



American Legion  
**Auxiliary**

# The Auxiliary News Hub

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

## Mission Statement

In the spirit of Service Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

## Vision Statement

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security.

## Purposes

In fulfillment of our mission, the American Legion Auxiliary adheres to the following purposes:

- To support and advocate for veterans, military, and their families
- To support the initiatives and programs of The American Legion
- To foster patriotism and responsible citizenship
- To award scholarship and promote quality education and literacy
- To award scholarships and promote quality education and literacy
- To provide educational and leadership opportunities that uphold the ideals of freedom and democracy and encourage good citizenship and patriotism in government
- To empower our membership to achieve personal fulfillment through Service Not Self



*The American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of California  
salutes our men and women in  
uniform:  
past, present, and future.*

## 2021-2022 Board Room

President	Dee Ann Graham
Vice President	Gloria Williams
Secretary	Liz Doidge
Treasurer	Susie Tozier
Chaplain	Grace Huston
Historian	Jean Cooley Demeules
Parliamentarian	Anita Biggs
Srgt-at-Arms	Karen Herrera
Asst. Srgt.	Rochelle Billet-Smith
Finance	Linda Workman
	Cathalenne McCoy
	Katherine Tellyer
NEC	Joan Cannon
NEC Alt.	Kathie Martinez
Advisory	Susie Tozier
	Loretta Marsh
	Joan Cannon

## 2021-2022 Surf City Businesses

Americanism	M. O'Brien-Sacco
Aux. Emergency	Valerie Hill
Children & Youth	Tamra Duron
Community Service	Cyd Kintzer
Constitution/Bylaws	Gloria Williams
Convention Chm.	Genieca Riser
Convention Co-Chair	Gloria Sinopoli
Conv. Com. Chair	Anita Biggs
Conv. Com. 2 Years	Linda Fercho
Credentials	Debra Hurado
Distinguished Guest	Linda Fercho
Editor	Nancy Heinisch
Education	Robin Falkenburg
Elections	Kathy Newlen Quiver
Girls State Advisor	Nancy Brown-Park
Girls State Chairman	Allyn Kau
Girls State Director	Tammy Sollazzo
Girls S. Asst. Director	Sherry Core
Girls State 3 Year	Jan Fletcher
Girls State 2 Year	Maggie Alherne
Girls State 1 Year	Caitlin Voss
Girls State Nurse	Elizabeth Tomlin
Girls State Pres. Alt.	Karen Herrera
Girls State VP Alt.	Kim MacKinney
Junior Activities	Ann Philcox
Junior Conf. Director	Jackie Cleveland
Junior Conf. 2 Year	Bernice Brown
Junior Conf. 1 Year	Valerie Hill
Nurse	Ann Sanchez
Leadership	Tracey Varnell-Fercho
Legislative	Kathie Martinez
Membership	Susan Baker
Music	Donna Smith
National Security	Vicky Bean
Past Presidents	Loretta Marsh
Poppy	Linda Hayes
Public Relations	Patricia Galatiota
Resolutions	Cece Harvey
Rules	Sharon Moore
Veterans Affairs	Glenda Schultz
Ways and Means	Marion Rocha
Ways and Means Com.	Terry Olaray
Ways and Means Com.	Tami Wilkenburg
Webmaster	Rebecca Glennly

## President's Corner

# Surfing through California

**P**resident Graham will be traveling via surfboard to the Districts. She is looking forward to hearing all about your success stories!



## Official Visits to Districts

- (1) December 05: District 5
- (2) December 08: District 20
- (3) December 11: Districts 6 and 7
- (4) December 12: District 4
- (5) January 08: District 25
- (6) January 09: District 21
- (7) January 28: District 23

*The Auxiliary News Hub* is the official publication of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of California.

**Deadline for the February/ March issue is January 24.**

Editor reserves the right to edit any submission for the purpose of publication. Please email all articles, photos, suggestions and (gentle) criticisms to Editor Nancy Heinisch [nancyheinisch@att.net](mailto:nancyheinisch@att.net).



