



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Americanism Bulletin
August 2024

Members~

Welcome to the 2024-2025 American Legion Auxiliary year as we celebrate "American the Beautiful" and "Crown Thy Good with Brotherhood". I, as your Department Americanism Chairman, will be known as Betsy Ross. If you are not familiar with her, please do a little research and discover the contributions she made to the founding of this country. She was an amazing woman.

Americanism is a key component in our mission to serve our Veterans, our communities and our youth. There are several parts of the program that I would like us to focus on. They include:

- Getting out the vote. This is an extremely important time to encourage all citizens to register and/or vote. We must have our voices heard. That is one of the tenets our Veterans fought and still fight for – our right to vote. There are guidelines that need to be followed. You must not support any specific candidate or issue when you are wearing branding items of the ALA. When you are not identifying yourself as a member of the ALA, that is a different story. If there is specific legislation, it must be supported by the American Legion. If you have questions, please reach out and ask.
- The Pocket Flag program. If you send out care packages to deployed troops, or partner with a Blue Star Mothers of America Chapter, consider providing pocket flags to be included in the boxes.
- Promoting Americanism in the schools, such as assisting the students to learn the Pledge of Allegiance or flag etiquette, as well as the essay contest once the titles for this year are released.

There are many ways to promote this program, and I look forward to hearing all your ideas. Think outside the box and let's wave our flags and show our support for our country.

I will have more to come in my next bulletin. I wanted to give you a few ideas to start planning your year. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Yours in Service~

Robin Falkenberg

ALA DOC Americanism Chairman 2024-2025 (AKA Betsy Ross)
americanism@calegionaux.org

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Americanism Program
Clovis workshop 2024

Welcome to Clovis!

I am so glad to see all of you as we gather to kick off the 2024-2025 Auxiliary year as we celebrate America the Beautiful from Sea to Shining Sea for our Veterans, our communities and our youth.

The Americanism program provides the opportunity to show our patriotism flying our flags, providing pocket flags for our deployed troops, getting out the vote to encourage all citizens to register and exercise their right to vote. This year is an especially important time for our voices to be heard. Please remember, when wearing your ALA branded clothing or accessories, we are not allowed to support any specific candidates. We also support issues that the American Legion supports. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. If I do not know the answers, I will find one.

The Americanism essay contest titles are on the website (or will be shortly) along with the rules for each category, the coversheet and all relevant information you may need or want to promote your program.

I have a couple of questions: 1-How many of you fly the American flag at home? If you do, you are participating in the Americanism program. Do you volunteer in your community for citizenship events, such as swearing in ceremonies? Remember to participate in your city's patriotic holidays. It's not very hard at all.

On a personal note, just this last week I learned that my son, who is serving in the US Army, in year 5 of a 6-year contract, has reenlisted for another 6 years. I am so proud of him, I could bust, but I must admit I am scared to death for his safety and wellbeing. I know active duty falls under another program (do you know which one?), but the pocket flag program is a way to work both programs with one activity. Please keep our service men and women in your prayers. They are defending the freedoms we enjoy today. As a very special friend always reminds us: This country was formed on the backs of our Veterans. We would not have what we do today if it were not for them. Show them their sacrifices mean something to us. Work the Americanism program to the best of your ability.

Thank you!

Yours In Service~

Robin

Robin Falkenberg
ALA DOC Americanism Chairman 2024-2025
americanism@calegionaux.org



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPT. OF CA
Chaplain
August 2024 Bulletin**

District Chaplains, please keep passing these bulletins down to your Unit Chaplains. It's most important that we keep our work flowing. Now is the time that we begin to work towards Mid-Year reports and let's first begin with our Prayer Books. A Prayer Book is a District and Unit project. The Chaplain doesn't make the Prayer Book alone, the Chaplain will ask her Unit members at each meeting to contribute either devotions, prayers, poems or inspirational messages for the Unit or District Prayer Book. In fact, whoever is reading this bulletin right now, I'm asking you to contribute to President Linda Hayes Prayer Book by sending me Spiritual publications for her.

