



THE NOISETTE

DECEMBER 2024

From the Desk of Madam President

ISABEL GALLARDO



Hello everyone,

Hope you all had a fantastic Thanksgiving.
Can't believe how time is just flying by,
Christmas 🎄 is already here and a new year 🎉
is just around the corner.

DEC is in January, and you all know what that means, mid-year reports are due. I hope you all have sent them to the proper chairperson, if you haven't, please get them in ASAP.

For those units not current with an IRS filing, please take care of this and those units whose EIN numbers have been revoked, please know that you are not able to continue with any fundraising for your unit until your EIN has been properly reinstated by the IRS. Also, we as Auxiliary are not able to place any alcohol of any kind in any opportunity basket. Auxiliary does not have a license for alcohol .

Also, as a reminder, please with the parties and holidays upon us, if you are in your Post and are wearing any Auxiliary branded clothing or badges, please do not post to social media any pictures which contain any type of alcohol.

I want to thank all the units that have been doing so much for our veterans and children this holiday season, putting a big smile on a child's face. One unit has made me so proud, to acknowledge them for the wonderful work they have done this year, Unit 272, you are amazing, continue the great work, you have done so much, thank you so much, keep up the great job.

Sending you all wishes for a blessed Christmas and an even happier new year God bless you all and stay safe .

If anyone needs any questions answered, please call me. If I am unable to assist you, I will get the answers for you or refer you to someone who can help you.

Thank you so much!

VA&R MONTH



DISTRICT MEETING

DECEMBER 18

7:00 PM

PARAMOUNT POST 134

7550 Somerset Blvd.

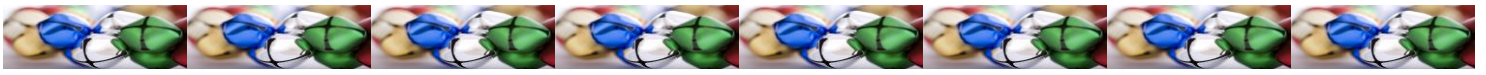
Dinner Available

FOR A SMALL DONATION

Fried Chicken

Mashed Potato/Gravy

Coleslaw & Salad



**2ND VICE PRESIDENT
DEBBIE BUTLER**

Hello Members,

I'd like to wish Everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Here we are almost 2025. I also want to wish a successful year to all.

So, a few things. If your dues are not paid by 12/31/2024 you are no longer in good standing. Your Unit has the right to re-vote you in or not. There are other issues with this too. Membership is a privilege. We are The American Legion Auxiliary and with that there are RULES.

Membership: you can only join under grandparents; parents; brother/sister or if a male married to a Veteran Woman. There is no other way to join. In essence, if you bring in a person illegitimately, in many opinions, it's "Stolen Valor." Meaning you are taking away the true meaning of our Veterans and it destroys the integrity of the organization.

These ladies are welcome as Guests. Speaking of Guests and this applies to ALL Posts. A Guest is just that. AL is PRIVATE membership. So, you must be present with that Guest and hold a 2025 Membership card. It is mandatory to sign that guest book. When you leave, the guest must leave unless another member can have them sign in under them. A bartender working cannot sign in a guest. A bartender does not have say over American Legion rules and the ABC. The public is welcome to all legitimate Fundraisers. Check out what that means. Protect the American Legion and follow the rules. Or you could be responsible for a fine from the ABC or closure.

Is your EIN current and all taxes paid? If not, you had better get on it and get help from the District. Your lack of government compliance has consequences.

Your attention to Rules and Compliance continues the strength of the ALA. Remember our strength supports the American Legion to pass laws for our Veterans. Be Strong, Be The One to support a Veteran and Servicemen and women by our devotion.

**CHAPLAIN
KATHLEEN ANDREWS**

During all the activities of the holidays, may you find quiet times in union with God. There is shelter under his wings. Let us support one another in prayer.

Unit 314 — Cynthia Olsen has been ill.

Unit 341 — Priscilla Ramirez had foot surgery.

Unit 359 — Please continue to pray for Melissa Braicov and her beautiful family.

Unit 723 — Nora Ramirez's mom passed away.

Unit 496 — Judy Clark had a stroke. Please keep Sandy Richardson in your prayers with ongoing health issues.

In Service to God and Country

**AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND
DIANA LIVAS**

Happy Holidays,

Over the past few months, questions have been asked about AEF and how we distribute funds and who is eligible. I hope this helps answer those questions.

