



# Past Presidents Parley

Year End Report

June 28, 2024

Visalia California



Good Morning Madam President Glenda,

It is hard to believe that this year is over, as I stated in my Mid-Year Report, it's true, time fly's when you're having fun. This second half has flown by and now here we are at Convention.

Questions asked regarding the Past Presidents Parley, what we do, who can be in the Parley, what is our purpose, what scholarships do we promote, have all be answered and the work began.

The statistical information is quite sobering, we have as a Department, according to the list I have from the Website 213 Units, and 29 Districts. Of these we have 23 Unit Past Presidents Parley's and 1 District Parley which translates to 10%. I asked at our mid-year meeting if you did not have a Past Presidents Parley to please start one, and I am happy to report that District 28 has three (3) yes three new Parley's, thank you, keep up the good work.

This number however speaks volumes, of the 18 District that reported there were a total of 46 Units that reported activity in our program. The majority of their reports indicated that each of these Units /Districts actively work to promote mentorship, training, leadership, and an overall spirit of inclusiveness and camaraderie. The Parleys of these Units and Districts meet either monthly or quarterly to reacquaint themselves with each other and to discuss any concerns they may have.

Once again I will state, in order to mentor our members, we need to have mentors in our Units. Each Unit should have a Past Presidents Parley, comprised of their Units Past Presidents. If you do not have a Parley in your Unit, organize one. If you are a small District consider forming a District Parley to mentor your District members as well as you Unit members

Madam President Glenda's theme of "United as One" was reflected in all the reports I received, we are United. One Report stated that their Past Presidents lead their Units with encouragement, in training their members one on one, making procedure packets for new members and their program chairmen. Have you ever thought about wearing a "Leadership Hat"? One Unit Past President does that at each meeting and encourages the members to ask their questions, what a wonderful tool that is. Another Unit has developed a "Big Sister, Auntie / Nieces

program which partners new members with a seasoned member to help them understand our programs and acronyms and to be there when needed. Throughout these reports the common theme and statements were the same, "this is an important program that encourages leadership"

Units are being mentored in how to do Mid-Year and Year-End reporting, which is vital to our success. If we don't know what you have done, we can't let everyone else know what you did. Social media is being utilized to get the information on our Scholarships out to the public. We are continuing to inform our Junior members of the scholarships available to them. At District and Unit meetings contributions to the Department Past President Parley Scholarship Fund are being encouraged. I know that many of our Units are small, many of us are overworked, but mentoring is not hard to do, be there when a new member or even a seasoned member ask a question, if they knew the answer they would not be asking the question.

I would like to give a big shoutout to District 21 on their promotion of the Nurses Scholarship Program, Unit 79 awarded (2) \$1500.00 scholarships to local college students enrolled in the RN Nursing Program and Unit 500 awarded \$300.00 to three (3) High School Seniors who were pursuing the nursing field.

Speaking of Scholarships, I would like to say "Thank you" to the two (2) Units who submitted applications. In reviewing (not judging) the applications I was amazed at the work these students are doing and can only guess what type of professional they will become. We were fortunate enough to be able to award two scholarships this year. The \$4,000.00 recipient will be presented to you at the Past President Parley Luncheon and I am sure you will be amazed by this person. Our second scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 was awarded to Priscilla Villalvir, sponsored by Cecil M. Anderson Unit 589 District 28. Congratulations to District 28, Chairman Molly Smith

In my Mid-Year report I shared an excerpt from an email I received about 4 people, Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody, well here is something else to think about, It's titled **HOW TO KILL A POST / UNIT**  
**DON'T ATTEND THE MEETINGS. IF YOU DO, ARRIVE LATE.**  
**FIND FAULT IN THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.**  
**NEVER ACCEPT AN OFFICE, IT'S EASIER TO CRITICIZE THAN DOING THAT.**  
**NEVER THE LESS, GET ANNOYED IF YOU ARE NEVER APPOINTED TO A COMMITTEE.**  
**IF APPOINTED TO A COMMITTEE, DON'T ATTEND THE MEETINGS. IF ASKED BY THE CHAIRMAN TO GIVE YOUR OPINION, SAY NOTHING. BUT THEN AFTERWARDS IN THE CANTEEN, TELL EVERYONE HOW THINGS SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE.**

DO NO MORE THAN NECESSARY WHEN OTHERS ARE ROLLING UP THEIR SLEEVES.

