



THE NOISETTE

APRIL 2024

From the Desk of Madam President

DIANA LIVAS

As we move into the final few months of this year, I would like to remind you reports are due now. With all the great work your unit has done this year, don't let it go unnoticed, be recognized for all you and your Unit has accomplished.

If you need help, please reach out to District, we are here to help you.

As nominations begin for next year, I wish each one much success. If you are nominated, please consider how people see you, they believe you can mentor and help your unit grow. Don't say no, give yourself a chance to learn what we are all about. Know what you're getting into, many times we take a position and don't read up on the responsibilities for that position. Rules are in place to help us deliver the right message to our Units.

Unit End of Year reports are due to District by April 12, 2024, District End of Year reports due to Department Chairperson by May 1st, 2024.

Planning on attending the Convention, please reach out to me.

For God and Country

April is CHILDREN & YOUTH Month



PURPLE UP!
for military kids

DISTRICT MEETING
APRIL 17
7:00 PM
POST 359



**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
DEBBIE BUTLER**

Hello Everyone,

Just in case you don't know, LBVA is having its annual Veterans Creative Arts exhibition August 9th, 11 am to 2 pm. If you would like to donate dollars to support, contact: Elizabeth Greco at Elizabeth.greco@va.gov or Vineece Florabe-Whitner at Vineeceflorabe.whitener@va.gov.

Have you checked out <https://calegionaux.org/>? The Department website has a lot of information you need for a good working Unit.

United Development & Revitalization (UD&R) is on a roll and helping many units with much needed constructive information. You do not have to like everyone, but we need to work together for the good of the organization.

Year-End reports are due April 12th to District Chair and a copy to your District President. You can find the report form on <https://calegionaux.org/>.

I'm thinking of having a breakfast fundraiser for VA&R and General Fund. More to follow after elections. In April, start finding good people for officers and chair positions. Pick people who are dedicated to the position and ALA.

Please come to District meetings once in a while.

**AMERICANISM
LINDA DIEBEL**

It is almost the end of the year, and it is time to complete your year-end reports. I hope everyone has a copy of the year-end report form for the Americanism program. If not, please go onto the Department website (calegionaux.org), then select "Programs – Americanism - Year-end forms - <https://calegionaux.org/programs/americanism>. Once you locate the form you can save it on your computer and complete the form. Once you have completed the form and write a supplemental report, you can send it to me via e-mail at lkdiebel1@gmail.com or you can mail it to me at 5432 Fertile Street, Lynwood, CA 90262-5511.

I look forward to reading your reports and supplementals.

For God and Country

**CHAPLAIN
DAWN BROWN**

Marion Rocha passed away on 3/21/24. Lilia Clapp from Unit 496 had a total knee replacement on Feb. 21, 2024. Sandra Perry from Unit 496 had a stroke. Brenda Boyd from Unit 314 Hawthorne is doing well with her broken foot. Linda Fariss is on the mend with her foot.

If you know of anyone who is ill or has passed away, please email me, or text me. Please turn in your reports before April 15th, 2024!!

**CHILDREN & YOUTH
BECKY BULLARD**

Now that the holidays are over, the kids are back to school, schools need items like you probably already have supplied but they still have a few months to go. Make sure that Scholarships are given to the college counselors for those that can use them.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
NORA RAMIREZ**

It's time for all units to submit your community service hours. See you at the meeting, thank you.

**CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS
C.J. REYES**

Members, I have not received but one report so far, please let me know what you have done. Did you review your Bylaws any make changes? I can't report what I don't know!

**DISTINGUISHED GUEST
BECKY BULLARD**

Auxiliary, remember a smile goes a long way with your guests, along with your members, it makes people feel welcome and comfortable to be there. No one wants to be greeted by a frown or a sullen face, always be pleasant and helpful to others. You are the Sunshine of the Unit or District, spread it well.

**EDUCATION
GAYLE STEWART**

I hope your units have submitted their End of Year reports which were due April 12th to the District Chairperson. If you have not submitted your report, please complete the form and you can still send it to me ASAP. Even if your unit was not able to work the program there is an area on the form to indicate that. It would be wonderful to have 100% reporting this year.

Teacher Appreciation Week is from May 6th through May 10th. Here are a few ideas that can help you participate during the week:

1. Contact the local Parent Teacher Organization (PTA) or schools to see what your unit could sponsor or donate (such as donating doughnuts).



2. Show your appreciation to teachers by designing and presenting certificates of appreciation.
3. Provide Teacher Survival Kits with fun and helpful items such as candy and snacks, tea bags or coffee, restaurant gift cards, or items for the classroom.

MCEC: Military Child Education Coalition

The MCEC Call for the Arts program invites military-connected children from all over the world, representing every branch of service, to share interpretations through art of what it means to be a military-connected child.