In 1970, funded by memorial gifts from Units, a loan from Auxiliary funds, and an inheritance to the Auxiliary from a former member, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund was established. This fund, which provides emergency assistance to a member for a limited period of time. Members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have maintained membership for at least the immediate past two years and who have paid their dues for the current year (three consecutive years of membership) are eligible to apply.

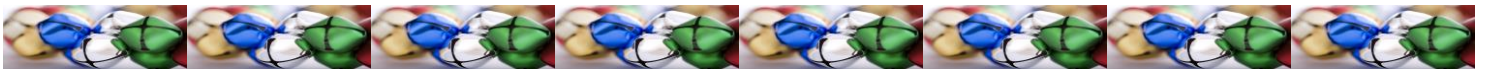
Another kind of emergency has been recognized by the Auxiliary – the emergency an auxiliary woman faces when she is suddenly single, deserted, divorced, or widowed, with no skills to support herself or her family. It is to give immediate, rather than long-term, assistance.

These funds provide assistance for:

1. Financial crisis to help pay for shelter and utilities. Funds are not available to settle accumulated debts, or to help with medical expenses.
2. Disaster relief to help pay for food and shelter due to weather-related emergencies and natural disasters.
3. Educational training due to life changes such as death of a spouse, divorce, or separation, necessitating the Auxiliary member to assume the role of primary source of support for her family.

Duties for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairperson:

1. Encourage chairmanship in each Unit
2. Encourage distribution of information (brochure) to every member when they receive their membership card



3. Make Applications available to each unit through Department Office
4. Encourage contributions through Unit Memorials
5. Monthly bulletins from Division Chairman to Departments
6. California – increase donations to Displaced Homemakers Fund
7. Note: Donations have increased from \$50 to \$100 in order to receive an AEF pin

Merry Christmas

CHILDREN & YOUTH YVONNE PEREZ

Friendly reminder to **share** your events and flyers on the District Facebook page. If you need assistance, reach out to Debbie or Lorrie.

Food Drive, items to bring at the DEC meeting: water bottles, juice, rice, pasta, canned beans, canned fruit/vegetables, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, hot or cold cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, powdered milk, etc.

COMMUNITY SERVICE BECKY BULLARD

Thank you to everyone who sent me a report this year. Please continue to keep up the good work in your communities. We have many veterans and children in need right now. Please, if you know any families that need food, let them know that Norwalk Post 359 has a food pantry open to them on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. We welcome everyone.

The Red Cross right now needs blood. If you can give, please do it to help our veterans and maybe a family member of someone you know.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all

EDUCATION GAYLE STEWART

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! Now it's the time we all start hustling and bustling to get ready for Christmas and New Year's.

I'm happy to report that Poppy seals were received this year by my unit and that means that all units should have received what they ordered.

To all units that have not sent me their Mid-Year reports please get them to me before December 15th so I can

complete my District report. I would love to get a report from each unit. Even if your unit was not able to participate in the program this year send the form to me stating that.

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and safe New Year.

GIRLS STATE BECKY BULLARD

Well, we are moving right along, and interviewing will start soon. I have put in a request with Lakewood Post 496 for the Tea the Sunday after Mother's Day. If they are unable to host it, we will be doing it at Norwalk Post 359 this year. I will let you know when I get confirmation.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years to all of you

JUNIORS ANITA WATTS

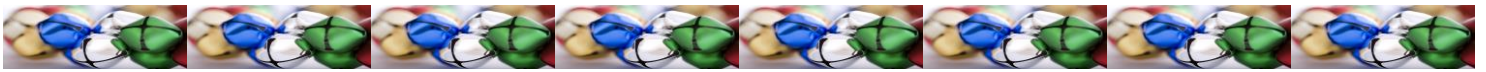
Season Greetings!

As we come to the end of the year let us give praise for allowing us to see another year. Seniors you are doing an amazing job with our juniors. The juniors are on the move across California. We are doing car washes, bake sales and donating food to our local pantries. The fundraisers will help support a variety of programs. The juniors will be decorating and giving out Christmas stockings to our veterans and families for Christmas.

Seniors let us encourage our juniors to participate in Wreaths Across American and the Americanism Essay. Seniors, please keep track of the juniors' hours of time so they can receive patches for their hard work.