HOLD BACK YOUR DUES FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE OR DON'T PAY THEM AT ALL.

DON'T BOTHER GETTING NEW MEMBERS, BUT IF YOU DO, MAKE SURE THEY ARE GRIPERS LIKE YOURSELF.

I am confident that no one in this audience is anything like this and I want to express my sincere thanks for all that you do, not only for this program but for the organization

It is imperative that we, as Past Presidents, weather it be Unit, District, Department, or National, take our leadership and share it. We have been blessed by those that have gone before us with this knowledge, let's not let it go to waste

Madam President Glenda, before I proceed to the awards may I take a moment of personal privilege.

To Chino Unit 299 and District 25. I would like to express my sincere sympathies and heartfelt sorrow to our recent loss. Diane Delashmit was my Department President, I was one of her Circus Acts. As a Past Department President she took her responsibilities of being a mentor seriously, she was always there for anyone who cared to ask. As the Past Presidents Parley is truly a mentoring program her loss will be sorely missed.

Madam President, may I proceed with my awards?

First Place District Supplemental is awarded to District 28, Esther Lepore

Second Place Unit Supplemental is awarded to Unit 496, District 19, Gayle Steward Chairman

First Place Unit Supplemental is awarded to Unit 291, District 29, Cindy Edes Chairman

Madam President Glenda, I wish to thank you for this most rewarding appointment it has been a pleasure to serve as the Past Presidents Parley Chairman United as One.

Kathie Martinez

Past Presidents Parley Chairman

206 W Regent St

Inglewood, CA 90301

310 / 674-1382

Kathie.MartinezALA@yahoo.com

# American Legion Auxiliary



## Convention Committee Meeting Report

The Convention Committee on Past Presidents Parley met on June 20, 2024 via Zoom. The statistical report of this Chairman appears on page 34 in the book of Reports.

Melise Munroe was appointed Secretary

Grace Houston offered prayer, and

Cassandra Brown was appointed Sargent-At-Arms.

A total of 13 District Delegates answered roll call. There were 15 visitors present including our Department President Glenda Schultz.

The Code was read and the committee agreed on the following change (see page 2)

By direction of the committee I move the acceptance of this code change.

It was further recommended that changes to the Department Website Committee / Programs, Past President Parley, Program Resources, Scholarships: a and under Application 1a to clearly state the eligibility period and include the grandchildren of veterans whose service falls within the membership eligibility requirements, per approved Code Change. This will be submitted to our webmaster for implementation.

Second and third place Awards for District Supplemental were announce in committee. As there were only 2 Unit Supplemental reports submitted to this Chairman the winners will be announced during my floor report. All certificates and awards will be placed in envelopes for the respective districts.

Further discussion by the delegates stated that they appreciated the ability to meet via Zoom and hoped that going forward more meetings would be scheduled allowing more of our members to participate in the various program meetings. This chairman reiterated that the Past Presidents Parley Program is not just a scholarship program but a mentoring opportunity for all of us. Mentoring our younger, less seasoned members is a roadmap for our future success. It was also suggested by one of our Delegates to include the Past Presidents, weather District or Unit to attend their Girls State Tea / Orientation to promote mentoring.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place District Supplemental was awarded to District 21, Kathy Newlen Chairman

3<sup>rd</sup> Place District Supplemental was awarded to District 23 Cassandra Brown Chairman

The PPP Committee meeting adjourned with a closing prayer at 7:15 pm