Can you imagine how beautiful your Prayer Book will be by implementing President Linda's theme, "America the Beautiful" and her motto is "Crown the Good with Brotherhood" In keeping with President Linda's theme, Chaplains will be known this Auxiliary year of 2024-25 as Heart Polishers. "The Spiritual heart is the only part of the human that can truly contemplate and reflect the divine nature of God's oneness. If the mirror is dirty, the reflecting quality is distorted or nearly totally blocked, but if the heart has been polished, it can reflect the guidance, creativity and inspiration of the Divine"

I'll have your District packets ready for you at the Clovis workshop, which will include Department Code for Chaplains, Member Data Forms, bulletins, In Loving Tribute Fund, 4 Chaplains Memorial Fund, instructions for Prayer Books, plus much more so please District Chaplains make copies and pass this information on to Unit Chaplains.

I'm working on a special event that we'll all be able to work on together. I'll explain more about this at Clovis. Do you see why I say that "now is the time to begin working towards Mid-Year reports", beside our Chaplain duties we'll be busy as Heart Polishers bringing Harmony and Strength to our organization.

Service to God and Country,
Patricia Galatioto, Chaplain
ALA Dept of CA
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Department Clovis Workshop August 17-18, 2024

Hello everyone I want to thank Lady Liberty, aka Madam President Linda, for giving me this opportunity, to hopefully, make the 2024-2025 Department Convention an enjoyable experience for all. I think the term for this chairmanship is the Laborers is very appropriate after all the hard work I saw being done at last year's convention.

This will be the first time that I am a Convention Chairman, I have been the DEC Chairman before so I have a little experience. I have asked last year's Chairman Past Department President Dee Ann Graham to be my mentor. So I hopefully will make her and Lady Liberty proud.

I want to thank the 15th District for stepping up to do the District raffle baskets and to the 16th District that will be available to help in any capacity needed. I welcome any other Districts that would like to help. It takes a village to pull off something this big.

I have already been in contact with Dee Ann Graham, last year's Chairman, for some much needed advice.

We have come up with a few things I want to bring to your attention, I'm sure there will be more but here's a couple.

1. We will provide chairs in each District for their delegate strength ONLY. We will have chairs in the back of the room designated for the alternates and guests. This will eliminate the need to move chairs around.
2. We will have a pole decorating contest. Each District will be responsible for decorating their pole before opening on Saturday. We will be awarding prizes for several different categories. We will have a few extra kits on hand to help out.
3. If you are planning to bring your flags, which we hope everyone will, bring you flag stands with you. We will not be providing the wooden flag holders this year.
4. We will need all the help we can get to provide items for the goodie bags. If you prefer we shop for items for you, your Unit or District just send us a donation and we will be glad to do so.

I am planning, with Madam President, AKA Lady Liberty, to have a short meeting at this workshop and will be planning zoom calls as needed. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer please contact me.

Thank you in advance for all your support to help us have the best Convention possible for our members and Madam President.

Respectfully Submitted– Linda Fercho - Convention Chairman



Children and Youth 2024-2025

August 2024

Wow, I cannot believe that we are another year under way. First, I would like to introduce myself I'm Tracy Varnell Fercho and I will be your chairman for 2024 – 2025.

When I started going through this program, I almost forgot just how amazing this program is. I have done this chairmanship for my district and my unit, but to be honest it has been a while.

This year Madam president Linda has chosen Wonder woman for Children and youth and I feel that is so appropriate because who is better to protect our Children and youth.

I will be waiting to hear from our National Children and youth chairman to see if they would like us to focus on something special this coming year.

As I have said in the past every unit and every district are different. I would like each children and youth chairman to find out what works for them and go out and make it happen.

I will be giving ideas each month but remember almost every month has a holiday which can be celebrated with parties, dinners and get-togethers.

Please be on the watch for my remarks that I will be making at the Clovis workshop it will be more detailed with a lot of focus on new projects.

Also please take the time to go onto the National website and check out the children and youth program it has some great ideas (Hint Hint I'm a Hero 2).

I will be updating the Mid-Year and End of year forms so keep an eye out for them.

I will be asking Madam President Linda to be able to have a zoom call this year. Please let me know if this would be something that you would like to attend.

If you have any questions, I'm just a phone call, text message or email away.

For God and Country

Tracy Varnell Fercho tvarnell2@yahoo.com 805-233-4354



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA



Welcome to a new year of *The Auxiliary News Hub* (the official publication of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of California)! Thank you, Madame President Linda, for this appointment. I look forward to receiving many articles throughout the year from all the Districts, Units and Members of this great Department of California. I would also be happy to proofread any bulletins or flyers before they are posted to the Department website.