# Poppy Update

## Urgent Request to Districts and/or Units Regarding Poppies

We are in need of poppy makers from units/districts. Per the Poppy Guide, “Auxiliary volunteers may now make poppies if it is necessary due to a shortage of veteran poppy makers, but Auxiliary volunteers are not to be paid. If poppies are not made by veterans, the label should not state “Handmade by Veterans.” We need you **NOW**, please. Supplies will be provided by Department and will not be an expense out of District and Unit funds.

If you can help, contact Department Poppy Chairman Linda Hayes ASAP by email [LJeffery@aol.com](mailto:LJeffery@aol.com) or by phone 661-209-4365.

## Use of Poppy Funds Explained

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to clarify the use of Poppy funds: “*Use of Poppy Funds is allowable for care packages only when it is for a welfare need (such as first aid topical treatment or vital hygiene items), as opposed to a comfort need, and not comfort/leisure items (such as baked goods or books).*” This is not saying that you cannot give them comfort/leisure items, it is only stating that Poppy Funds that are received as donations to your poppy program cannot be used for those items.

Poppy Funds can also be used to help the Junior Enlisted Service Members with their food insecurities. Each month our Junior Enlisted Service Members’ families do not have enough money to feed their families. They must go to Food Banks for assistance with food *every month*. Every military base has an Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) that helps service members and their families. Our units are strongly encouraged to send poppy money to the following California military installations:

Ms. Samantha Holt, Executive Director  
 Armed Services YMCA  
 Box 555028  
 Camp Pendleton, CA 92055  
*Earmarked for the Jr. enlisted service member food pantry*

Ms. Sara Beams, Executive Director  
 Armed Services YMCA  
 PO Box 6002  
 Twentynine Palms, CA 92278  
*Earmarked for the Pelican Shop Food Pantry*

The American Legion Auxiliary national headquarters signed a Memorandum of Understanding with all ASYMCA's nationwide to sponsor the food pantries and help the junior enlisted service members and their families.

*Linda Hayes  
 Department Poppy Chairman*

## 2022-2023 National Appointment Application Deadline: December 15

National committee chairs and members are appointed annually and confirmed by the National Executive Committee to serve on a wide variety of ALA committees. The goal is to match skill sets and talents that best complement the Auxiliary’s mission of serving veterans, the military, and their families. Some committees, like ALA Girls Nation, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival), and Junior Activities require physical agility and endurance.

You need not have served as an officer in your district or department to be eligible for an appointment, and male spouse ALA members are welcome to apply. Apply on the National website .

December 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Proper Parliamentary Procedure and Practices

**Department Parliamentarian Anita Biggs helps answer your most perplexing questions**



*Parliamentarian Anita following COVID-19 protocol*

### What exactly does nondenominational mean for a chaplain?

In our organization, non-denominational for the Chaplain means they are not specific to any religion in their prayers and writings.

As we are assembled "For God and Country", the Chaplain is limited to pray and refer to "God" without addressing any individual religion.

Chaplain key resources such as the Chaplains' Prayer Book and the Chaplains Manual can be found on the national website.

### Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Record Portal

Just enter a few details below to get a link to a QR code and digital copy of your COVID-19 vaccination record. The portal provides only a digital copy of your vaccine record.

The portal can be found at [myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov](http://myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov).

## Mentoring:

the act or process of helping and giving advice to a younger or less experienced person



## Mentors Make ALL the Difference

One thing we need to focus on in our Units and Districts is Mentoring. Too often we bring in new members and then leave them to figure out the workings of the Auxiliary.

To share a personal note, when I became a member of Robert Allen Romo Unit 422 Rialto in 1980, we had quite a number of "seasoned" members.

They did not leave me to flounder and try to figure out what was happening. They took me "under their wings", spent time talking to me about the programs, provided me with a Unit Handbook, Unit Bylaws and their phone numbers in case I had questions while reading the information.

They asked me what I enjoyed doing and at that time my reply was "writing" and "decorating". Immediately I became the primary person to plan decorations for functions. Of course there were many

who stepped up to help but my job was to plan the "theme" for each activity. The members of the Post were also very helpful, and took care of the "heavy lifting" for us: i.e, setting up tables, climbing ladders to put up the high decorations, etc. We worked together!

