



THE NOISETTE

NOVEMBER 2023

From the Desk of Madam President

DIANA LIVAS



As we move into the holidays season, it's important we remember our Veterans. Those who might need some extra love and care during the season. "R.E.D.," Remember Everyone Deployed, so put on your red shirt and wear it with pride. Thank you to ALA Unit 411 who showed their support for RED Friday.



By now most Units have reviewed or are reviewing plans for your annual holiday parties. Camp Pendleton is asking for toys for our active military children. If your Unit is interested in donating unwrapped toys, please reach out to the District, we will be glad to deliver.

Ladies, please remember to do your buddy checks, many of our older veterans are home alone, and holidays are a lonely time for them. Invite your members to your social events and if possible, deliver a hot meal during this holiday season. Bring some warmth to those who gave us so much. If your Unit is having a food drive, please send your event to our Noisette Editor so she can post it on our Facebook page. Trying to get the word out for our Veterans so they can benefit from all our efforts this holiday season. Remember Veterans Day, November 11th.

Unit Presidents, as you are aware our Mid-Year reports are due by the 15th of November. We still have a few DCV's to complete and we have some Units that need to complete the 990N, 199N and RRF1/CTTR1. I understand if your unit is refiling the past due taxes to bring your unit up to date, please send me via email an update on your Unit's status. I will be reaching out to those who have not completed the required tax filings so both the District and Department are up to date.

Happy Thanksgiving.

ALA Unit 272 has a beautiful Veteran History display, if you have a chance, check it out. Great job ladies!



**NOVEMBER IS
MEMBERSHIP MONTH**

**DISTRICT 19 MEETING
NOVEMBER 15
7:00 PM
NORWALK POST #359**



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT DEBBIE BUTLER

Hope you can make the meeting Wednesday November 15 at 7:00 pm. All are invited and I recommend at least one person per unit come to support and learn about the Auxiliary. Your voice is important.

Mid-year reports are Due to district and a copy to your Unit President by November 15. Help your President because she/he becomes responsible to complete all reports if a chair is vacant. Each Unit obviously needs a President plus Secretary, Treasurer, and Chaplin. Does your Unit? If not, step up and help!!!

Did everyone send in your poppy seal order (not poppy that's different). If not order at least \$5.00 worth, due last month. Also, your poppy order was due and should have been submitted by October 1. Isabel Gallardo is Poppy Chair for District 19. Please send me a copy.

It seems many people do not know who or what the ALA is or our duties. We are a stand-alone 501c(19) Military organization that supports TAL. We are the only military organization under Congress. We are a volunteer organization. I recommend you read Unit Handbooks available on Calegionaux.org or purchase from Emblem sales. It will give you a good amount of information.

I would like to hear more people acknowledge what others do for the Unit, Legion, Veterans and Active Duty. People who are officers or long-time members rarely tell people they have done a nice job, or appreciate others' work, but volunteers would like to be appreciated. In addition, if you accidentally accuse someone of something and find out they had nothing to do with your accusations, apologize.

If you have friends coming to the Legion often and not a member, be sure they "sign the guest book." The Legion is a private organization. More importantly they can join under a family member, if so, they should join the Auxiliary, Legion or SAL to support the AL family. Membership supports the American Legion family.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. Give thanks to all our Veterans and Active Duty.

AMERICANISM LINDA DIEBEL

The Department Americanism Chairperson, Cindy Rogers, has asked that each Unit handout the "Star Spangled Kids" kits at your local elementary schools or city parks. Each kit should include the following items:

1. "The Pledge of Allegiance" comic book
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales (item # 755.802 cost is \$6.90 for 100)

2. "Our Country's Flag" comic book
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales (item # 755.300 cost \$6.90 for 100)
3. Stick Flags
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales (item # 100.220G cost is \$31.95 for 144)
4. "Declaration of Independence/Constitution of the United States" pamphlet (item # 755.206 \$5.00 for 100)
5. USA Flag Key Chain
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales (not available)
 - b. Oriental Trading Co. (item # 19/10 cost \$14.99 for 144)
6. USA Flag Key Pin
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales (item # 815.613 cost \$1.95 each)
7. Patriotic Stickers
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales 14 stickers per sheet (item # 750.141 cost \$0.25 per sheet)
8. American Legion Auxiliary Coloring Book
 - a. Available from Emblem Sales (item # 355.302 cost \$12.50 for 50)

Also included in the information sent by Cindy were the following items. I have made copies of these and will be available at the next District meeting. They are also available on the Department website if you do not come to the meeting.

