



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.

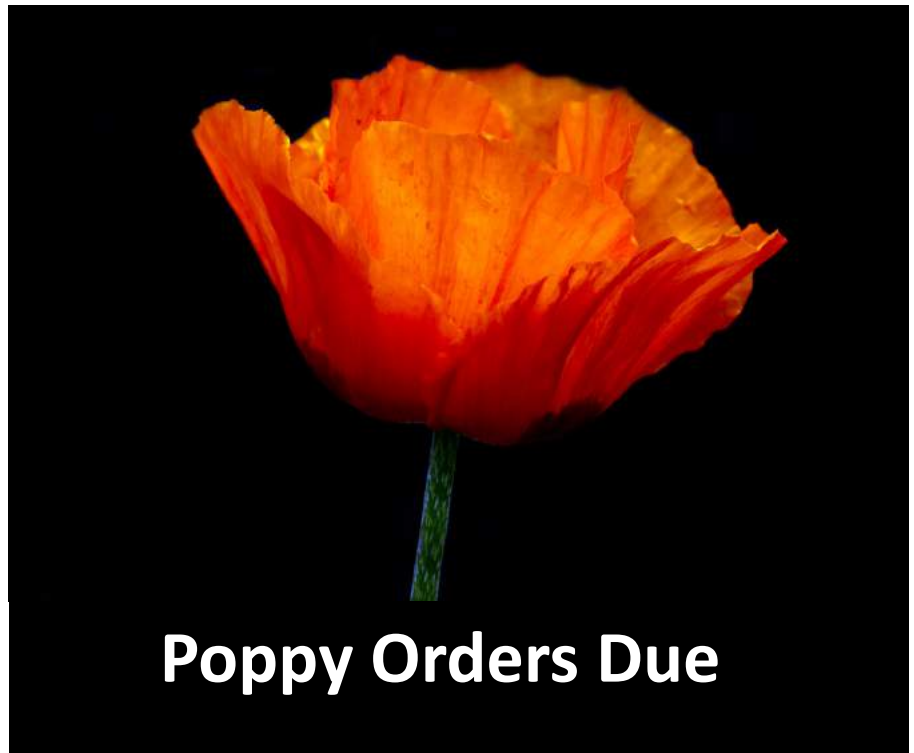
Vision Statement

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 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



Poppy Orders Due

Poppy orders are due **October 1**. If your poppy order is not received by **October 31**, your unit will be assessed a \$25 fee and allocated 100 poppies.

Don't forget to write your Unit and District number on your checks.

There has been a correction to the poppy order form that ALA Department Poppy Chairman Linda Hayes needs to bring to your attention. If you have trouble downloading the form, send her an email at ljeffery@aol.com and she will be sure to get it to you.

Send your Poppy Order Form to:
ALA – Department of California
401 Van Ness Ave., Ste. 319
San Francisco, CA 94102-4570

Send a copy of the Poppy Order Form to:
Linda Hayes
37737 Giavon Street
Palmdale, CA 93552-4027

We will once again hold the three (3) Poppy Contests listed below. More information is in the September bulletin and on the new Department website.

*Poppy Poster Contest
Miss and Little Miss Poppy Contest
Poppy Display at Convention*

Counting on you to **“Catch the (Poppy) Wave”** by working your Poppy Program!

Linda Hayes, Department Poppy Chairman

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 Message Dee Ann Graham



From left to right: American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel, American Legion Commander Paul Dillard and Sons of the American Legion National Commander Michael Fox

Passing the Gavel at National Convention

Change within our organization allows us to evolve. One of my beliefs is that nothing is forever. Change is inevitable—we can only embrace it and hope it makes our lives better while moving our organization forward. We have to be open to learning and doing the impossible.

The new Legion Family leadership team pictured above brings change with their fresh way of looking at situations.

AL National Commander Dillard's theme for this year is "No Veteran Left Behind". ALA National President Daudistel is focusing on Caring for the Caregivers and hoping to find ways the ALA can further serve those who don't always get the recognition they deserve. SAL National Commander Fox's emphasis is his special project *Flying Flags for Heroes*.

Please plan ahead for President Daudistel's visit to California at the beginning of March. As more details become available, they will be posted on our website.

And remember to

Catch the Wave!

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

Deadline for the December/January issue is November 22

Editor reserves the right to edit any submission for the purpose of publication. Please email all articles, photos, and (gentle) criticisms to Editor Nancy Heinisch.

Proper Parliamentary Procedure and Practices

Department Parliamentarian Anita Biggs helps answer your most perplexing questions



Why do the same members always get to go to the National Convention? What can I do to assure that there is room for me in 2022?

National Delegates and Alternates are initially elected at their District pre-convention caucus. Please refer to your District Standing Rules for further information regarding specific requirements.

The elected representatives are placed into nomination and elected National Delegates/Alternates at the Department Convention. The number of National Delegates/Alternates elected are based on the strength of our membership.

At this time, we do not have enough members for 30 Delegate/Alternate representatives. Our Department is limited to the number Delegates/Alternates allowed to be elected.

All members are encouraged and allowed to attend the National Convention as guests, providing they purchase a guest badge from Department for identification.



Imagine by John Lennon was written and performed in 1971 during the Vietnam War. It is one of the top 100 most performed songs of the twentieth century.

Imagine is about liberation and something we must all believe in if we want to make a better place for humanity.

The song centers around a fictitious world where many of the barriers that define social reality are nonexistent.