Since 2002, thousands of military-connected children have shared their experiences, dreams, and challenges through art. Open to children grades K-12. If you have a child or know a child that would be interested, see details at MilitaryChild.org, Call for the Arts - <https://www.militarychild.org/programs-and-initiatives/the-call-for-the-arts/>.

**GIRLS STATE
BECKY BULLARD**

The 19th District Luncheon will be held May 19th at the Lakewood Post 496 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please come and join us, see the girls that will be attending Girls State from our units this year. You might be really surprised at the caliber of young women we are sending.

**HISTORIAN
DIANA LIVAS**

EOY reports are due now, I know many of our sister units have been busy and I look forward to reading and reporting all about our District. Please send your reports to ddivas@att.net.

**JUNIORS
BECKY BULLARD**

The Junior Conference is later this month, the dates are April 26th - 28th at the Bakersfield Post 26, 2020 H Street in the city of Bakersfield. There is a flier on the Department site, and it has times, and instructions with it. If you are interested, please check it out for your Juniors. <https://calegionaux.org/mark-your-calendar/junior-conference/>

**LEADERSHIP
LINDA FARISS**

We all need to show our leadership abilities by getting our End-of-Year Reports to the district chairperson on time. The due date is April 12. Help us tell Department and

National all the great things we do in District 19. Remember supplementals win awards.

**LEGISLATIVE
C.J. REYES**

This was a primary election year, what did your unit do? Did anyone work the polls? Voter registration? Let me know soon please.

**MEMBERSHIP
ISABEL GALLARDO**

Hello everyone, hope that you all are well and enjoyed your Easter. I want to thank you all for the great work that you have done with the membership goals. We could not do this without your hard work and dedication. Let's give a hand to Clyde F Hagar, they are first in unit standings this month. Second is South Bay and third is Montebello. Great job, keep up the great work.

Thank you.

Unit	Paid to Date	Goal	Percent
170 Bert Crossland	20	33	60.61%
184 South Bay	159	151	105.30%
272 Montebello	115	114	100.88%
314 Hawthorne	61	71	85.92%
341 Leland A Cupp	43	55	78.18%
359 Norwalk	123	142	86.62%
411 Rivera	54	55	98.18 %
465 Clyde F Hagar	13	12	108.33%
496 Lakewood	233	250	93.20%
729 Hollydale	17	25	68.00%
833 Lincoln Village	24	26	92.31%
TOTAL	862	934	92.29%

**NATIONAL SECURITY
DIANA LIVAS**

Great news, the Salute to Service Members Award is due June 1st and can be submitted on line at Submit any candidates here: <https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form>

Units can submit as many candidates as possible.

Community Emergency Readiness Training (<https://www.ready.gov/>) so you can be ready when a disaster might happen. The site also provides resources to



help your community. CERT covers basic skills to help with aid in an emergency.

Being prepared can make all the difference to your survival. Having a pair of sneakers in your trunk along with heavy duty gloves, along with a windbreaker could make all the difference in getting home safely from work if you had to walk. Plan a route and let your family know how you will get home in the event you have to walk. Establish an out of state call center (a family member) where you can check in and have messages to other families in the event our local lines are clogged.

Keep a week of medicine along with a blanket, bottled water, and some canned goods. Remember you might have to live off your stash for a week.

Work with your local post and see if you can set up an emergency plan for your elderly veterans. You might consider making your hall a safe place in the event you need shelter.

These are just a few ideas on how you can prepare for emergencies.

PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY

LINDA FARISS

Participated in the Vietnam War Veterans Day at the Long Beach VA. This Chairperson presented pins to Vietnam Veterans, Isabel and Debbie presented items to several female Vietnam Veterans. A great day was had by all. Next month hope to help at the special Veterans breakfast where we can host a table for women Veterans.

Looking forward to the PPP reports from your units.

Our monthly PPP dinner meeting will be Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Super Mex restaurant, located at 5254 Faculty Ave., Lakewood. The location is on the east side of the mall parking area. Not far from Candlewood/Clark streets. Please call or email to let me know if you are joining us.

POPPY

ISABEL GALLARDO

Hello everyone, hope you all had an amazing Easter.

As you all know we are coming to the end of the year and that means our year-end reports are now due as of April 12th. Can you all please email copies of your year-end poppy reports to me at: CamRam62@yahoo.com.

As far as our poppies go for our units, they are trying to resolve the issue that is going on with the poppy production. So as of now, we still don't have any available. Once I receive further information, I will let you all know the status, thank you for your patience.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

LORRIE LEWELLYAN

Be sure to continue spreading the word about the American Legion Auxiliary: *A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families*. Encourage ALA members to be visible in their communities through valuable, distinct branding. Share the latest news from the Department and the ALA National Headquarters with your unit and social media. Remember the ALA brand is not what we tell people; it is what people tell each other about the ALA based on their experiences with ALA members.

End of year reports are due, please be sure to email them to Lorrie or bring the forms to the district meeting.