It was a beautiful time and my fond memories of those years are still with me. Had those "seasoned" ladies not made me feel welcome, I may have been just a card-carrying member, never getting involved.

Because of them, I went on to chair most of the Unit programs and served as Unit President. Those same ladies also made sure I attended District meetings and encouraged me to become involved there. Without their dedication to the Auxiliary I would not have gone on to serve as District President — and more.

Mentors can make All the difference!

*Donna Scott*

### Need a No-cost Fundraiser?

Gotsneakers makes it socially and financially rewarding to contribute to a circular economy with our FREE sneaker recycling programs for individual sellers and organizations of all types and sizes. Visit [gotsneakers.com](http://gotsneakers.com) for more information.





## Membership Waves

# Area Membership Reps in the Spotlight

## Meet Suzanne Winters and Donna Mattox

The ALA Department of California is blessed to have six wonderful members serving as Area Membership Representatives this year. The next several issues of *The Auxiliary News Hub* will feature these members and provide the reader with information on their histories and service to our veterans and the communities in which they reside.

### *Suzanne Winters*

We would like you to meet Suzanne Winters, Area 1 Membership Team Representative. She is a member of Fair Oaks Unit 383, District 6. Fair Oaks is a small community nestled in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountain range. Suzanne has Membership responsibility for the Units in Districts 1 THROUGH 7—all of which are located in northern California.

Suzanne joined the Auxiliary in 2016 and is a Charter member of the Fair Oaks Unit. Her eligibility is through her father, a World War II veteran, and through her husband, who is a Vietnam veteran.

Suzanne is a retired hospital operating room technician with forty years of

experience! Upon her retirement in 2013 Suzanne, her husband (who is an American Legion Rider), and their five pound chihuahua embarked on a two year motorcycle tour of the northwestern states and traveled some 40,000 miles!

Suzanne is very active, both at the unit and district levels. She currently serves as the Unit 383 Treasurer and Girls State Chairman. Additionally Suzanne serves as the District 6 Auxiliary President. In 2019 she was appointed Deputy for the VA Northern California Health Care System, Mather, CA, and she now serves as the Representative for same.

### *Donna Mattox*

Next, please say hello to Our Area 5 Membership Team Representative, Donna Mattox. Donna is a proud member of Highland Unit 421, District 25, who joined the Auxiliary in 1995. Her eligibility is through her Army veteran grandfather. Donna has Membership responsibility for the units in Districts 21, 22, 25, 29, and 30.

Donna has held many positions at both the Unit and District level. She served as

the President for both Colton Unit 155 and Highland Unit 421. Donna also served as District 25 President in 2011-12. She has experienced much joy while working the Auxiliary's mission for the last 27 years.

When not involved with Auxiliary activities Donna indulges her special interest - her six grandchildren and two great-grands. Donna's hobbies include crocheting and playing soft-tip darts.

### **Job Responsibilities**

Area Membership Representatives serve as the liaisons between Districts and the Department Membership Chair. They are responsible for the oversight of district membership and are generally available to assist District Chairmen with Units who are not reporting Membership in a timely manner. If you have questions or concerns about your Unit/District membership please contact your Area Representative for assistance. The Reps are more than happy to help resolve any issues that may occur.

*Susan Baker*  
Department Membership Chair



## ALA Foundation Provides Grants to Support Auxiliary Mission

If you've ever raised funds for a special Auxiliary project, you know that competition for charitable donations is fierce. What you may not know is that there's an organization dedicated specifically to helping Auxiliary units, districts, and departments publicize and fulfill their mission of service.

**The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation provides grants for several different purposes:**

- \* Supporting projects that feed into the Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- \* Supporting projects that provide a long term benefit to veterans, such as providing needed equipment or furnishings to a veteran home
- \* Funding ALA branding, such as tents and banners
- \* Serving as a 501(c)(3) intermediary for institutional donors

It's important to note that the Foundation requires a 20% match of the grant amount, and that certain projects, such as post home improvements and projects to benefit specific individual veterans, are not eligible for grants.

