



Constitution and Bylaws Bulletin #1

In keeping with President Lorretta's theme this year, "Super Hero's wear Dog Tags, Not Capes", all Constitution and Bylaws Chairman will be known as the "Blue Lantern". Our mascot will be the Super Parrot.

Remember the Constitution and Bylaws are the documents that guide us on all levels of our Organization (National, Department, District and Unit). It is the responsibility of ALL Officers to be able to answer any questions from members at any given time. So, this Chairman, suggest to ALL membership to read, read, read and get familiar with your Constitution and Bylaws so you can have the knowledge and be more aware of what is expected to the membership.

The Constitution and Bylaws must be rewritten every ten (10) years. Notifications of Units & Districts that are coming due will be given out at the Clovis Workshop. Please remember to use the "Model Bylaws" for both Unit and District that are on the Department Website (www.calegionaux.org). They are "fill in" copies so they will be easier for both the Unit/District Constitution and Bylaws Chairman's to complete. Please remember that your Unit and District Bylaws must be in accordance with the Department Constitution and Bylaws; i.e. Your officers must be the same. You may add officers such as Marshal or Webmaster, but may NOT delete any officers such as 2nd Vice President, Historian, Executive Committee Woman etc. Remember that there must be 2 complete copies and 5 signature pages when complete. (Remember to keep a copy for yourself before sending). These will then be sent to this Chairman for approval, then forwarded onto the Department President for her signature. After which, when all signatures are received, 3 copies will be returned to you. One each is to be attached to the set of the Constitution and Bylaws for the Unit, District and one to the District President. Please remember that on the Signature Page it requests the dates of the TWO separate readings of the Constitution and Bylaws. These must be TWO separate meeting dates, this is very important. Please be sure that both the Constitution and Bylaws Chairman and your President sign, it will only delay Department approval if they must be returned for the signatures. All rewrites must be submitted 45 days prior to the Department Convention to be seated at convention.

The Model Bylaws will only be accepted by this Chairman for Rewrites. This way there can be no mistakes with wording according to the Constitution and Bylaws. If you are only making small minor changes such as Amount of Dues, Meeting Dates or Time, Change in Quorum these can be done on an "Amendment". Which will require Five (5) copies of the amendment with signatures then sent to this Chairman for approval, and forwarding on to the Department President for her Signature. Remember when changing anything, the change must be read twice (two separate times) and voted on by the membership, receiving 2/3 vote to pass.

With this year's theme, "Super Hero's Wear Dog Tags, Not Capes" this chairman is trying to think of a FUN way to have everyone involved and some way to make Constitution and Bylaws more interesting to all the membership. What if at the Mid-Year DEC, we have a contest? Having the most interesting and fun way to explain the Constitution and Bylaws to a new member? Having all submissions sent to me either via email (turtle380@juno.com ; Subject C&B Contest) or USPS (20600 Main Street #40, Carson, CA 90745-1108). I will request two or three of the Past Department Presidents to assist in the judging of the most interesting and fun way to explain to a new member. The prize will be a Gift Card to Smart N Final. What do you think? Please let me know.

So, Blue Lanterns – "In fearful day, in raging night. With strong hearts full our, souls ignite. When all seems lost in the war of light, look to the stars – For hope burns bright!"

Blue Lantern's will be shining bright this year.

Jean A. Cooley-Desmeules
Head Blue Lantern – Constitution and Bylaws
Department of CA – ALA
turtle380@juno.com
20600 Main Street/Space #40
Carson, CA 90745-1108