



American Legion Auxiliary District 29

Area 5
Department of California



A Fresh Slice of **RANGE**

COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2024

- Unit 72 Anaheim
- Unity 131 Santa Ana
- Unit 133 Huntington Beach
- Unit 132 Orange
- Unit 222 Laguna Beach
- Unit 257 Laguna Hills
- Unit 277 Placentia
- Unit 281 South Orange County
- Unit 295 Cypress
- Unit 291 Newport Beach
- Unit 327 Leisure World
- Unit 354 Buena Park
- Unit 555 Albert Schwab
- Unit 679 Richard Nixon
- Unit 716 Los Alamitos
- Unit 721 San Juan Capistrano



NEWS FROM YOUR DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT--

Hi ya'll---hopefully you and your members are enjoying being in our state of Texas! Since our last D 29 meeting, we have heard that many of our Units are not sending in membership---hopefully all Units have access to ALAMIS. This is where you will want to be to process membership! As of this writing, our District shows 1795 members in giving us 51.78% for the whole District. Thank you to those who are using the ALAMIS system. IF you are having trouble using ALAMIS or understanding what to do or NOT to do, please contact our D29 Membership chair, Cindy Mayfield; OR you might need to contact whoever in your Unit has ALAMIS access. Thank you to Orange, Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Placentia, So. Orange County, Newport Harbor, Buena Park, Albert Schwab, Richard Nixon, Los Alamitos have more members in than what was reported at our October D29 meeting. Keep up the good work!

Received my copy of National's November magazine! Recognize the California groups on the front cover? Of course, the picture was taken at this year's National Convention and the 2nd group from the left is from Newport Harbor P291 and the 3rd group is from Jackie Robinson Unit in Los Angeles! Congrats to both of them!!!

Lastly, but certainly NOT the least, we will be making Unit visits again---have had illness and car trouble but both are "at bay" for now so will be contacting you again. We do have some scheduled for November already and hopefully, we'll be able to see you then! A great big thank you to Cindy Mayfield for making a few visits as well as a very BIG thank you to Wendy Hagan for coming to several visits with me as well. We do understand that all Unit Presidents are not able to attend our D29 meetings, but please be sure to have at least one member from your Unit attend so that she can relay the information back to you and your Unit members.

Hope to see you at Newport Beach Post 291 at the November District meeting!

D29 President, Pat
Email: ed50pat49@yahoo.com or cell: (714) 342-4173



GIRLS STATE

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
GIRLS STATE PROGRAM
2024-25**

Bulletin #3

cagirlsstate.org

November 2025

2025 Reservations Form - Still Accepting Reservations

Reservations Hello SCOTUS Interns,
Thank you for all your work! We have 415 Reservations submitted! We had 418 delegates for the 2024 session and hope to have 450 delegates this session. There is a second 2024 Inquiries tab on the Reservations List where you can see high schools that have asked about participation in ALA CAGS. Please email me if you would like contact information for the individual that submitted the form inquiry.

Updates from Department Girls State Committee Meeting

- Dates for the 2025 Session: Saturday, June 14 – Thursday, June 19. (Staff orientation will be Friday, June 13.)
- 2024-2025 Budget was approved by the Committee.
2025 Unit Enrollment Fee will remain \$425. With the \$75 Delegate Registration Fee, the total program cost per delegate is \$500.
- The Unit Transmittal form for all fees will be available after March 1 when we can estimate transportation costs based on delegates' online application responses to transportation questions.

Unit Girls State Chairperson To Do List

- Download the 2025 Unit Information Packet. I will be released within the next 2 weeks. The first page shows changes for 2025 and detailed instructions for how to use the packet.
 - Note that when you enter on the Delegate/Alternate Information Sheet (page 15) your District #, Unit #, and Chair Name, Phone, and Email that information will automatically fill on pages 7, 9-11.
 - The Unit Information Packet Folder contains individual PDFs for ease in mailing specific pages to individuals.
- Complete the ALA CAGS Candidate Selection Instruction.
 - Per Department Code, prior to selecting 2025 ALA CA Girls State candidates, the Unit Girls State Chair and the Unit President must complete the 2025 ALA CAGS Candidate Selection Quiz.
 - This form needs to be completed every year. If the Unit Girls State Chair and/or Unit President completed the form last year, it must be repeated.
- Schedule interviews or the desired selection process with the school(s) the Unit has sponsored.
 - Use the resources in the Recruitment Flyers to publicize the program.
 - Use the resources in the Fundraising Tool Kit to increase the Unit's Girls State budget.