1. Instruction of how to promote the "STAR SPANKLED KIDS" Program
2. Information of the Americanism Essay Contest
3. The Mid-year Unit Americanism Report form

Please remember that the Mid-year Americanism Report is due to me by December 1, 2023. My address is 5432 Fertile Street, Lynwood, CA 90262-5511. Email address – lkdiebel1@gmail.com

I wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving Day enjoying family and friends. Say an extra prayer of good will and safety for our men and women facing dangers during this period of unrest in the world.

For God and Country

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND DIANE AGUAYO

If you find yourself in a financial crisis or need help paying for shelter and utilities, funds are available to help. You will need to first start with your Unit, fill out the forms. Remember you are not alone.



Please provide your hours and donations for the mid-year reports.

CHAPLAN DAWN BROWN

Dear District 19, once again it is the fall time of year. Unit 496 Sally Brayton's granddaughter is in the hospital. Lonnie Taylor has been ill. Unit 341 Bernice Cegarra was hospitalized for a week and requires surgery. Vickie Crow District 21 passed on October 18, 2023. Anita Biggs son-in-law Milton Staton passed on October 20, 2023. Her daughter is in the hospital. My husband Johnny Brown still has double vision. Please if you know of anyone who is ill or has passed, I can be reached at dawnbrown430@gmail.com or (310) 531-4447. May God Bless you all and keep you safe. Amen.

CHILDREN & YOUTH BECKY BULLARD

The time of the year that is sometimes the hardest for families, making sure there is food on the table, a roof over your head and clothing to wear comes first. If you know a family in need, especially with children, food boxes are a blessing at this time, make sure you put something a little extra they may not get often in there and see how many smiles you get. We are doing many toy drives this year at various Posts. Please try and donate to at least one, they will be most grateful.

We will be taking any that comes in to Post 359 down to Camp Pendleton at the end of November or the first of December at the latest.

Remember put your phones down (unless you live too far and are only able to talk to them that way) and talk to your children and grandchildren, you may learn things you never knew, and may be able to assist with problems they have if they think you are concerned enough to ask. You will be surprised, I guarantee you. A little time and Love go a long way.

Check with your Cities and see if you have children's projects you can get involved in, Norwalk has the Angel Tree project through their Social Services Department, you might find your city has things too. All can make a difference in a child's life.

Happy Veteran's Day and Have a Happy Thanksgiving with your families.



COMMUNITY SERVICE NORA RAMIREZ

Are you tracking your volunteer hours? Mid-year reports are due.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS C.J. REYES

Happy Thanksgiving to all. Take a moment and look around and see what a great country we live in. You should have reviewed your Bylaws and made any changes needed. Do not forget to send a mid-year report! Due NOW!!!

DISTINGUISHED GUEST BECKY BULLARD

Members, the Holidays are upon us, and you may have guests coming to visit your Units because of this. Remember you are the first person they should be greeted by.

Also, you may have people coming that you do not particularly care for but on this day, you put aside everything and treat them as they should be. A smile on your face and making sure they are comfortable and meeting the people they are supposed to, like your Unit President, make sure they have everything to make them feel at home in your Post and with your Unit. Members, it's a matter of respect whether you do or not it does not matter, THEY ARE A GUEST and should be treated as such by you. Remember you may want the same courtesy shown to you someday when they are guest chairperson. Have a wonderful Veteran's Day celebrating with all our Honored Veteran's and a Happy Thanksgiving with your families.

EDUCATION GAYLE STEWART

It is time to start checking on Scholarships the Auxiliary offers. The National scholarships were updated in October. There are many scholarships available that are listed on the Education page on the national website: <https://www.legion-aux.org/scholarships>.

The National Children of Warriors President's Scholarship rules and application has been updated and can be found on the National website. Three \$5,000 scholarships are awarded to the Western Division applicants.

The Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship has also been updated and posted on the National website. There will be two \$2,500 scholarships awarded in the Western Division.

The Spirit of Youth and Non-Traditional Student scholarship applications and rules will be updated and



posted on the National website soon. The Spirit of Youth Scholarship previously awarded scholarships per division. This year they will be awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to each department.

The Education Program provides up to \$13,500 in scholarships each year. This money is raised entirely from Unit and District donations. To meet this goal, there is a challenge:

1. Each Unit that donates a minimum of \$50 to Education will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.
2. Each District receiving 100% of their units donating \$50 will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

Education Week. American Education Week is always the week before Thanksgiving. This year it is the week of November 13 through 17. There are steps for organizing "veterans in the classroom" activities on the National website for your information and to give you some great ideas. Sorry this information is so late as it was just posted in the November bulletin.