The Foundation relies on Auxiliary units, districts and departments to identify needs in their local communities and apply for grants, and as an Auxiliary member, you can play an important part in that. To learn more about the kinds of grants that the Foundation provides, and how to apply for them, please visit [alafoundation.org/grants](http://alafoundation.org/grants).

*Lauralee Gooch  
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation Board Member*



*Auxiliary members at the William J. Pete Knight Veterans Home pre COVID-19*

## Honoring Jeanne Wood

On September 26, 2021, Unit 299 celebrated a significant day marking a 100-year birthday celebration for World War II Army Nurse Corps First Lieutenant Jeanne Wood. Jeanne is an incredible person who through her many historic events and scenarios of both triumphs and tribulations has inspired everyone she meets.

Jeanne graduated from Bryn Mawr School of Nursing in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. From 1944-45 she was stationed in England working 18 plus hours a day in a general hospital. She was also dispatched to North Africa and Burma. In 1945 Jeanne was on her way to the South Pacific when the war ended and she was sent home to New York on the Queen Mary.



In 1945 Jeanne Wood married Jack Haines and they both became very active in the American Legion Elmer C. Jetberg Post 299 in Chino, California. Jack served as Post 299 Commander from 1967-68. Jeanne was honored to lead Post 299 from 1970-71 as the first and only female commander.

Jeanne has held many leadership positions for District 25 receiving countless awards and certificates during her membership. She is a 38year PUFL member of ALA Unit 299.

In 2018 Unit 299 Elmer C. Jetbert American Legion Auxiliary adopted World War II Army Nurse Jeanne Wood for their "Adopt a Veteran" program.

Unit 299 is thrilled to be able to honor Jeanne Wood.

*Patricia Galatiota  
Department Public Relations Chair*

# Tech Corner: How to Create or Save PDFs Easily on Any Device



## iPads

How to save PDF files on an iPad online. This method works for any page on the Internet. It doesn't matter if you have a PDF opened or want to save a whole webpage as a PDF on your iPad, the instructions below should do the trick.

- Open the PDF on Safari (the web browser).
- Click the arrow at the bottom of the screen.
- Swipe through the available options until you see 'Create PDF'.
- After a PDF has been rendered, click 'Done'.
- Click 'Save File To...', choose the location and click 'Add'. The PDF will be stored in the file you chose.

## Any Device - No PDF Program, No problem

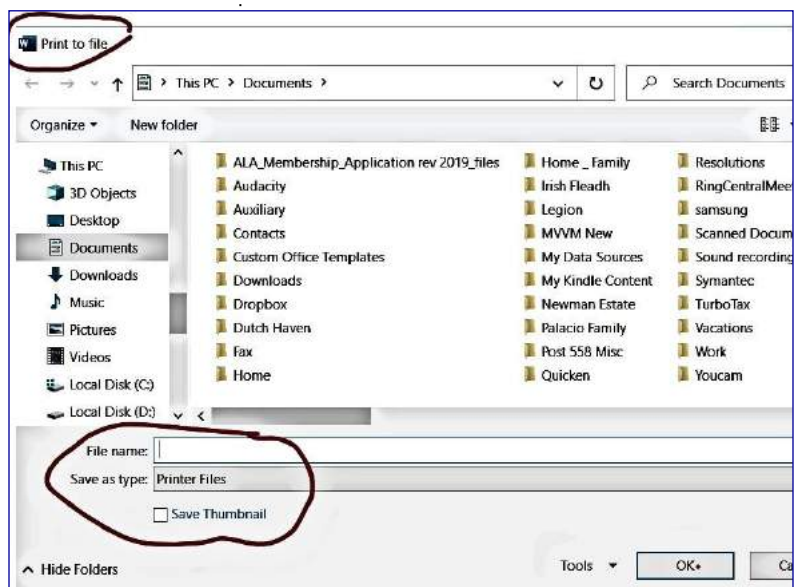
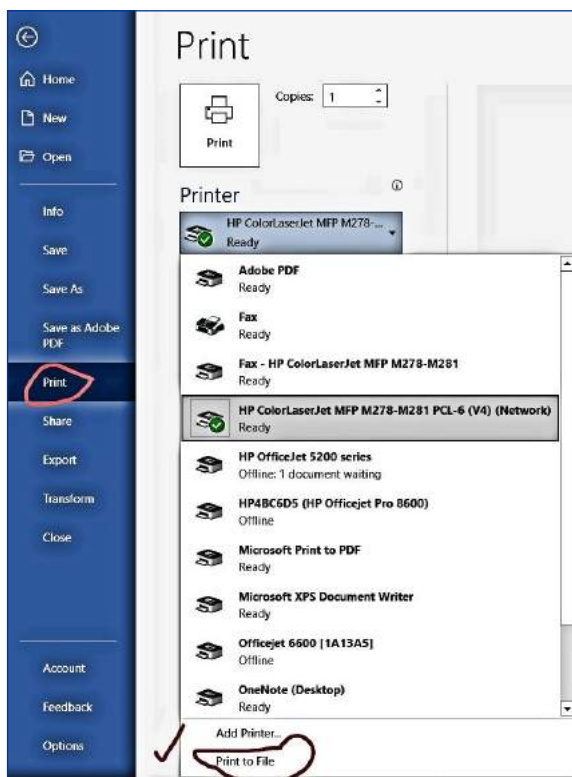
Whatever device you are using, you can save a PDF by Print to PDF or Print to File.