The first issue of The Hub will be for September / October. Please email your photos and articles to Editor Barb Toth no later than August 15. If you are sending photos, please include any names, unit and/or district numbers with the photo so the subjects can be correctly identified. The photos MUST be sent as an attached jpeg file.

Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions for the HUB. I look forward to an exciting year.

Barb Toth

Editor

editor@calegionaux.org

babstothaux@yahoo.com

909-544-1637



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of California

Finance Committee

As we begin a new ALA year let us all remember what is needed by each unit and district. I will list them below. Make sure that each item is completed as it can become quite problematic. Each District President should remember if your unit treasurer does not do these items it falls upon you to complete. It is the same at the District level. If the treasurer or auditing team does not complete these items it falls on the District President.

1. Taxes – please make sure that your most recent taxes are filed and a copy of the completed postcard is sent/mailed to Secretary Liz. Remember to use our fiscal year of July1 – June 30.
2. Make sure that your Fidelity Bond for units and Secretaries are up to date.
3. Please make sure that you have a copy of your last audit to make sure you have the correct starting balance. Follow your Constitution and By-laws or Standing rules for further audit frequency etc.
4. Last year the Finance Committee asked for the Contributions for the different Department programs ie; Children & Youth TFA, VA&R etc. be paid sooner rather than later. In the past units would send in the funds at the last moment before convention. Sending a check early allows for there to be more money available earlier for qualifying distribution

Teresa Lugo-Nunez Finance CHairman



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
GIRLS STATE PROGRAM
2024 -2025**



Bulletin #1

www.cagirlsstate.org

August 2024

Hello Girls State Chairman ,

Thank you for serving as an ALA CA Girls State Chairperson! This is always a true team effort, so do not hesitate to give input or ask questions. We need each one of you to make our 2025 session a success!

Unit Girls State Chairperson To Do List:

- If you have not done so already, update your information on the [District and Unit GS Chair list](#).
 - If you have other volunteers assisting with Girls State and would like to receive email updates, please add their contact information on the second tab, “Other Interested Volunteers”.Refer to the [2024-25 Suggested Calendar for Unit GS Chairs](#) and bulletins each month.

Identify a contact at each school sponsored (counselor, teacher for government, debate, leadership) to assist with identifying interested students and passing along information.

- Consider sharing the [Youth Programs Brochure](#) and/or [What is ALA Girls State](#).
- Provide the proposed session dates and location: June 14 – June 19, 2025 at Sacramento State. Contact me if you have not received reports from any 2024 delegates sponsored by the Unit. Request certificates from State Senators and Assemblymembers for 2024 ALA CAGS participants.
- Verify on the [Reservation list](#), Column E that the delegate attended the entire session.
- Find the names and contact information for the representative by entering the home address of the Girls State citizen at the findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov.
- Contact the representatives’ offices to explain the ALA CA Girls State program and request a letter of recognition. Invite the representatives to attend your recognition event and personally present the certificate. Provide the official with the name of the citizen, the name of the program, the location of the program, and the completion date (July 1, 2024).

- Sample text for certificate:

Name

To acknowledge your outstanding achievement and representation of your community as a
Citizen of the 80th Session of American Legion Auxiliary California Girls State
at California State University, Sacramento.

I commend your commitment to service, leadership development, and
learning the importance of meaningful participation in all levels of government.

July 1, 2024

Determine how the Unit will pay for the 2025 Unit Enrollment Fee (estimated to be \$425).

- See [Fundraising folder](#) for ideas.

Begin thinking about how to identify interested students. See [Candidate Recruitment folder](#).

Remember to track ALA CAGS volunteer hours from Unit members from May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025. This number will be asked on the end of the year report.

Next Zoom: Monday, August 26 at 6pm for 1st-year Chairs and 7pm for all Chairs

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85484116950?pwd=vM1CJoMrVCAaLr69SQKy5YyqKGXbxE.1>

Meeting ID: 854 8411 6950

Passcode: ALAcags82

At the 6pm meeting we will give a brief overview of the program and review the suggested calendar

for Unit GS Chairs. All are welcome to attend, even if you are not a 1st year Chair.

- At the 7pm meeting we will review new resources created by our Candidate Recruitment and Fundraising Leadership Teams and answer questions.
- Both meetings will be recorded for those unable to attend.

NEW address for all Girls State Donations and Fees

- Any donations earmarked for Girls State should be mailed directly to the Department Treasurer:
Kathy Tellyer
American Legion Auxiliary
10400 Twin Cities Rd
Suite 20 #107
Galt, CA 95632
- You may use this [Donation Transmittal form](#).