Mid-Year Reports are due to me by December 1st. I would love to see every unit send me their report! Email: stewnred@aol.com.

GIRLS STATE BECKY BULLARD

This is the time of the year to start notifying schools so they can get the information out to the Junior Girls for our Girls State Program.

Looks like right now it will be from June 25th through June 30th and the cost per girl will be \$425.00 plus the \$75 registration and the transportation cost. The last 2 years it has been \$150 for our girls, not sure if it will remain the same but it's a good start. Since we are increasing the number of young ladies that are attending each year, we have a bigger facility now. When I find out more, I will let you know.

Have a wonderful Veteran's Day and a Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

HISTORIAN DEE DEE BRICE

Happy thanksgiving to all, please remember to document your events with pictures. Have something you want posted on our Facebook page, please send it to our public relations chairperson, she will post so we can all enjoy your events.



JUNIORS BECKY BULLARD

I am in the process of finding out where and when the Junior Conference will be held and the dates it will be held on for you. If you look at the reservation form, it is still all for last year and I am hoping to have some clarification for you by the meeting, so if you have young ladies that might like to go, they will know then.

Thank you for the reports I have received already.

Projects for giving cards to our Veteran's at this time of the year can bring a never-ending smile to their faces especially from a child. Things you treasure in your life can be small to you but big to them.

Hug a Vet for Veteran's Day and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

LEADERSHIP LINDA FARISS

Thank you to all that attended the Forms Workshop held on October 21, 2023. Special thanks to Melissa as our Sgt.-at-Arms, Debbie Butler for the yummy donuts and Linda Diebel for serving coffee. If you were unable to attend, I will have some paperwork at the District meeting.

LEGISLATIVE C.J. REYES

Don't forget your mid-year report. Let me know if you are getting e-news and if you have subscribed to the Dispatch. It is an informative piece to let you know what issues are important to our veterans.

This is where to go and subscribe to specific newsletters: <https://www.legion.org/newsletters>

MEMBERSHIP ISABEL GALLARDO

A warm welcome and lots of good wishes on being part of the American Legion Auxiliary, our membership is an important part of what keeps us growing, we are all here because we believe in who we are and our purpose to assist all veteran and their families United as One, thank you for your hard work getting your membership in on time as you know the Mother lode deadline on **November 13th** (aka Early bird citation) units who equal their membership at close of books. Post marked date of November 13, 2023 and verified by ALAMIS.

Our next goal is **The Gold Rush** (Ethel Flynn Award) a citation will be awarded to the UNIT with greatest numerical gain over goal at the close of the books on May 6, 2024.



Also available is the **Josie Melgard Award**, a special lapel pin, presented to each Unit President whose Unit attains the membership goal plus two membership or before the close of books May 6, 2024.

Edward Elks Memorial Award (formerly The Colleen award, Marjorie McDonald) Citation plus \$100.00 to be used to promote the program of education. The rules for this can be found in the DEPARTMENT CODE under Membership.

Good luck to all our units with the completion of all the goals listed above, hope to see you at our next District meeting.

Wishing you all Hope, Peace, Good Health, Flavor, and Love on Thanksgiving Day and always.

Unit Membership Goals

| Unit | Paid to Date | Goal | Percent |
|---------------------|--------------|------|---------|
| 170 Bert Crossland | 3 | 33 | 9.09% |
| 184 South Bay | 60 | 150 | 39.70% |
| 272 Montebello | 35 | 141 | 24.82% |
| 314 Hawthorne | 19 | 71 | 26.75% |
| 341 Leland A Cupp | 15 | 55 | 25.4% |
| 359 Norwalk | 45 | 142 | 31.69% |
| 411 Rivera | 23 | 55 | 38.11% |
| 465 Clyde F Hagar | 1 | 12 | 8.33% |
| 496 Lakewood | 153 | 250 | 61.20% |
| 729 Hollydale | 4 | 25 | 1.25% |
| 833 Lincoln Village | 20 | 25 | 76.92% |

**NATIONAL SECURITY
DIANA LIVAS**

First, I want to wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving. May your time with family and friends be blessed. Remember our Veterans and active military serving overseas. Children of active military will fall under national security, so if your Unit is planning to give toys to Camp Pendleton, remember to add this to your reports.

