



THE NOISETTE

MARCH 2024

From the Desk of Madam President

DIANA LIVAS



Happy Saint Patty's Day!

Here we are in March and before you know it convention will be here. The first nominations are just around the corner followed by second nominations and the big vote for officers. I wish everyone a successful nomination.

Plan to attend convention, please make your reservations asap. Housing is limited.

Now is the time to finalize your Units requirements to close this year. They are:

1. Poppy Financial Report due June.
2. Unit Data form (where to send dues and the dollar amount for both seniors and juniors) due April.
3. Delegates and Alternates Certification and Convention fees due the first week of May.
4. Certification of Unit Officers is due immediately after elections (one copy to Department and one to the District)

I'm sure we are all looking forward to the convention. This month I will be reaching out to each Unit President to see who will be attending convention from your unit. District needs you! I am asking each Unit for your support by attending one or two convention meetings; this is a great opportunity to learn what has been going on during the year along with a review of the rules relating to each program.

For the Units who have been working to resolve your tax issues, I need an update ASAP. I will be calling on you in the last week of March. Please be prepared to provide an update so I can report this back to the Department. If your Unit received a letter from IRS, please forward that letter to me via email.

Unit Presidents, once your year is complete, you will be required to provide the following information to the District President.

- ❖ Unit Audit Report (Signed by Unit President and all members of Audit Committee)
- ❖ IRS 990N e-postcard or other 990 long forms required for all units NLT 9/30/24.
- ❖ CA FTB 199N e-postcard or 199 long forms required for all units NLT 9/30/24.
- ❖ Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts RRF-1 required for all units NLT 9/30/24.

Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts CT-TR-1 required for all units NLT 9/30/24. Note: The AG CT-TR-1 instructions state on the form that "special events" are one-time events (not your annual or ongoing events and fundraisers, which should be put on their form under program income).

**MARCH IS
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
MONTH**



DISTRICT MEETING

MARCH 20

7:00 PM

POST 359



**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
DEBBIE BUTLER**

Hello Everyone,

It's hard to believe it's already mid-March. Year-end reports are due to your Unit President and District chairperson no later than April 12th. You can find the forms on the CALegionaux.org website. It's very important to the American Legion to have all these reports done to support our Veterans. It's your responsibility to ensure we do our best for the Veterans and Military.

I want to remind members you do not use profanity during meetings or threaten people because you do not agree with them. Yes, it happens.

A Membership Reminder: New members can join under your grandparents, parents, brother/sister, or a woman Veteran. Also, men who are married to a Veteran.

If you are a long-time member and have held offices or chairs, help mentor members, especially younger members so this great organization can continue.

It's important to attend conferences and other programs so you can learn more about the organization and its "obligations and rules."

The old comment "we don't do that because we didn't know." Why didn't you? What did you do to learn? No unit will ever be perfect, that's impossible, but what's possible is to read the handbook online and the different Chair forms for reporting and listen to those who try to explain. Ask questions of those who know or will find out for you. Then you too can share because you have knowledge.

Elections of new officers start in April. Who in your Unit participates in your meetings and is mindful of ALA goals?

Please stop and think "Why Are You A Member of the ALA." Is it your goal to help Veterans, Military, and families?

Unless you are a Veteran, that bar stool or table you sit at and enjoy some fun is at the expense of someone who "signed that line" for You. So, step up and help the ALA. We need you because a few can't do it all. Be proactive once in a while. Come to a meeting all the time or sometime. Help with some events. You are important.

BE THE ONE

Thank you.



**AMERICANISM
LINDA DIEBEL**

It is time for the Units to collect the Americanism Essay Contest entries from the schools. Please remember the cut-off dates for this program:

- ❖ March 22, 2024 – Unit winners should be submitted to the District Chairperson
- ❖ April 9, 2024 – District winners must be submitted to the Department Chairperson

Also be sure the following information is on the back of the winning essay – student's name, age, and grade, and on the attached envelope, the Unit's name, number, and the district number.