Resources for Unit and District Girls State Chairpersons:

- [Shared Google Drive folder](#)

Future ALA CAGS Session Dates Proposed to CSU Sacramento:

- Saturday, June 14-Thursday, June 19, 2025
- Monday, June 22-Saturday, June 27, 2026

National ALA Girls State Leadership Conference: 2025 ALA CAGS Director Allyn Kau and Chairman Caroline Miller will be attending in Indianapolis September 2024.

2024 ALA CAGS Session

- All 418 delegates arrived to the session.
- 411 delegates finished the session. 7 delegates left the session - 4 delegates left early due to physical illness, 2 for Mental illness, 1 for a family emergency.
- Compared to 2023 session – 454 delegates registered, 4 left early due to anxiety, 3 due to illness, 3 for behavior issues, 1 for family emergency, 11 left during the session, 443 delegates finished.

Thank you for all your work!

Caroline Miller, alacagschair@gmail.com,
949-233-7438



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Junior Activities
August/September 2024 Bulletin

Greeting from the Ticket Master. Congratulations to all the District and Unit Chairs on your appointment! This year is going to be an AWESOME year for our juniors. We are asking all juniors to please start using their ALA Junior Volunteer Log. Let us show our veterans and their families how much we honor and care for them. If you need help, I will always be available. You can contact me via email huntll577@gmail.com or cell phone (213) 521-9895.

Our first junior meeting will be held via zoom on August 20th @ 6pm, Meeting ID 673 779 4042, Passcode Ou23xs. We are requesting all juniors email and cell phone information, as well as parent/guardian contact information. Please email or text me your contact information as soon as possible. Your ideas are very important. We will discuss 1) National Junior/Mission Training which will be held on February 1, 2025, in Las Vegas, Nevada 2) Junior Handbook/Patch Program/Scholarships 3) Fundraising 4) Giving or sending cards to our veterans for Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Please remind the senior members of your units to help your juniors participate and connect to their scheduled meetings. Also, please include your juniors in your local activities by allowing them to participate in meetings, and any other activities as appropriate.

We will post flyers on the American Legion Auxiliary Department of California website <https://calegionaux.org> under Local Unit & District Events with any upcoming events for our juniors.

“OUR JUNIORS ARE ON THE MOVE”

Lucy Hunt
Department Junior Activities Chair
American Legion Auxiliary
huntll577@gmail.com/213-521-9895

Greeting Auxiliary family,

This year are theme is "***America the Beautiful...Crown Thy Good with Brotherhood***"

My name is Diana Livas, from 19th District, Unit 411 Rivera. First, I would like to take a moment and thank Madam President Linday Hayes for appointing me as this year's Leadership Chairman for the Department of California and for having faith in me, by giving me the ability to put my best foot forward. Like all great leaders before me, I will do my best to bring fun while shaping our leadership skills.

I joined this great organization in 2006. And I like many were eager to learn our programs while helping our Veterans. I was introduced to some great leaders, some who have crossed over and I am sure they are still leading. These great ladies were seasoned in all the programs of the Auxiliary. Their energy and passion was addictive, as I listened to them with great hope that one day I too would be willing to lead and help mentor our new members.

As you are all aware we all have different thoughts and sometimes we veer off track. Thank goodness my auxiliary family has always been a phone call away to lead me back to the fundamentals of this great organization.

As I returned home from our Convention, the realization that I would be mentoring my auxiliary family got me to thinking, how many Auxiliary members might feel the same. I started reading the bylaws, the missions' statement, and the program from National, plus much, much more. Rest assured, I will be reaching out to you as I have in the past so that this year, we will be able to give a strong message and encourage everyone to attend our leadership class. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

I do not want to reinvent the wheel; therefore, I am asking each of you for your support, and your leadership skills. I will be contacting various chairman to help me by presenting your program at our leadership fun shop this October.

For those attending Clovis, please pick up your leadership packet, inside you will find the department code along with other useful information.

If anyone is interested in hosting a leadership class, please reach out to me. I am asking everyone to please go on line [Online Training \(legion-aux.org\)](http://legion-aux.org) take the ALA Academy course.

In Service not Self,
Diana Livas
Department of CA Leadership Chairmen



LEGISLATIVE

August 2024

Congratulations to all of you on your new role as your Unit and District Legislative Chairman. For those of you that don't know me I am Glenda Schultz, Legislative Chairman for the Department of California 2024-2025. We will be known as "Lobbyists". That means that we have a lot of work to do and that we need to convince everyone to join forces with us to increase benefits for our veterans.