Members, I want to remind everyone your Mid-Year reports are due, please be sure to get them into the District by November 15th.

Don't forget to wear RED on Fridays to show your support for our active military.

For God and Country

**PARLIAMENTARIAN
C.J. REYES**

Thanksgiving is a time of reflection. Remember change is good if it has a good reason for it. Keep an open mind and be sure to follow your rules.

**PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLAY
LINDA FARISS**

Good time had by all last month. We will meet on November 28th, at 6:00 pm at Tony Roma's for Ribs in the Carson Mall, Carson, CA. Call me so I can make reservations for enough of us. Linda, 310-245-3041.

**POPPY
ISABEL GALLARDO**

Greetings to all of you. Poppy orders should have been sent, the deadline was 10/30/23. As soon as I receive any news of when the poppies will arrive, I'll send you an email with the information to you. Thanksgiving is in a couple of days, I am sending you all wishes for a Happy day filled with Love, Hope, and Health.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS
LORRIE LEWELLYAN**

The posts and auxiliary units are actively busy with events and activities. Support other posts when you can, peruse the District's Facebook page to keep informed.

A mid-year report is due by the end of the month. Scanning your document to a PDF is pretty easy. Adobe offers a free scanning software you can use on your phone or tablet by sharing a copy. Download from Apple or Google Play: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/adobe-scan-pdf-ocr-scanner/id1199564834> OR https://play.google.com/store/search?q=free%20adobe%20scan&c=apps&hl=en_US&gl=US

**VA&R
DEBBIE BUTLER**

Good Day to All,

Mid-year reports due by November 15 to me at Dbutler49@verizon.net. Every unit I know has done at least one thing for a Veteran.

I'm so glad to see pictures of events you are doing for Veterans and families.

I'd like to remind you that any money in your line budget for VA&R can only be spent on VA&R, Veterans, and family members. You can refer to the VA&R program on <https://calegionaux.org/>.



Per National:

Purpose and use of VA&R Funds

The VA&R Fund in the Unit, Department, and National organizations must be used for this work only and should be kept in a separate fund. Since the public has usually contributed generously to this fund because of the nature of its use, we are obligated to keep faith with the public in the expenditure of this money. The special National VA&R Fund is made up from annual contributions of fifteen cents per Senior member. A part of this fund is donated to The American Legion to assist in the work of The American Legion's National VA&R Commission in Washington, D.C. and the balance is used as VA&R and Children and Youth budgets of the American Legion Auxiliary.

All funds and donations received for programs are to be used for that program.

LBVA will be sending out a list of families and some Veterans who need assistance submitted by the social workers for holiday adopt a family. Please participate when you receive.

If you'd like to donate grocery gift cards for Thanksgiving, please take to **Volunteer Services**.

Blind Unit and **SCI** (spinal cord) are open for bingo. Call LBVA and ask for the section and Rec Therapist to set up.

Villages of Cabrillo accept lightly used clean clothes, shoes, dishes, small appliances, dish ware, etc. You can take Monday-Thursday 8:30 to noon at Violas.

In addition, remember **Gold Star Manor** on the west side of Long Beach has approximately 240 Veterans. They love bingo and prizes. Contact person: Denice Mounce at dmounce@goldstarmanor.org or phone (562) 426-7651, ext. 1007.

Please remember the funds we receive are not for personal dinners of unit, parties, bands etc. If you want lunches and dinners with your Unit that's personal money not ALA funds. If you are not sure, contact the District or refer to the ALA Handbook or National guidelines. We are a 501c(19) non-profit, protect your organization and Unit. Thank you for all your hard work.

DATES TO CALENDAR

11/13 Membership Early Bird is due

Check your Post, ongoing toy drives

Every **Sunday** morning, breakfast at **Post 359**

Every **Friday** evening, dinner & music at **Post 496**

DEPARTMENT COURTESY VISIT
February 7, 2024 at Post 496

POST 359 TOY DRIVE REMINDER

ARMED SERVICES YMCA CAMP PENDLETON 2023 SANTA'S WORKSHOP
Because every military child deserves a magical holiday.

The Armed Services YMCA Camp Pendleton Santa's Workshop is a three-day event where active-duty military families shop for donated children's toys. Parents typically pick out 3-4 gifts per child, and have access to stocking stuffers, wrapping paper, commissary gift cards, holiday food, bikes, and more!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Organizations and individuals can purchase gifts and drop them off at our office anytime between October 1st - December 8th, M-F, 9:00am-4:00pm.
- Physical Address: 200090 Ash Rd, Wild Mountain Rd, Decumbro, CA 92028 (please call 760.382.4921 if you do not have base access.)
- Please do not wrap the items that you donate.
- If you would like to claim the donated gifts on your 2023 taxes, please request an in-kind donation form.
- If you prefer a contact-free option, you may purchase items off of the following wish lists (gifts will be delivered directly to the ASYMCA).

