

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER 2017

The days are steam rolling by at a record pace it seems. Our mid-year DEC is only a few short weeks away. I hope all reports have made their way or are on their way to the Department Chairman so their reports can be ready and well prepared. Note for Department Chairman: keep your floor report for DEC to a MAXIMUM of THREE MINUTES, PLEASE. This is very important if you want people to hear what you're saying and not tune you out. Please read through and time them. Send me a copy by Jan 15th.

If you have not already made your reservations for the hotel and banquet, do so immediately. I am really excited and looking forward to seeing so many of you there. We need more banquet reservations than we have so far. Santa Maria Inn, Santa Maria Chamber of Commerce, District 16 and Unit 56 are working hard to make this DEC great so please join us for the fun (and business, too, of course).

I want to suggest a New Year's Resolution or Challenge to unit members. Start your new year's meetings off by every member making a vow to themselves to attend the meeting with a totally open mind. No axes to grind, no negative thoughts about fellow members, no insisting on "my way or no way" and no thoughts of control, just walk into the meeting, greet all members, listen with an open mind and respect and just concentrate on what benefits your Auxiliary Unit not anyone's personal egos. I know we all have different ideas on what benefits the unit but that is where the open mind comes in. Put a box, pencil and paper beside the door and write down all grips and negative thoughts on the paper, drop it in the box and leave it there for the duration of the meeting. Hey, it can't hurt and wouldn't it be great if it helped.

I again want to thank all of you for your cards, prayers and good wishes during my recovery from surgery. I know I have fallen behind on some of my desired travels and I thank you for your patience with me. My apologies to District 22 and District 24 for my having to cancel my greatly anticipated visit to your District meetings. Not being cleared to drive long distances yet I had made train reservations which at last minute were cancelled due to the Thomas Fire interrupting all train service to the Los Angeles area from my area. But I am ashamed to feel disappointed or inconvenienced when I think of all those who have suffered and are still suffering the ravages of this terrible fire. My heartfelt concern and prayers are with them daily.

Coming up, I hope some of you are planning to take advantage of the National Leadership Training session in Las Vegas on Feb. 3rd, 2018, and have marked your calendar for the National President's visit May 4th and 5th. The arrangements will be set up shortly for that visit so if any Unit wants to host either the Northern or Southern visit I need to know immediately, otherwise, no complaints please.

Have a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday Season and the Happiest of all New Years.

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