The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to provide information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of the American Legion.

The first thing to do is get involved. Check out these websites.

Member Site: <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committee/legislative>

Public Site: <https://www.legion-aux.org/advocacy>

Go to the American Legion Website at www.legion.org/legislative and obtain information on legislative priorities. Then go to the "Grass Roots Action Center" and sign up for alerts and then every Friday you will receive a "Grass Roots Action Letter". This will keep you updated with the latest priorities from the American Legion. They also honor a "Legionnaire of the Week" and you will be surprised at how often that Legionnaire is from California.

The next step is to share the information with your Units and Districts and then get them to join in our efforts to improve the lives of our Veterans.

I promise to have a lot more to share with you. Feel free to contact me with any questions and/or suggestions.

For God and Country

Glenda Schultz

Legislative Chairman – Department of California

grschultz108@outlook.com 916-335-3345



National Security Bulletin 2

Hello to all of my Strategic Planning Commissioners. I hope everyone is doing well and strategically planning their year. This is bulletin #2 and by now most strategic planners have their year mapped out.

What is the purpose of National Security? The purpose of the National Security Committee is to promote a strong national defense. Standing Rule #7, Core National Standing Committees.

Key Program Statements:

- Raise awareness of POW/MIAs and the work being performed by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in the search for missing personnel.
- The ALA National Security program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families.
- Support all military families by working with their command group and family readiness groups.
- Support and enhance Legion Family and partner initiatives that strive to improve the Quality of Life (QoL) of our servicemembers and their families.

On September 20, 2024, we observe National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Here a little history:

- National POW/MIA Recognition Day was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.
- A national-level ceremony is held on every National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Traditionally held at the Pentagon, it features members from each branch of military service and participation from high-ranking officials.
- In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, State Capitols, schools, and Veterans' facilities.
- No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.
- Does your Unit/Post observe National POW/MIA Day? If so, does your Unit participate in the ceremony?

I look forward to seeing you all in Clovis. I can't wait to hear all the things you have planned for your Units and Districts.

Linda Lara-Guzman
Strategic Planning Commissioner
linlarguzman@gmail.com
(821) 229-2072



American Legion Auxiliary Department of California Poppy Program

Greetings members!

Welcome to the 2024-2025 American Legion Auxiliary year. Department President Linda Hayes' theme is "America the Beautiful". The Poppy program will be known as the "Free Spirit".

Our first order of business, please remember to submit your Poppy order by October 1st. Please feel free to submit it earlier. October 1st is the deadline. Please also remember if your order is not submitted by October 31st, your Unit will be assessed \$30.00 for 100 poppies. Be sure to write your Unit AND District number on your checks. The updated order forms are on the Department website.

Please send a copy to the Department office and one to me.

More information will be coming out shortly, so please be sure to check the website regularly. I look forward to a great year.

Gabriella Ramos

Poppy Chairman

Department of California

poppy@calegionaux.org

(626)261-2375



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Public Relations
July & August 2024
Bulletin

I am super excited to welcome you all to a new year of service and commitment to our Vets, Military, and their families!

Congratulations to Madame President Linda Hayes and to all the newly appointed officers.

Madame Presidents Theme and Motto this year is "America the Beautiful" and "Crown the Good with Brotherhood".

In keeping with this theme, we will be known as "Paul Revere".

During the American Revolution Paul Revere was a strong supporter of the patriotic cause and joined the Sons of Liberty. His midnight ride transformed him into a folk hero! Even after the war he continued with his patriotic pride by working in iron casting and bronze bell making.

Now in modern times we have a Public Relations crew! As leaders we should be sharing information, wearing our brand with pride, encourage others to do the same. Get to know the media and the process of submitting a story or an event flyer. While gathering information and contacts, please consider making a procedure book for the next chairperson.