Click on File, Print, and under Printer, pull down the menu to see if you have anything with "PDF" in the name, which could be Microsoft PDF or Adobe PDF that comes pre-installed with your device. Select the printer with PDF in the name.

Or click on File, Save As, and find a PDF option in the pull-down menu. Or Print "to file", which is the last item in the printer selection in the pull down box. See images below.

Or use your smart phone to take a picture, then Print the picture as a PDF For best results, tape the document to a wall at eye level and take the picture to avoid shadows, blurry and crooked images. If it is too dark, turn on your flash.

If you are reading this column, fill out this [form](#) and I will enter you in a drawing for a \$25 donation to your favorite ALA program awarded on January 1, 2022. Form at: <https://forms.gle/yMSacPZ8UkQvx5qs9>



### Questions?

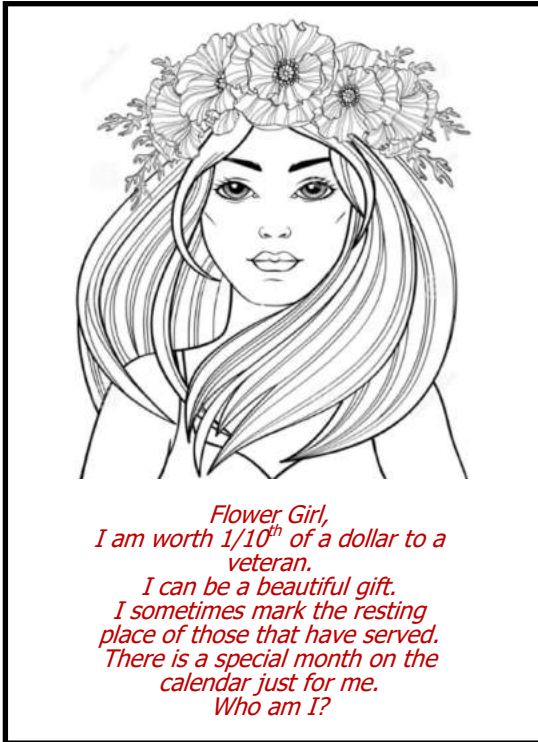
If you have questions on technical subjects, please email ALA's Tech Guru Cindy Newman [cnewman419@yahoo.com](mailto:cnewman419@yahoo.com) or call 650-219-1041.

# Coloring Books and Charm Bracelets!

## Coloring Books

American Legion Auxiliary District 12 President Elizabeth Estavillo created a coloring book for the Units to use as a fun tool to share information about all the chairmanship bulletins that have come out since July.

The coloring book encourages the Unit President and chairmen to read the literature and share the information with



the members at the meetings. On each page of the coloring book is a hint as to what chairman bulletin that page is talking about and a question to answer—you have to read the bulletin to answer the question. (See sample page above.)