Continued Next Page...



GIRLS STATE

Next Zoom: Monday, November 25th at 7pm

Topic: ALA CAGS Chair Meetings
Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 854 8411 6950
Passcode: ALAcags82

Dial by your location

• +1 669 444 9171 US

– Meeting will be recorded for those unable to attend.

Links and Information from Previous Bulletins

2025 Reservation Form

2024-2025 Budget

Fundraising Ideas

Fundraising Tool Kit

The Structure of Girls State**

Are You Interested Flyer

2024 ALA GS School Introductory Letter

ALA CAGS Candidate Selection Instruction.

2025 ALA CAGS Candidate Selection Quiz.

Thank you for all your hard work! You are doing great....almost to goal! Keep going.

Caroline Miller, alacagschair@gmail.com (562) 444-8296



VA&R

Greetings to all Staff Sergeants,

It's November and so much to cover with VA&R. November is here and we are ready to help our veterans at the VA Hospital with care packages. This year they are asking for gift certificates. Ralph's or Walmart is a excellent choice with 25-50 dollar donation. I know this has been an issue in the past, but that has been cleared and we must move on to help our vets.

To make things easier for units that cannot make it to the VA volunteer services I can collect gift cards at November meeting and give you copy of donation to VA. I will personally see this is handed over to them.

Food is always a need, I am waiting for holiday update with food needs for pantry and PEIR group. I will be sending out a email list when I receive a update from VA.

November bingo at CLC will be hosted by Unit 291 Newport Beach. Thank you!

We have some major components with our VA&R programs which include this month, WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA. I hope our units have been busy with WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA. I know our district will be busy with different projects locally within their communities and at our National Cemetery. Please order your wreaths in a timely manner: wreathsacrossamerica.org.

With Christmas coming upon us we can start with service to our veterans (outside the VA). I know we have units already doing this, share the news of what you are doing.

December is VA&R month, I will be planning a mini question and answer workshop after our district meeting on the 7 th of December. Our District meetings are so limited with a time schedule (rightly so) I cannot cover as much as I would like. VA&R is such a big program I hope to answer all of your questions at our mini workshop.

Here are things to ponder on:

**VRC
CLC
SPINAL WARD
PEIR GROUP
CBOC**

Do we know the difference between VA&R and National Security?

One last thing, take a look at your mid-year reports. Fill out what you can. This makes my life easier and I share this with department. Mid-year is very important and this gives you information on what to prepare yourself for with the end of year reporting. Not to worry, I will be helping everyone with midyear reports at VA&R meeting.

PLEASE if you have any questions email me or call 714-308-2862.



VA&R

Dates to remember:

NOVEMBER 10, MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER 11 is Veterans Day

**NOVEMBER 1-16 drop off any donations to VA hospital before
THANKSGIVING. DO NOT DROP OFF ANYTHING THE WEEK OF THANKSGIVING.**

DECEMBER 1, MID-YEAR REPORTS

DECEMBER 7 District meeting afterwards VA&R workshop

DECEMBER 8 Christmas Tree decorating at VA Hospital

DECEMBER 14 WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!!!



New Community Living Center,
Long Beach VA

Fisher House





MEMBERSHIP

It's November and it will be a busy month for all units!

In the month of November we dedicate our time to MEMBERSHIP. District 29 ladies are Red Hot with a showing of 47.30% for the month of October. Unit chairmans give some time with reaching out to your units with new membership and rejoining.

Veterans Day is approaching. Have your membership applications ready to pass around.

- ★ Do we greet new faces at our unit or district meetings?
- ★ When we see a new face do we get up and say hello, does that new member feel out of sorts and sit by themselves during a meeting?

Be available, if someone has a question or needs help. Are we ready to step up and help them with their questions. We ask our members for help but if they feel useless they won't come back.

Be educated, educate them while sharing your membership reports. Training is an issue with ALAMIS, tools are available with Department and National. If you have a question please do not hesitate to call or email me.