VA&R

LBVA DEPUTY / VAVS

DEBBIE BUTLER

Good Day To All

Well, here we are Year-End reports are due April 12th. If you want to attach a supplement that would be great. Let's get 100% reporting. You can take a picture of your report and email it to me if necessary. Sometimes the computer isn't our friend, I've found out over the years.

Every Unit should have a Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation chairperson. For the most part we are about Veterans and active duty (National Security).

I know every Unit did at least one thing for a Veteran. If you haven't, send a WWII Veteran a birthday card for Mr. Vernon Hicks who will be 104 years old.

The **Social Connection at LBVA** on the last Friday of each month from 8:30-10:30 is picking up. Thank you for those who bring things for the lady veterans and lend a helping hand.

Vietnam Veterans Day was great. First in five years since the dreaded Covid hit. Lots of food, information booths, including District 19 Legionnaires and Auxiliary at the Lady Veterans booth. The Jazz band was outstanding.

The **VS Food Pantry** always needs food and gift cards for gas and bus passes. This is a never-ending process. Thank you all for helping the Vets at LBVA.

Thank you to all who help at LBVA.

Thank you for all your work.

Creative Arts—Local Competition. If you would like to support Veterans, please send a check to VS at LBVA. Check is made out to Creative Arts Program LBVA. You can contact Elizabeth or Vinece, emails on the flyer.

Thank you.



DISTRICT 19 CALENDAR

Every 1st **Friday** evening, Steak/Fish Fry at **Post 314**

Every 2nd **Sunday** morning, Breakfast at **Post 314**

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

Every 2nd **Sunday** morning, Breakfast at **Post 411**

Every **Friday** evening, Dinner & Music at **Post 496**

April 15 – Purple Up Day, Recognize a Military Child

April 20 – ALA Spring Fling Auction Fundraiser at **Post 496**

April 20 – ALA Bingo at Post 272

April 26-28 – Auxiliary Junior Conference

Upcoming Activity

May 5 – Unit 465 Breakfast

May 15 – ALA District Memorial Service

May 19 – District 19 Event, Girls State Tea at **Post 496** from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

You're invited to enter in the annual Veterans Creative Arts Local Competition

ART | CREATIVE WRITING | DANCE | DRAMA | MUSIC

Participating Veterans must be enrolled to receive care at VA Long Beach

Only recent work created after October 1, 2023 are accepted

Registration Deadline July 19, 2024

For complete rules, eligibility information, and entry forms contact BRC Recreation Therapists:

elizabeth.greco@va.gov
vineceflorabe.whitener@va.gov

Judging & Exhibition August 9, 2024

The Egg

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Entries will be on display to the public. Come support your fellow Veterans and learn more about art resources!



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Long Beach Healthcare System



UNIT DEVELOPMENT & REVITALIZATION

Unit Development & Revitalization (UD&R) may be a perplexing title for an American Legion Auxiliary program. However, when we dissect the name, the title of the program becomes self-explanatory. First, we have Unit Development, the starting of new Units. Secondly, we have Unit Revitalization, giving new life to Units that are on a decline in membership or experiencing other problems.

Unit Development & Revitalization is all about finding new and seasoned members with new ideas that breathe life into our Units which leads to growth. Unit Development & Revitalization is more than just organizing new Units and trying to help Units hold on to charters. Unit Development & Revitalization is also about providing mentors for struggling Units and providing training for new members. Unit Development & Revitalization is about suggesting ways that new members can be given opportunities to be active. Unit Development & Revitalization is about trying new ideas and exploring new ways to get better attendance at Unit meetings. Unit Development & Revitalization is not about solving personality conflicts in the Units. However, through “conflict resolution” training, Unit members learn to solve their own problems. UD&R Committee page:

<https://calegionaux.org/programs/udr>.

NATIONAL POPPY DAY

The Friday before Memorial Day is National Poppy Day (May 24 this year). All American Legion Family members are encouraged to participate in activities in their communities.

The poppy was adopted as our memorial flower in the early 1920s, and the tradition of distributing red crepe paper poppies in exchange for donations continues.

Join us for this webinar to get ideas on how you can organize local National Poppy Day events and activities.

Reserve your spot for this webinar on April 18 at noon Eastern: <https://cvent.me/yPI8RP>.



**Celebrating
National Poppy Day®
in your communities
April 18 at noon ET**



DISTRICT 19 LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICERS

President	Diana Livas	323-893-0732	dlivas@att.net	411
1 st Vice President	Isabel Gallardo	562-841-4451	camram62@yahoo.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	Carol Vazquez	323-500-3063	carolv3313@gmail.com	411

CHAIRPERSON

Americanism	Linda Diebel	562-549-9648	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	stewnred@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	562-841-4451	camram62@yahoo.com	411
Music	Gail Diebel	562-319-3644	chefgail@verizon.net	723
National Security	Diana Livas	323-893-0732	dlivas@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	562-841-4451	camram62@yahoo.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	562-549-9648
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	562-841-4451
Carol Vazquez	323-500-3063