Each Unit also received a folder with all the bulletins. Hopefully at the District meeting in January all coloring books will be returned with all the questions answered.

## Charm Bracelets

Additionally each member receives a bracelet with charms when they attend a meeting; they also receive a charm to add to their bracelet when each task is completed.

There are five District meetings and five tasks. Charm one is a gummy bear, and charm two is a wave. (These two charms are for attending the first two meetings for the year.) Charm three is a surf board for completing the coloring book. Charm four is a starfish and will be for five to ten new members, and charm five is a crystal for 100% end of year reports and supplemental.

Extra charms will be given for attending leadership workshops and mentoring the next chairman or officer for next year. Each unit earns the charms as a group. To get the charm you must attend the meeting.

Three units are already close to having five new members. Not to say that this is what got them the new members but it does give them recognition for their hard work and dedication.

Contact District 12 President Elizabeth Estavillo [estavie@comcast.net](mailto:estavie@comcast.net) for more information.



## Make Sure Your Letter Gets to Santa

Envelopes with addresses that are unclear or written in the wrong place may not get delivered.

- Print addresses neatly in capital letters.
- Use computer, pen or permanent marker.
- Pencil is not acceptable.
- Do not use commas or periods except for the hyphen in the Zip +4 Code

Write the recipient's address in the bottom center of the envelope. Include the following on separate lines:

- Recipient's full name or company name
- Full street address and apartment or suite number, if applicable
- City, State, and ZIP+4 Code

If the apartment or suite number cannot fit on the delivery address line above the city, state, and ZIP+4 Code, place it on a separate line immediately above the delivery address line.

### Example

**MS LIZ DOIDGE  
ALA DEPT OF CALIFORNIA  
SUITE 319  
401 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102-4586**

Source USPS.com

## Interested in Taking ALA Academy Live Courses?

Go to [member.legion-aux.org/member/online-training](http://member.legion-aux.org/member/online-training). You will need to login with your user name and password.

Click the Launch Academy button near the top of the screen. The ALA Academy will open in a separate window.

Click "Browse Catalogue" to view all the courses offered.



***District 26 President Peggy Toye authored the proclamation below signed by the Mayor of Redwood City and the City Council to honor veterans in general and the entire American Legion Post 105 Family.***

# ***Proclamation***

## ***Veterans and Military Families Month***

**WHEREAS**, the City of Redwood City acknowledges the service of our veterans in our community who bravely served our country during peacetime and war; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Redwood City applauds currently enlisted men and women who serve their country here and abroad by protecting our national interests; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Redwood City recognizes the sacrifices military families make for their country by enduring long absences from their loved ones during deployments; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the American Legion Post 105 Redwood City continue their life of public service by assisting veterans and their families through referral services to government agencies, engender camaraderie, and visit Veteran Affairs facilities regularly; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 105 Redwood City members donate food and gifts to veteran patients at Veteran Affairs facilities and visit Veteran Affairs facilities regularly; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Legion Riders Chapter 105 Redwood City and the Sons of the American Legion Post 105 Redwood City donate hundreds of hours a year in providing military honor escort, flag line and firing line details for memorial services; and

**WHEREAS**, we all owe the veterans and military families a substantial debt of gratitude for their current and continuing service to their country, their local communities, and their comrades.

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIANE HOWARD, MAYOR OF REDWOOD CITY, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 1 UNTIL NOVEMBER 30, 2021 TO BE IN OUR CITY***

***Veterans and Military Families Month***

and encourage all residents to recognize contributions and accomplishments of Veterans and Military Families and the extent to which we all rely on and benefit from their service.



## **Be it Resolved . . .**

In the United States Congress, a joint resolution is a legislative measure that requires passage by the Senate and the House of Representative and is presented to the President for approval or disapproval. Generally, there is no legal difference between a joint resolution and a bill.

A resolution passed by both houses of a legislative body has the force of law when signed by or passed over the veto of the Executive.

Resolutions are not laws; rather, they are expressions of the “Sentiments” of either the House or Senate. H. R. stands for the U.S. House of Representatives, and any legislation with that prefix indicates that the bill originated from the House.