2025: RECRUIT/REJOIN 10 Let's step up to this challenge. Our first unit to accomplish this is Los Alamitos Unit 716. I know there are some units that have reached this goal. Your hard working ladies need to get recognized, they have stepped up to the plate with recruiting.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING UNITS WITH THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER:

- ★ UNIT 295 CYPRESS 74.47%
- ★ UNIT 257 LAGUNA HILLS 72.55%
- ★ UNIT 72 NAHIEM 67.57%

Keep in mind December 7, Department Award deadline to reach 75%.

I appreciate all of our units; you put forth so much hard work in what you do.

Hoping all of you have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Warm regards,

Cynthia Mayfield
714-308-2862
District Membership Chairman
5th area Membership Chairman



NATIONAL SECURITY

Overcoming a Natural Disaster

The American Legion Auxiliary remains a constant source of support for those who have experienced a natural disaster, whether it be relying on unit members for support or distributing Auxiliary Emergency Fund grants to those who have suffered in the wake of destruction.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund Website: <https://www.legion-aux.org/AEF>

Mid-Year Reports

Mid-Year Reports are due by December 1, 2024 (see attached)

Sending a Military Care Package:

What You Need to Know

Webiste (see attached):

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/relationships/support-community/sending-a-military-care-package/>

https://herocarepackages.com/?srsId=AfmBOoryMHgUzzyTt_QPAbr7MlwqV_goVntarQ7yL71qvVx00LxkZqge

<https://herocarepackages.com/>

<https://troopster.com/>

Websites

National Security <https://calegionaux.org/programs/national-security>

Veterans Crisis Line: 24/7 Confidential Crisis Support Website:

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net>

Options: Dial 988 then press 1, text 838255 or chat on line

continued



NATIONAL SECURITY

October 2024

Hello to all of my Strategic Planning Commissioners. I hope everyone is doing well. This is bulletin #4.

As Strategic Planning Commissioners our focus should be on how we are helping with the Natural Disasters that have happened in the last couple of weeks. Do we know of any National Guard Units in our areas being Deployed to help in the hurricane areas? What about the fires happening in our State and other states?

On the recent National Security zoom meeting, we are encouraged to focus on quality of life for our Military and their families. This means we give encouragement to the families that have loved ones who are deployed to these areas.

Reach out and find out how their children and spouses are doing. Do they need assistance with a local food pantry? Do the kids need some fun things to do to ease their anxiety? Something as simple as some coloring books, crayons or word find books which are not expensive can give a child some comfort.

Your area may not have a local National Guard Unit, but don't let that keep you from assisting. I would like to encourage the areas with Guard Units to please email this Chairmen your information so I can provide your information to other Auxiliary Units that would like to help out.

This is another reason to be prepared for emergencies. Log on to the National Auxiliary website and get trained. Please visit Community Emergency Readiness Training at <https://www.ready.gov/>. There is information on:

- Make a plan Form
- FEMA Mobile App
- Emergency Alerts
- Power Outages
- Severe Weather
- Flooding
- Build a Kit
- Hurricanes
- Tornadoes

Thank you for taking the time to read this bulletin. If you have any suggestions for other Nation Security topics please reach out to me.

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



NATIONAL SECURITY

MILITARY
ONESOURCE

ARTICLE

Sending a Military Care Package: What You Need to Know

6 minute read • July 17, 2024

Military care packages deliver a welcome piece of home to your service member while they're away-whether that's your child, fiancé, sibling or friend. They help both of you stay connected despite distance or duty.

Here are some appropriate ways to send those care packages to your service member throughout their time in the military.

Care packages during boot camp? Letters are better.

When your recruit first left for basic training, you may have noticed that they only took a few things with them. This is because the military provides everything recruits need during boot camp, from meals and housing to basics like toothbrushes or socks. Duplicates from home are stored and only retrieved after graduation.

That's why most service branches discourage care packages during boot camp. In fact, the drill instructor may punish the entire unit if a recruit receives an unauthorized care package. So, it's better to wait until your recruit finishes basic before you send any packages.

If you do send a letter, use a plain piece of paper and an envelope. It's okay to send photos, but don't decorate the envelope - it could cause unwanted attention for your recruit. Plan on two weeks for letter delivery, so time letters to arrive before graduation. Think twice about texting, sending digital cards or email, as your service member will have very limited use of a cell phone, if at all. Use of cell phones is dictated by service branch and drill sergeants.

After boot camp is the time to send military care packages.