TARGET (preferred) **WALMART**

ALL GIFTS MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE ASYMCA BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH. THANK YOU!

ARMED SERVICES YMCA CAMP PENDLETON
Mailing Address: Box 333226, Camp Pendleton, CA 92035
Phone: 760.382.4921
Website: www.asymca.org/camppendleton



South Bay Unit 184 Received Compton Stand Down Appreciation Award

Happy Thanksgiving



DISTRICT 19 LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICERS

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----|
| President | Diana Livas | 323-893-0732 | ddivas@att.net | 411 |
| 1 st Vice President | Isabel Gallardo | 562-794-3574 | amistad4113@gmail.com | 411 |
| 2 nd Vice President | Debbie Butler | 213-200-0477 | dbutler49@verizon.com | 496 |
| Secretary | Linda Fariss | 310-245-3041 | lindafariss@yahoo.com | 170 |
| Treasurer | Carolina Vazquez | 323-500-3063 | carolv3313@gmail.com | 411 |

CHAIRPERSON

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Americanism | Linda Diebel | 310-293-8257 | lkdiebel1@gmail.com | 359 |
| Auxiliary Emergency Fund | Diane Aguayo | 323-694-1510 | 59broncos@gmail.com | 411 |
| Chaplain | Dawn Brown | 310-531-4447 | dawnbrown430@gmail.com | 314 |
| Children & Youth | Becky Bullard | 562-325-9638 | dragon.lady9@verizon.net | 359 |
| Community Service | Nora Ramirez | 626-786-8224 | nvrjuly17@gmail.com | 723 |
| Constitution & Bylaws | C.J. Reyes | 562-972-1443 | cjr272@gmail.com | 496 |
| Distinguished Guest | Becky Bullard | 562-325-9638 | dragon.lady9@verizon.net | 359 |
| Education | Gayle Stewart | 562-634-3929 | stewred@aol.com | 496 |
| Girls State | Becky Bullard | 562-325-9638 | dragon.lady9@verizon.net | 359 |
| Historian | Dee Dee Brice | 626-629-9406 | maribrice998@gmail.com | 411 |
| Junior Activities | Becky Bullard | 562-325-9638 | dragon.lady9@verizon.net | 359 |
| Leadership | Linda Fariss | 310-245-3041 | lindafariss@yahoo.com | 170 |
| Legislative | C.J. Reyes | 562-972-1443 | cjr272@gmail.com | 496 |
| Membership | Isabel Gallardo | 562-794-3574 | amistad4113@gmail.com | 411 |
| Music | Gail Diebel | 562-319-3644 | chefgail@verizon.net | 723 |
| National Security | Diana Livas | 323-893-0732 | ddivas@att.net | 411 |
| Parliamentarian | C.J. Reyes | 562-972-1443 | cjr272@gmail.com | 496 |
| Past Presidents Parley | Linda Fariss | 310-245-3041 | lindafariss@yahoo.com | 170 |
| Poppy | Isabel Gallardo | 562-794-3574 | amistad4113@gmail.com | 411 |
| Public Relations | Lorrie Lewellyan | 562-201-5753 | lorraya@gmail.com | 341 |
| Resolutions | C.J. Reyes | 562-972-1443 | cjr272@gmail.com | 496 |
| Sergeant At Arms | Melissa Romo Braicov | 562-556-3948 | mmbraicov@live.com | 359 |
| Asst. Sgt. At Arms | Crystal Romo Reyes | 562-746-4351 | romo90650@yahoo.com | 359 |
| VA&R | Debbie Butler | 213-200-0477 | dbutler49@verizon.net | 496 |

ADVISORY BOARD

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Becky Bullard | 562-325-9638 |
| Linda Diebel | 310-293-8257 |
| Linda Fariss | 310-245-3041 |

AUDIT COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Diane Aguayo | 323-694-1510 |
| Carol Reyes | 562-972-1443 |
| Judy Zarate | 562-900-6663 |

BUDGET COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Debbie Butler | 213-200-0477 |
| Isabel Gallardo | 562-794-3574 |
| Carolina Vazquez | 323-500-3063 |