It is almost time to complete the year-end reports. Some of the items on the year-end reports are:

- 1) Did you work on "Getting Out to Vote"?
- 2) Did you promote Patriotism/Citizenship in the community or schools?
- 3) Did you present Flags to businesses or community members?
- 4) Did you participate in the American Legion Oratorical Contest?
- 5) Did you hand out Blue Star or Gold Star banners?
- 6) Did you promote Flag Etiquette in your local schools?
- 7) Did you discuss the Americanism program in your Unit, the Post, or your community?

I am looking forward to your year-end report and supplements.

For God and Country

**CHAPLAN
DAWN BROWN**

Dear District 19,

Hope all is well. Marion Rocha had surgery. Shirley Kenworthy passed away on February 14, 2019. Please let me know of anyone who is ill or has passed away.

God Bless

**CHILDREN & YOUTH
BECKY BULLARD**

Saint Patrick's Day is this month and then the children will be out for Spring Break. Make sure your little ones have green to wear to school on Monday after the date you never know who might just be pinching because they couldn't on the 17th.

Many cities will be putting on their Easter hunt so please take advantage of it and take the kids since it's free, they will enjoy the day.



COMMUNITY SERVICE
NORA RAMIREZ

Hi, hope everyone is doing well. Just a reminder to submit your community service hours. Also, election time is coming soon. Think about getting involved in one of our programs, thank you.

DISTINGUISHED GUEST
BECKY BULLARD

Thank you to all that participated in the Department President's visit. Thank you to the Lakewood Unit and Post for a wonderful dinner, the hall looked very nice, and everyone had a fun time. It was nice to see everyone from the other Districts also.

If I forgot to announce you or miss pronounced your name, I apologize, definitely not on purpose. Thank you all for making it a wonderful night.

EDUCATION
GAYLE STEWART

The slogan "BE THE ONE" has many meanings. This also applies to the Auxiliary educational program.

BE THE ONE
to

-Unlock the "MAGIC" of Education!

Education helps open a multitude of doors for people in a variety of ways and can help people drastically change their circumstances. It is wonderful that the American Legion Auxiliary continues its mission to provide education programs and support for our nation's students and educators. The special emphasis placed on programs for military and family members of military is truly extraordinary. As we continue to support our education system, we will strengthen the lives of those who will soon become the core decision makers of our country.

GIRLS STATE
BECKY BULLARD

Thank you to all the ladies that got their delegates to register by the 15th, so they have a seat on the bus. Please submit the schools, names, phone numbers, emails for all that are attending. Please get them to me A.S.A.P. so I can start making out Certificates so as not to do them at the last minute. This would really be a help.

May 19 is the luncheon at the Lakewood Post from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. I will be sending out invitations like always.

HISTORIAN
DEE DEE BRICE

Greetings Auxiliary,

I hope your year is going well. I know you have been busy taking your pictures and documenting all your events. I see so many beautiful events taking place in our District. Thank you for sharing your experiences. Please remember to keep any liquor photos out of your posts. Keep the smiles coming.

JUNIORS
BECKY BULLARD

Members,

Keep looking for younger ones to join, we have wonderful scholarships out there for those that can use them, let's try and take advantage of them.

LEGISLATIVE
C.J. REYES

I hope everyone voted in the primary Be sure to report your unit activity in your end of year report.

MEMBERSHIP
ISABEL GALLARDO

Hello everyone, hope you are well. I would like to thank you all for your hard work with our membership. Let's all give South Bay Unit 184 a round of applause, they have reached above their unit goal at 101.99% and first place in unit standings with Montebello Unit 272 in second place at 96.49%. Also, Lakewood Unit 496 with third place with 92.40%, outstanding job. I am so happy to see all the units increasing their membership numbers, keep up the great work. Sending you all happiness this Easter and be safe and God bless you all. For those of you who have been trying to reach me I was temporarily out of reach, I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, here is my new contact information: (562) 841-4451, CamRam62@yahoo.com.

Thank you!

Unit	Paid to Date	Goal	Percent
170 Bert Crossland	20	33	60.61%
184 South Bay	154	151	101.99%
272 Montebello	110	114	96.49%
314 Hawthorne	58	71	81.69%
341 Leland A Cupp	40	55	72.73%
359 Norwalk	103	142	72.54%
411 Rivera	49	55	89.09%



Unit	Paid to Date	Goal	Percent
465 Clyde F Hagar	5	12	41.67%
496 Lakewood	231	250	92.40%
729 Hollydale	10	25	40.00%
833 Lincoln Village	24	26	92.31%
TOTAL	804	934	86.08%

**NATIONAL SECURITY
DIANA LIVAS**

Suicide should be our top issue when we think of our Veterans. Most of us don't realize the rate of suicide among Veterans is higher than it should be! We must work to stop suicide!