Service members who have finished basic training or are on deployment generally have more freedom to receive care packages. Sending a military care package is a great way to show your appreciation and love for your service member and all they do for our country.

continued



NATIONAL SECURITY

If you are a parent or other relative, consider sending the toiletries, foods and treats your service member likes best. If you are in a relationship with a service member, think about sending notes, cards and small items that remind them how much you care. And, of course, photos from home are always welcome.

Here are some military care package ideas that are appreciated by service members:

- **Necessities**, such as sunblock, socks, underwear, flip-flops, lip balm and powder
- **Snacks**, including chips, salsa, nuts, cookies, beef jerky, non-melting candy and trail mix in packaging that isn't easily crushed. Drink mixes in single-serving packets are also a good addition.
- **Homemade foods:** The most popular items are cookies and "cake in a jar," which is a cake baked in a canning jar. Again, the key is sturdy packaging to prevent crushing.
- **Games**, such as playing cards/poker chips, crosswords or puzzle books.
- **Stationery** is a must if you want to receive any letters from your service member.
- **Send paper, envelopes, address labels and pens**, but skip the stamps. They won't need them. Photos and notes that show your support and affection. Maybe get a daily tear-off calendar and write an encouraging note on each page.

Once you know what you want to send, follow these tips to make sure your military care package arrives in good condition:

- **Seal everything:** Individually seal items in plastic bags with zip locks, if possible, to protect items from the elements or to keep them from leaking out.
- **Use sturdy packaging:** The best packaging is a free Military Care Kit from the U.S. Postal Service, which includes priority mail boxes, tape, custom forms and address labels. The packaging is free, but the postage is not.
- **Provide accurate shipping information:** Include your service member's unit, last and first name, title, DPO/FPO/APO and full ZIP code.
- **Take advantage of reduced postage for military mail:** You only have to provide standard domestic postage on mail going to an APO or FPO address. For example, if you pay \$5 to mail a package in the continental United States, it costs the same to mail it overseas as long as you have an APO/FPO/DPO address and associated ZIP code.
- **Complete the customs forms:** You need to fill out customs forms for any shipping outside the United States. Customs forms are included with Military Care Kits or can be found on the USPS website.

continued



NATIONAL SECURITY

- **Consider shipping time:** Most care packages can make it to the Middle East in about two weeks, but some take longer. For holidays, allow about five weeks for delivery.
- **Be careful what you send:** Check the post office's prohibited items list to keep items from being rejected. Remember that sometimes packages from home get opened by someone before your service member, so don't send anything you don't want strangers to see. Also, don't send things that are valuable or can't be replaced- sometimes packages get lost.

Care packages are always good, but sometimes a service member may need a bit more, whether it's help with taxes during tax season or talking with someone who can listen.

Do you know that active-duty, National Guard and reserve service members have access to a wide range of individualized consultations, coaching and other services? This includes relationship and peer-to-peer counseling, tax preparation and financial services, wellness coaches and more.

It's all free and available 24/7 through Military OneSource. [Learn more»](#).

THIS ARTICLE IS FOR Extended Family or Friend, New Service Member, service Provider, Spouse

SERVICE BRANCH Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, National Guard, Reserves

TOPIC

Logistics for Service Members, Support Community



EDUCATION

SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLY: September 1, 2024 to March 26, 2025

JAMES H PARKS SCHOLARSHIP

Each Veterans Affairs medical center may nominate one Veteran Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) Student Volunteer to be considered for this scholarship. The nominee must have completed 100 hours of regularly scheduled VAVS during a calendar year prior to September 1. **LAST DAY TO APPLY DEC. 31.**

<https://www.volunteer.va.gov/ParkeScholarship.asp>

Continuing/Re-entry Students or students pursuing a higher degree Scholarship

Eligibility for all educational scholarships to be awarded by the Department of California shall be granted only to students attending schools in California and who are a veteran, son, daughter, or spouse of a veteran.

Applicants for any Department of California Scholarship must be a resident of the State of California and planning on attending a college or university in California in the Fall. (Exception: Lucille Ganey Scholarship.)

<chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://calegionaux.org/resources/scholarships/scholar-ca-E21c-app-for-ed-assist-for-continuing-or-reentry.pdf>

LUCILLE GANEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Eligibility for all educational scholarships to be awarded by the Department of California shall be granted only to students attending schools in California and who are a veteran, son, daughter, or spouse of a veteran.

Applicants for any Department of California Scholarship must be a resident of the State of California and planning on attending a college or university in California in the Fall.

