

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPT. OF CAIFORNIA End Of Year Floor Report, by Patricia Galaitoto Community Service Chairman 2023-2024

Congratulations California District's and Unit's! Thank you for your talents, skills, hard work, achievements, accomplishments, and your dedication to our Veterans, which have contributed to the State of California Community Service success. We are proud to announce that 23 District consisting of 185 Units have reported for End of Year, statistical report for Community Service can be found in the Book of Report.

Units in District 2 have been volunteering in libraries, museums, resource centers, their local schools, churches, fire departments, community clubs and the Chamber of Commerce.

Unit members in District 16 volunteered their time and resources at local hospitals, care centers, senior centers, medical clients, libraries, and museums. A member of Unit 482, Consuelo Macedo has donated \$20,000 to Cambria Historical Museum. District 16 has a project called "Boots on the Ground" their activities support Stand Downs, monthly transportation for Veterans to medical facilities, uniting with other community organizations to build a stronger support system for Veterans, Military, their families, and their local community. For special holidays Unit in District 16 places flags throughout their community.

Allied Unit 302 in District 17 spent days and nights searching for Homeless Veterans, along the freeways, under the bridges, in parks, in parking lots, in and around the hills in Los Angeles and on Skid Row in Downtown Los Angeles. This Unit works with VASH counselors offering Homeless Veterans housing and helping them with VA benefits.

Once the Homeless Veteran is housed this Unit brings the Veterans their much-needed supplies.

District 20 had a 100% reporting, and Units participated in National Days of Service. Eighty-two Veterans and their family members worked together in preventing Veteran homelessness, Units in District 20 partnered with "Saddles for Soldiers. Unit 817 in District 20 volunteers at local food banks and at Women's shelters. Unit 311 in District 20 work with other organizations such as St. Jude, ASPCA, Toys for Tots, Salvation Army and Saves Food Bank, these Unit members volunteer at their local Soup Kitchen serving up warm meals.

Unit 519 in District 21 assists the Homeless who live around their Post by donating food, clothing, and blankets.

Unit 519 hosts a food drive three times a year and donates the food to their local Veterans Village. Unit 519 participated in a baby shower held at March Air Force base for Female Veterans.

District 25 proudly announced that Unit 256, Unit 422, and Unit 777 has received proclamation from the mayors of their cities proclaiming April 27th as "American Legion Family Day.

District 27 in Big Pines CA has a small population, Big Pine consist of 4 Units, their community is so small that Auxiliary members follow the motto of "Participate don't duplicate" so instead of picking one big project their members go out into the community and participate in projects that best fit their individual talents.

District 28 consists of three counties, Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz, members volunteer countless hours of Community Service in their cities and Post Homes. District 28 members have volunteered throughout their cities, members worked in food banks, homeless shelters, Meals on Wheels, participated in Veterans Day Parades. District 28 Units gathered to help cook and served the Community Thanksgiving dinner to 450-500 people providing gifts and food for Veterans Transition Center. Unit members have volunteered in medical clinics, including the Marina Veterans Clinic, and Units conducted recycling programs at home and at their Posts. A new program in District 28 had all Units working together "Hometown Banners" where Veterans can have their Uniform pictures made into banners that are displayed on the main streets of their towns.

Memorial Day in District 29 begins their year, Unit's participate in the Veterans Memorial ceremony at Forest Lawn, members of their Legion family work together, Unit juniors join in by handing out programs, and giving out flags and presenting the colors. 9/11 is always a busy day for District 29, one Unit gathers the "Semper Memento, which is a memorial with beams from the World Trade Center. This event is joined by first responders as the community together join in a moment of silence as they surround the monument.

Districts and Unit's through-out this Golden State of California participated in National Night Out promoting the American Legion Family, this was a huge success for California. Now is the time to prepare for National Night Out, contact your local law enforcement to reserve your spot to promote the American Legion Family.

Madam President this concludes my platform remarks, my I pass out my first-place certificates and Honorable Mention.

For District, First Place winner is District 28

For Unit, First Place winner is Jennifer Sakamoto, Unit 589,

and

Community Service would like to Honorably Mention, Consuelo Macedo from Unit 482, District 16 for her donation of \$20,000 to Cambria Historical Museum

Madam President Glenda Shultz, thank you for this appointment of Community Service Chairman for 2023-24 year.