

## National Security February Bulletin #8

**We begin this new year, 2023**, focusing on the program's highlights. First, we attended the Department Executive Meeting (DEC) in Orange, CA. What an exciting event, learning, connecting, meeting and gaining new friendships.

The Department President, Gloria Williams, theme "All Board the Friendship Train Serving our Veterans" everyone seems to be on track as we fulfill the next six months, preparing for the End-of-the-Year Convention in June 2023. In keeping the following NS motto:

### **Awareness, Connected, Assist,**

The American Legion Family can provide valuable help to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in its search by raising awareness of the data available on its website, <https://www.dpaa.mil>. The DPAA's motto states, "Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise."

The American Legion Auxiliary has a tremendous opportunity during 2022-2023 to raise awareness of the DPAA and its essential mission. Please join us in becoming more familiar with its mission and sharing this information so we can continue to bring our MIAs back home.

A topic to focus on joining with your American Legion, Community, and Red Cross in donating blood (January is National Blood Donation Month). See website: [programs@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:programs@ALAforVeterans.org) or <https://www.adrp.org/NBDM>

### **Who is eligible to apply for or be nominated for the Salute to Service Members Award?**

Enlisted service members in any of the following branches of service: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard/Reserve, and Space Force. Awards will be given in each of the seven branches if we receive nominations for each branch. (More information with updated information from National) click: <https://member.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form>

As we keep moving working together, please I can't stress enough how important our cause working with your units. We should have more units reporting, volunteering joining forces with the legionnaires and their families. At times our own members need help so reach out to them. After all this is our theme this year "FRIENDSHIP" who is better than an American Legion Auxiliary Member!

**A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, the Military, and their Families.**

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