(Exception: Lucille Ganey Scholarship.)

<chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://calegionaux.org/resources/scholarships/scholar-e21g-lucille-ganey-memorial-scholarship.pdf>

Educational Assistance General Scholarship

Eligibility for all educational scholarships to be awarded by the Department of California shall be granted only to students attending schools in California and who are a veteran, son, daughter, or spouse of a veteran.

Applicants for any Department of California Scholarship must be a resident of the State of California and planning on attending a college or university in California in the Fall. (Exception: Lucille Ganey Scholarship.)

<chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://calegionaux.org/resources/scholarships/scholar-ca-e21-application-for-ed-funds.pdf>

**A
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QUARTERMANIA

\$20
Pre-sale
\$25 at the
door



Snacks
provided
for
players

Saturday, November 9th
Doors Open 1:30 - First Bid 2 pm

Cypress American Legion
5646 Corporate Ave. 90630

Shopping, Drawings, Bids and More!
But you got to be in it to win it!

Tickets

Cypress American Legion - 714-821-0910

AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

FREE ADMISSION

CRAFTS, FOOD, JEWELRY, HOME
DECOR, VINTAGE CLOTHES, AND
SO MUCH MORE!

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sat. November 2nd

American Legion Post 716
3252 Florista St,
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

FIND OUT MORE AT
WWW.LOSALAMITOSUNIT716.ORG
(UNDER CURRENT PROJECTS)



District 29 Officers and Chairs

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ed50pat49@yahoo.com

Vice President I, Cindy Mayfield 714-308-2862
samramay@yahoo.com

Vice President II, Cindy Edes 714-906-6021
cindyedes@gmail.com

Secretary, Noella Passarelli 714-756-0236
n.passarelli83@gmail.com

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kt040495@yahoo.com

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Girls's State, Noella Passarelli See Secretary

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Past President's Parley, Pat Burr See Historian

Poppy,
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Public Relations, Wendy Hart Hagen See Education

Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation Cindy Mayfield
See VPI

National Security, Yoli Gonzles 909-730-9212
yoligz@yahoo.com

DISTRICT MEETINGS:

| | | | | |
|--------|------------|------------|--|---|
| 9-Nov | 291 | 9:30AM | NEWPORT HARBOR | 215 15th St, Newport Beach, CA 92663 |
| 7-Dec | 131 | 10AM | SANTA ANA | 1404 N Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA |
| 11-Jan | 72 | 10AM | ANAHEIM PRESIDENT LINDA HAYES VISIT TO D29 | 936 N Lemon St, Anaheim, CA 92805 |
| 8-Feb | 295 | 9AM | CYPRESS | 5646 Corporate Ave, Cypress, CA 90630 |
| 8-Mar | 281 | 9AM | SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY | Sea Country Community Center, 24602 Aliso Creek Rd, Laguna Niguel 92677 |
| 12-Apr | 133 | 9AM | HUNTINGTON BEACH | Memorial Hall - 1718 Orange Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 |
| 10-May | 327 | 9AM | LEISURE WORLD | 1353 Seal Beach Blvd, Seal Beach CLUBHOUSE MEETING LOCATION TBA |
| 14-Jun | 555 | 10AM | MIDWAY CITY | 14582 Beach Blvd, Midway City, CA 92655 |
| JULY | NO MEETING | NO MEETING | NO MEETING | NO MEETING |



4th Annual COMING SOON HAUNTED MAZE

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

6PM - 10PM

6 ROOMS
\$5.00 Entry Fee
All proceeds go towards helping Veterans and Families...

October OPEN TO PUBLIC!

25th FRIDAY **26th SATURDAY** **31st HALLOWEEN NIGHT**

AMERICAN LEGION POST #72 936 N Lemon Street, Anaheim, CA 92805



DISTRICT 29 OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/d29ala/>

DISTRICT 29 RESOURCES & IDEAS
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/d29resourcesandideas>

Send your photos & articles to be included in our newsletter



A SLICE OF ORANGE COUNTY is a regular publication of the American Legion Auxiliary District 29, Department of California. Please send all submissions to:
wendyhart.oc@gmail.com



OCTOBER DISTRICT MEETING



At the October District 29 Meeting, Wendy Hagen presented Madam President Pat Alvarez with a District 29 Proclamation on behalf of the Orange County Board of Supervisors commemorating the 105th Anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary!