Madam President has asked that we do a skit or play a game at DEC for Junior Activities. If you have any ideas and would like to participate, please email me. Also, if you have not booked your room for DEC do so as soon as possible. Seniors do not forget to bring canned goods to DEC to support the Children and Youth Food Drive. We are still looking for a winner for the Junior Activities Essay contest to attend the National Junior Meeting/Mission Training 101 for 2024-2025, on February 1, 2025, in Las Vegas, NV. The flyer is on the website. Seniors let us help the juniors write this essay. We will be announcing the winner at DEC.

Also, let us get our juniors registered for the Junior Conference which be held at Camp Arnaz, April 11-April 13, 2025. The Junior Conference information is located under Junior Activities. If you have any questions regarding the Junior Conference contact Martha Romano, Junior Conference Director.



Juniors, please keep up the GREAT work that you are doing.

Happy Holidays!

**PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY
LINDA FARISS**

Due to the holidays, we will not hold a PPP dinner in December. Join us in the new year.

**POPPY
GAIL DIEBEL**

After World War I, the poppies flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, M.D. while serving on the front lines. On September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of the American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of the American Legion.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead.
Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS
LORRIE LEWELLYAN**

Season's Greetings,

Please note the reminders from our District officers regarding the image we portray on social media. Be sure not to show alcoholic beverages, make some edits to spruce up the pictures or don't post on American Legion pages.

Thanks to the units who provided their mid-year reports. If you need assistance with reporting, please let me know.

**VA&R
VAVS LBVA
LBVA POPPY MANAGER
DEBBIE BUTLER**

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays to all.

Thank you everyone for getting your Mid-year Unit reports in!!! I know you are very busy bringing smiles and joy to many. Thank you for all you do.

DEC is coming up in January. It's always good to participate and learn more about the Auxiliary.

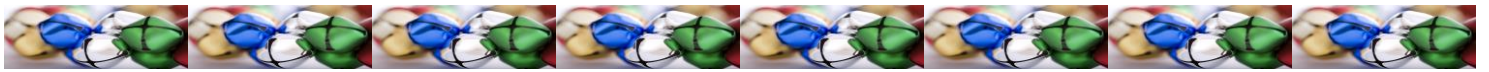
Long Beach VA continues to request for new Volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Volunteer Services. There is a new Director at VS. He is getting settled in.

We hope to get the storage area in VS revamped and organized after the first of the year. If you want to help, let me know.

Spinal Cord has a request for groups to come in and do Bingo. I'll have to get contacts info again. It's the Rec Therapist if you just want to call the LBVA, they are very anxious.

Thank you!





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 **Sunday**, Football & Food – Raider Nation
Black Hole at **Post 411**

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

Every **Friday** evening, Dinner & Music at **Post 411**

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

Last **Friday** of the month, Veteran Social Connection at
LBVA (this month ONLY 12/20)

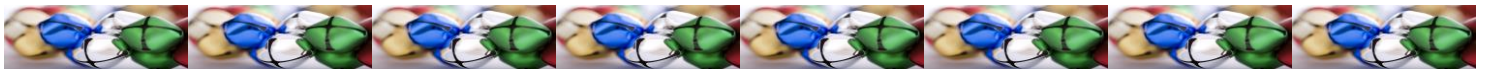
Upcoming

January 12 – Poppy Party at Post 496

January 17-19 – DEC (Depart. Exec. Com.) in Palmdale

*We wish you a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*





DISTRICT 19 LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICERS

President	Isabel Gallardo	562-841-4451	camram62@yahoo.com	411
1 st Vice President	April Agent	626-393-3080	apriljoeagent@gmail.com	411
2 nd Vice President	Debbie Butler	213-200-0477	dbutler49@verizon.net	496
Secretary	Linda Fariss	310-245-3041	lindafariss@yahoo.com	170
Treasurer				

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Auxiliary Emergency Fund	Diana Livas	323-893-0732	dlivas@att.net	411
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Asst. Sgt. at Arms	Betty Aguayo	909-379-4796	aguayobetty12@yahoo.com	411
VA&R	Debbie Butler	213-200-0477	dbutler49@verizon.net	496

ADVISORY BOARD

Diana Livas	323-893-0732
C.J. Reyes	562-972-1443

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Diana Livas	323-893-0732
C.J. Reyes	562-972-1443
Gayle Stewart	562-634-3929

BUDGET COMMITTEE

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Diana Livas	323-893-0732