Working together we can help prevent suicide by having that difficult conversation about suicide and other mental health issues in our communities. **Fact: 70% of Veterans will die by suicide within one hour of thinking about it. 20% will die by suicide withing 20 minutes of thinking about it.**

We have so much work to do so we can take the necessary steps of training our members to spot the tell-tale signs that might be missed when talking to a Veteran or by spotting a Veteran who is suffering from PTSD or any other mental health illness. Being able to spot a Veteran is only the start. "Be the One" who is willing to take the first step and start the difficult conversation. Let's get informed, know the signs, and start a plan to deal with suicide.

We need to STOP suicide among our Veterans!

**PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY
LINDA FARISS**

Hello Past Presidents and Assistant Chairs, PPP are Past Presidents. Our program in California continues although National currently does not have it. I am working with PPP's and associate chairs to put some activities together for Lady Veterans.

First, if you are a Past President or not, we have a dinner in different areas at the end of most months and you are welcome to attend. Information will be on our FB page where it will be held, or you can contact me.

LBVA has a Social Connection for all Veterans on the last Friday of each month. It is held in the patio behind the canteen from 8:30-10:30 am. We have a table and a banner for Veteran Ladies. We need your help! Donations can be made such as bath, beauty and hygiene items, hairbrushes, scarves, hats, nice purses and wallets, snack items. Some new or clean very lightly used clothes. Things you'd like to have.

You can bring the items to the event, please have them there by 8:00 am. Or you can bring to the District meeting. It would be great if a couple of your Unit members could take charge of the table for different months, only 2-4 people are needed. It's a great event and our table is for Veteran Ladies only.

Next, we will be working with US Vets at Villages of Cabrillo to put some events together for the Veteran ladies. Maybe a luncheon or tea for them with gifts. If you have an idea let me know.

You can also contact Debbie Butler regarding the LBVA social connection. Dbutler49@verizon.net or 213-200-0477.

Thank you.



Our **monthly PPP dinner meeting** will be Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Red Robbin restaurant, located at 112 Lakewood Mall Center in Lakewood. Please call or email to let me know if you are joining us.

**POPPY
ISABEL GALLARDO**

Hello everyone!

I just received notice that our poppies are being packed and will be sent out as soon as they have boxed them up, they will be shipped to the district poppy chairperson. I will contact you as soon as I receive them so that we can make arrangements to meet up for your poppy order pickup, thank you all for your patience.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS
LORRIE LEWELLYAN**

This is a quote from the ALA Academy course, ALA Branding and Why it Matters to ME! "Branding involves not only proper use of our emblem and trademarks but also living our brand, promise to deliver our mission in a positive way." Also "How the public experiences us constitutes how they view the ALA as a brand." Be on the lookout for your members working on our mission. As an example, if your unit is assembling care packages, take a picture of them packing items versus posting a posed shot of people standing next to boxes. Showing your members in action will draw more attention than a bunch of statues in a posed picture. Remember take action shots as often as you can.

The paragraph above tells us how we can show our communities that we the American Legion Auxiliary are living our brand promise. They see what we are wearing and see what we are doing. Are you (we) fulfilling our mission to "live our brand promise?" The general public



will see us and remember how we are serving our mission, our attitude and how you (we) act. It is that simple, do we want our communities to see us at our best serving our mission or not? Best said, "the ALA brand is not what we tell people; it is what people tell each other about the ALA based on their experiences with ALA members."

Hope you and your families enjoy the spring holidays.

VA&R
LBVA DEPUTY / VAVS
DEBBIE BUTLER

Hi there,

I'm starting off by asking you to start preparing your VA&R report due to me, District 19 VA&R dbutler49@verizon.net, no later than April 12th.

