -- they stepped up and did so much for me, and I
12 thank them more than they can ever imagine.

13 (Applause.)

14 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I love you
15 all very, very much.

16 As most of you know, my husband was -- I don't
17 know if it's because I'm hoarse or because I'm a bawl
18 baby, but my husband was very, very ill this year so he
19 was unable to step up and be the gopher for me. And I had
20 two extraordinary people take that for him. I would like
21 to thank so much Ann Sanchez and her husband, my paparazzi
22 Henry Sanchez. Thank you so much.

23 (Applause.)

24 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah,
25 that's her. That's her over there.

26 To the Past Department Presidents, what would I
27 do without you? Some of you I definitely have on speed
28 dial. Some of you wish I would forget your number
29 altogether, but I thank you all so much for keeping this
30 boat floating instead of sinking.

31 Ruby, without you, I don't know. I'm such a bad
32 crier too. I don't know that I would have been able to
33 make this year. Your phone calls, your emails, this
34 "Where in the hell is it?" You're an extraordinary lady
35 and I thank you so much and your husband for everything
36 that you've done for me this year.

37 (Applause.)

38 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: God bless
39 you both very, very much.

40 Linda Workman who has kept me in line for all my
41 dignitaries because that kind of stuff, I just -- I don't
42 know. I just -- just sit down people. Just sit down.
43 But thank you so much for keeping us lined in the right
44 direction that represents this organization the way that
45 we know we should be represented.

46 To all the members, what you do and have done for
47 this organization this year is -- you should be commended.
48 You are outstanding women and what you do for our veterans
49 in this country is immeasurable. And I hope each and
50 every one of you knows that what you do is counted, it is

1 important, and it is so much appreciated by each and every
2 one of those veterans. And I know that.

3 So I'll quit this bawling. I would like to stay
4 with the closing of this convention, take my little gavel
5 home with me. "Serving Veterans From Sea to Shining Sea"
6 has been outstanding. As your Department President I will
7 treasure those moments.

8 If there's no further business to come before
9 this convention, could I have Chaplain Sharon Moore, my
10 Beacon of Light, please come say a prayer.

11 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Heavenly
12 Father, thank you once again for our President Wendy
13 O'Brien who did a wonderful job this year. I ask for
14 traveling graces so that we make it home safely and when
15 we arrive our homes will be as we left them. I ask for
16 prayer and continued prayer for our veterans that continue
17 to serve our country and protect us as well as our
18 veterans who have paved the way.

19 Also a special prayer for Past Department
20 President Margaret Quinones and her family, as well as
21 representative Arlene Gallagher who we lost during this
22 convention. I pray for their families and that you will
23 continue to protect them keep them in your loving arms.
24 Once again thank you, Dear Lord, for this convention.
25 Amen.

26 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

27
28 ADJOURNMENT OF 2016-2017 CONVENTION

29
30 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Until we
31 meet again, let us remember that our obligation to our
32 country can only be fulfilled by the faithful performance
33 of all duties to citizenship. With service to the
34 community, state, and nation be ever the main objective of
35 the American Legion Auxiliary and its members. Let us
36 ever be watchful of our organization and ourselves, that
37 nothing may swerve us from the path of justice, freedom,
38 democracy, and loyalty.

39 The color bearers will retire the colors for
40 District 6 and Haggin-Grant Unit 521. My Sergeant-at-Arms
41 and Marshal with the Distinguished Guest Chairman will
42 retire this Junior Past Department President, and when I
43 reach the back of the room, this 98th Convention of the
44 American Legion Auxiliary Department of California will be
45 adjourned.

46 (Processional.)

47 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention
48 was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.)
49
50

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2) ss.
3 COUNTY OF STANISLAUS)
4

5 I, Karen A. Aufdermaur, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate
7 Number 10919, do hereby certify that the American Legion
8 Auxiliary - Department of California 98th Annual
9 Convention was taken Sunday, June 25, 2017, at the time
10 and place set forth on the first page hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the meeting, the words of
12 the American Legion Auxiliary - Department of California
13 96th Annual Convention members were written down by me in
14 stenotypy and thereafter transcribed by computer under my
15 supervision; that the foregoing is a true and correct
16 transcript of the oratory given by the American Legion
17 Auxiliary - Department of California 98th Annual
18 Convention members.

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

22 Dated this 6th day of July, 2017, at Modesto,
23 California.

24 Karen A. Aufdermaur, CSR No. 10919_
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