If passed by the House, the bill moves on to the Senate, the bill moves on to the Senate for consideration.

**Resolutions are a formal way of stating intended action by a group of people. A resolution is an original motion, which because of its importance, length, or complexity is submitted in writing.**

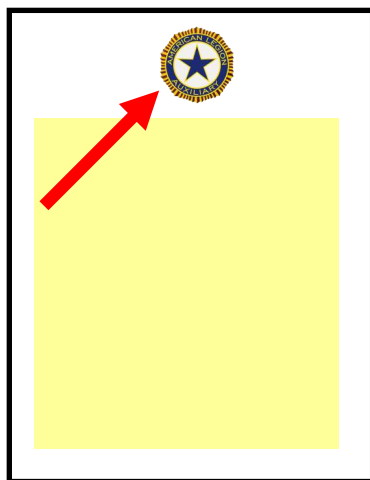
(Hopefully everybody gets to start understanding resolutions better—I know I did!)

*Cecilia “Cece” Harvey  
Department Resolution Chairman  
cc2harvey@gmail.com*

## Placing Emblem on Flyers, Publications

The American Legion Auxiliary emblem should always be prominently displayed at the top of any production with nothing placed above it. Except in some rare instances, the American flag is permissible to be placed above our emblem.

A best practice is to avoid using our logo over any "busy" or colorful background (i.e., anything that will interfere with the readability or overall visibility of our emblem).



ALA Branding Guide



## Emotional Veterans Day at Post 509

Veterans Day was exciting and emotional from the time we arrived at American Legion Post 509 to the time we retired the flags.

We then joined in the parade festivities at the Fresno Veterans Day Parade, known for being one of the largest in the nation.

A luncheon coordinated by Sue Duxbury was served at Post 509 following the parade. Auxiliary members worked side by side with Legionnaires, Sons and Riders to provide a meal for our Veterans.

It was great to see many comrades greet each other and also express their condolences to those who we have lost. A special guest was Larry Duba, 96 years old, who is just as proud today as he was when he served our country.

Our last function was to assist with the lowering of the flags. A fitting end to a great day. We are already looking forward to Veterans Day 2022.

Grace Solis  
Fresno Federal Unit 509  
District 14

## Estrada Declared Winner



District 20 Past President Hila Estrada won the \$250 Community Service fundraiser quilt donated by Ann Philcox. The quilt was displayed at the DEC prior to COVID-19.





## 12 Things You Didn't Know about Holiday Songs

1. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Rockin' around the Christmas Tree," "A Holly Jolly Christmas," and "Run, Rudolph, Run" were all written by the same man Johnny Marks who was Jewish.
2. In 1906 "O Holy Night" became the second song to ever be broadcast on radio.
3. "Do you Hear What I Hear?" was written by two people with the most Christmas-y sounding names of all time: Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne. It is also as it turns out was inspired by the Cuban Missile Crisis. Next time you listen to "Do you Hear What I Hear?" just keep that in the back of your mind.
4. Thurl Arthur Ravenscroft sang "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch". He was also the voice of Tony the Tiger for 50 years.
5. The BBC would not play the song "I'll be Home for Christmas" during World War II because they didn't want to lower the morale of their troops.
6. George Michael actually wrote the Wham song "Last Christmas". He also got sued for it because of its resemblance to the Barry Manilow song "Can't Smile Without You". It was settled out of court.
7. Irving Berlin who wrote "White Christmas" hated Elvis's cover of his song. In the '50's he started a campaign to ban Presley's version of the song from the radio, a process that proved akin to banning snow from falling.
8. "Let it Snow" was written by Sammy Cahn and Julie Styne during a 1945 heat wave in California.
9. Another song that was written in the heat: "The Christmas Song," also known as "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire". Apparently songwriter Bob Wells was overheating, so he wrote a list of things that reminded him of cold weather: chestnuts roasting, Jack Frost nipping, yuletide carols, etc. And then they became the star of a song.
10. The residents of Armonk, New York, believe that the song "Frosty the Snowman" was written about their town. They even hold an annual parade in honor of it.
11. Paul McCartney wrote, sang, and played every instrument for "Wonderful Christmastime". He still earns between \$40,000 and \$600,000 every year in royalties for the song.
12. If you really received all of the gifts from "The Twelve Days of Christmas" there would be 364 presents total. Someone did the math today and determined that it would cost around \$179,454.19.