I had the opportunity to visit with our **National President** Lisa Williamson at LBVA Veterans Garden. Present were Department President Glenda Schultz, Linda Workman, Department Historian Erika Hernandez, Legionnaire Daniel Hernandez, chauffeur of the group, Hospital Rep Pat Alvarez, Deputies Becky Bullard, Cynthia Mayfield, and me. We had a wonderful time with a beautiful setting for lunch at the gazebo. Then we went on a tour of the Blind Unit and SCI.

Speaking of the **LBVA Veterans Garden**. Did you know you can donate to them to buy supplies, seeds, plants etc.? A check to LBVA VS-Veterans Garden and deliver to LBVA Volunteer Services or give to me and I'll deliver for you.

March 29 is **Vietnam Veterans Day**. LBVA Patriots Park is having an event from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Welcome our Vietnam Veterans and all other Veterans. There will be several organizations present including American Legion District 19 and ALA with a veteran ladies table. Yes, you are welcome to come and help.

Hope to have bingo at **CLC** and **L1 mental health** soon. We are still limited as to how many can come, but it's one giant step forward.

PIER and **Volunteer Services** always need supplies. **VS** is requesting the following: (1) sweatpants and sweatshirts for men and women, sizes LG to 3X. (2) sports bras sizes medium to XLG. (3) Jackets men and women sizes medium to 3X. (4) Shoes, bath shoes - men and women sizes medium to XLG. Yes, preferably new but if used, barely used, and must be washed, no stains, holes or not looking good.

Many of you do such an awesome job for Veterans, thank you.

Be sure to check on the **American Legion Auxiliary Noisy 19th District Facebook** page for what's going on. Lots of information.

Thank you!



Interesting Article about the Shamrock

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/shamrock-symbol-world-war-ii>



DISTRICT 19 CALENDAR

Every 1st **Friday** evening, Steak/Fish Fry at **Post 314**

Every 2nd **Sunday** morning, Breakfast at **Post 314**

Every **Sunday** morning, Breakfast at **Post 359**

Every 2nd **Sunday** morning, Breakfast at **Post 411**

Every **Friday** evening, Dinner & Music at **Post 496**

March 17 – Saint Patrick’s Fundraiser at **Unit 341**

Posts 184 & 359 St. Patricks’ meals

March 19 – First Day of Spring

March 21 – Rosie Riveter Day – Women’s History Month

Upcoming Activity

March 29 – Fish Fry Fundraiser at **Unit 341**

March 30 – Spring Craft Fair at **Unit 314**

April 20 – Spring Fling Auction Fundraiser at **Post 496**

April 26-28 – Junior Conference

May 19 – District Event, Girls State Tea at **Post 496**
from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

POPPIES

POPPY FUNDS CAN BE USED FOR

Department Donations:

Children & Youth

Education

Past President’s Parley

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Unit Programs:

Homeless/Needy veterans & immediate families

Scholarships for veterans & immediate families

Activities for local veteran facilities

Hospitalized active duty military

Creative Arts program through Veterans Affairs

Packages to troops

POPPY FUNDS CAN NOT BE USED FOR

Americanism

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Community Service

Girls State

Scholarships for grandchildren of veterans

Children & Youth programs for non-veteran children

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

Spirit of Youth & other National Scholarships

Junior Auxiliary





DISTRICT 19 LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICERS

President	Diana Livas	323-893-0732	ddivas@att.net	411
1 st Vice President	Isabel Gallardo	562-841-4451	camram62@yahoo.com	411
2 nd Vice President	Debbie Butler	213-200-0477	dbutler49@verizon.com	496
Secretary	Linda Fariss	310-245-3041	lindafariss@yahoo.com	170
Treasurer	Carol Vazquez	323-500-3063	carolv3313@gmail.com	411

CHAIRPERSON

Americanism	Linda Diebel	562-549-9648	lkdiebel1@gmail.com	359
Auxiliary Emergency Fund	Diane Aguayo	323-694-1510	59broncos@gmail.com	411
Chaplain	Dawn Brown	310-531-4447	dawnbrown430@gmail.com	314
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Asst. Sgt. at Arms	Crystal Romo Reyes	562-746-4351	romo90650@yahoo.com	359
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ADVISORY BOARD

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Linda Diebel	562-549-9648
Linda Fariss	310-245-3041

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Carol Reyes	562-972-1443
Judy Zarate	562-900-6663

BUDGET COMMITTEE

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