Here are some examples of reaching the public:

- Send press releases, flyers, etc. to the webmaster; Lyle Workman, and his email is webmaster@calegionaux.org.*
- Contact your local government for proclamations.*
- Utilize Flags & Emblems for marketing tools.*
- Always wear branded clothing, pins, etc., at yours and public events.*
- Invest in branding at booths, tables, etc.*
- Have American Legion Family brochures available at events (order through your ALA department office).*
- Distribute newsletters at all levels of the organization.*

- *Look for free space such as a Farmer's Market.*
- *Radio stations are always a fun way to promote an event.*
- *To promote better community coverage, we should be utilizing all forms of media including the platform of social media such as local media, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Utilize your AL Posts, by posting your flyers, talking to commanders and members, etc. There are so many ways we can share this information about our great organization and by using the right approach such as kindness and understanding, we can open new doors to share.*

You can help your districts and units by staying up to date on information being shared on the Department website www.calegionaux.org

Flags and Emblem has a variety of t-shirts and supplies available to you. You can lead by example by wearing the American Legion Auxiliary brand to meetings, events, etc.

<https://emblem.legion.org>

Important dates to remember:

August 17-18 - Clovis, CA workshop

September 14 - Northern Workshop

October 12 - Southern Workshop

*LIFE IS RECRIPROCAL, the energy you expend always comes back.
Oprah Winfrey*

For God and our Country.

Rosemary Barron

Public Relations Chairperson

rosemarybarron@msn.com

Cell# 831-253-3707





Department of California
Clovis Workshop – August 17-18, 2024

Bulletin #1 Resolutions Chairman, AKA the Proclaimer 08-05-2024

Hello everyone this year President Linda, AKA Lady Liberty theme “American The Beautiful”, with her colors red, white and blue this Proclaimer says “How appropriate for the American Legion Auxiliary”. This year I thought I would start my first bulletin by asking and answering a few questions about resolutions.

1. How do you title a resolution?

The title of the resolution **must appropriately reflect the intent**. Resolutions begin with “Whereas” statements, which provides the basic facts and reasons for the resolution, and conclude with “Resolved” statements which, identifies the specific proposal for the requestor’s course of action.

2. What should a resolution look like?

All “Resolved” clauses within a resolution should use the objective form of the verb (for example, “Resolved, that the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), on behalf of its members: (1) supports...; (2) provides...; and (last resolved) urges...” What is a resolution to a problem? Resolution simply means coming up with a solution. Sometime you will develop a solution to try to “sell” to the respective parties; at other times, you may have to bring people together and help them work out the solution that is meaningful. The import point is that the solution has to “fix” the problem.

As this year’s Resolution Chairman I am going to be making my bulletins in the form of a Resolution so that you can see suggested ways of writing them. Resolutions that are to thank someone or to give praise to someone are commonly called “Bread & Butter” resolutions. I am also asking that each District or Unit write a resolution pertaining to what they are doing or to recognize a member for their dedication. I will also make examples of that in future bulletins.

Linda Fercho – Resolutions Chairman

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American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
2024-25



August Bulletin

Welcome to the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Program!

The ALA Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program oversees the work done by our Districts and Units to improve the quality of life for all California veterans. This year's VA&R Chairman is the Master Sergeant, District Chairmen are Gunnery Sergeants, and Unit Chairmen are Staff Sergeants. Have fun with your titles!

November 11th is **Veterans Day**. You should begin planning now to hold a ceremony or other veteran related activity at your Post home. Remember the Poppies! This is a wonderful opportunity to distribute Poppies and share the Poppy story. Please remember to include your Juniors in the planning and activities.

December is "**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Month**". Begin now to decide how your Unit and District can honor veterans during December. Host a holiday meal at your Post home, seek out veterans in assisted living facilities and do something special for them, remember the patients in VA medical facilities and Cal Vet homes with a small gift and holiday card. Your kindness will touch their hearts!

It's not too early to begin planning for **Wreaths Across America**. The ALA Academy offers a tutorial on this wonderful event and how Members, Units and Districts can be involved and fundraise. Save the Date: **December 14, 2024** is Wreaths Across America Day. Get your Juniors involved with wreath-laying and/or cemetery clean-up. What a great way to Remember, Honor, Teach. Visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org for more information.

Remember, it is never too late to serve and honor our veterans: they need to know that we appreciate their service to our country!

In closing, a reminder that District VA&R Chairmen are responsible for sharing the materials received in their Clovis Workshop packets as soon as possible. If you do not receive this information by the end of August, please contact your District counterpart and ask for copies of the materials provided. Good communication is one of the major keys for success, so let's ALL make the effort to provide our chairmen with the tools and know-how to work the ALA programs successfully this year!

Crown Thy Good with Brotherhood...

Susan Baker, Master Sergeant
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
rednanasue1@comcast.net
831-324-0191 / 831-917-7820