## Holiday "Poppy" Spritz Cookies

1 cup butter — room temperature  
 2/3 cup sugar  
 3 egg yolks  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1 teaspoon almond flavoring (or other of your choice)  
 generous squirt red gel food coloring  
 2 1/2 cups flour

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Thoroughly mix first 5 ingredients, then add gel food coloring to achieve the desired color.

Add and mix flour in increments. Using about 1/4 of dough at a time, force dough through a cookie press onto ungreased cookie sheet using a wreath-shaped insert. Using a bit of extra dough, fill in the center of the wreath.

Bake 7 to 10 minutes until set but not brown. Cool completely. Decorate center by placing a drop of corn syrup in the center and sprinkling with black decorator sugar.

Source: [www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org)

## Happy Kwanzaa



## Happy Hanukkah



# Remembering . . .



## Terry Miksell

1951- 2021  
 American Legion Auxiliary  
 Department of California  
 President  
 2012-2013

## Ed Grimsley

1949 - 2021  
 American Legion  
 Department of California  
 Commander  
 2019-2021



Photo Judy Evridge

## Save the Date!

### December

#### *Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation*

- December 01: Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday
- December 06: Hanukkah Ends
- December 07: Pearl Harbor Day
- December 13: National Guard Birthday
- December 18: National Wreaths Across America
- December 25: Christmas Day
- December 26: Kwanzaa
- December 28: Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Assistant/Religious Affairs Specialist
- December 31: New Year's Eve

### January

#### *Legislative*

- January 01: New Year's Day
- January 17: Martin Luther King Jr Day

**January DEC  
 Catch the Wave  
 January 15—January 16**

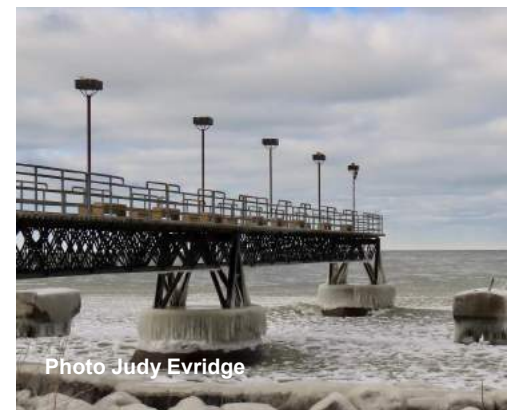


Photo Judy Evridge

## Updates from Unit 383 Fair Oaks

### *Birthday Celebrations*

November 16th was the 102nd anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary and Unit 383's 5th birthday. We were chartered in 2016. We had a celebratory dinner and handed out five year pins to our charter members. Marg Waggoner received her fifteen year pin, Sandy Seddon Rice, Elise Spleiss and Sheila LaPolla received ten year pins.

We also have a member new to us who recently transferred. She joined the ALA in 1981, 40 years ago! Congratulations to Margartha Sipma. We also have hit our 100% membership goal for the 2022 year.

### *Thank You*

The ALA would like to thank the local Rotary club and ALA member Linda LaCroix for their turkey donations. This year Volunteers of America were in need of turkeys and we were able to help them out at the last minute thanks to these donations.

### *Holidays*

As the holidays approach this can be a time of celebration or a time of

doom and gloom. We are still in a recovery mode from COVID-19, many are still unemployed and struggling just to pay the bills.

ALA 383 reached out to the Mather Field Women's Clinic who provided us with the names of 10 low-income families who need assistance. We will be providing them with food baskets, accessories for the moms and gifts for the children.

We donated \$500 to the Army Reserve and the National Guard to help with their holiday party, furnishing gifts to 21 children, at \$23 per child.

The Behavior Intensive Care Unit (BHICU) will be receiving sleeping bags, warm jackets and socks from us to help those at risk when discharged from care.

*Elise Spleiss  
 Unit 383 Chaplain and  
 Public Relations Chair*