Imagine there's no Heaven
it's easy if you try
No Hell below us
Above us only sky

Imagine all the people
Livin' for today
Aaa haa

Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
Znd no religion too

Imagine all the people
Llvin' life in peace
Yoo hoo . . .

You may say I'm a dreamer,
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one

Imagine no possession,
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man

Imagine all the people
Sharin' all the world
Yoo hoo . . .

This song is 50 years old and timeless.

Donna Smith, Department Music Chairman

Wear Red to Support the Military

For many years **RED (Remember Everyone Deployed)** Friday has been a national campaign to encourage Americans to wear red to show support for deployed military men and women. Red also symbolizes the blood spilled by those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Highlights of the 100th National Convention

Celebrating in Phoenix

by
Debbie Hurado
ALA District 14 President



There is nothing like an American Legion Auxiliary National Convention to get you reinvigorated and excited about the coming year!



This year was no exception, and even amid Covid-19 it was a celebration indeed, with streamers shot out into the audience to start us off and ending with balloons and fireworks.

Of course, there was lots in between, starting with watching the **Color Guard** contests and seeing our own Newport Beach grab a win!



Then coming across the **#48 American Legion Indy Car** driven by one of my favorite drivers, Tony Kanaan in Emblem Sales!

Sunday brought us to a beautiful **Patriotic Memorial** service featuring a choir, several speakers and the laying of wreaths.



We were even able to cheer on our own San Diego Padres in a lovely air-conditioned stadium with some backing from our Hollywood Post at **Chase Field**.



I relished watching a first timer take in the well-orchestrated fast paced meetings, with making sure your seat was in place before the countdown clock struck zero.

Having the National Convention so close to home was a wonderful time to check it out. In fact, at our Western Division Caucus, there were 25 National newbies, including the first male Auxiliary Unit President attendee.

Highlights of National Convention . . . *continued*

I loved watching Californian **Michael Fox's** installation as **National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion**. ALA President Dee Ann Graham was on the stage to represent the auxiliary.

If you didn't already know, you can sit at home and watch the Auxiliary sessions live or watch recordings later. If you caught **the ALA Showcase of Fashion**, you were in for a treat, and a gut-busting comedy show. What a way to showcase our 100 years!

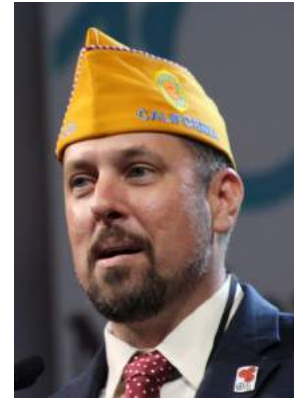
Poppy Painting was an extraordinarily popular Break Out session. Ask to see Linda Workman's masterpiece!

Learning about rehabilitative sports and how they can help our veterans along with watching some of them compete in the **Paralympic Games** was another great Break Out session.

Listening to the backgrounds of our military servicewomen and attending the Public Spirit Award Luncheon really makes me proud to be helping in an organization that promotes these amazing people.

Yes, it was **HOT** in **Phoenix**, though you didn't need to be outside much if you didn't choose to be. But getting to see people you haven't been able to see for months or years was very invigorating! Thank you to Past President Nicole Clapp for leading us through our 2 year 100th anniversary! Congratulations and blessings to President Kathy Daudistel, whose membership theme is, "Together We Serve", with a focus on support for caregivers.

If you'd like to check out what a National Convention is like, the next stop is Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 26 – September 1 2022. Just imagine what activities they might have for us there.....say **CHEESE!**





Where are They Now?

From Girls State to Pulitzer Prize Nominated Journalist

It's been many years since I was chosen to represent my community at Girls State yet it remains a high school highlight. The lessons I learned there helped me later when I became a journalist.

At Girls State, there were jobs to fill (elected or appointed) on three levels — city government, county government and the state. Losing my race to be a county sheriff was disappointing early in the week.

But a door opened by a friend from my dorm floor was elected state auditor and appointed me to be a top deputy in her office. We spent hours tabulating figures and making sure cities and counties in the state had properly spent their tax dollars.

Later, as a reporter, I understood how to find these state audits — which are generally public record but not always announced — and turn them into interesting news stories. For instance, citizens do not like it when they learn some public official used their tax dollars to buy floral arrangements and meals with expensive wine.

As a reporter at a Pulitzer Prize-winning paper (and a nominee for a Pulitzer myself), I covered lots of different areas. But government reporting was always one of my favorites.

I will always be grateful to the American Legion Auxiliary for sparking my interest and providing this incredible government week for young women.

Charlene Nevada

“Are You from Girls State?”

California Girls State Director Tammy Sollazzo shares comments from two of this year's Girls State attendees

Reflecting upon my experience, I can confidently say that my week at the 78th Session of the American Legion Auxiliary California Girls State Program has changed my life. Not only did I form lasting bonds and participate in politically structured debate, I learned about who I am as a person and what I hope to accomplish in this world: I am a leader. I am an advocate. I am a voice.

Moving forward, my goal is to continue to commit myself to live a life of public service and policy reform. I hope to be the change I want to see in the world and continue to create an environment of strong women who are not afraid to speak up for what is right and what is just. After all, empowered women, empower women. Thank you, once again, for allowing me to have this amazing experience.

Nicole Abudayeh, Carondelet High

I was so inspired by the speakers and panelists who spoke at the General Assembly.

Knowing that there are women who have come before us and are giving their time to help us build upon their work is so empowering. I know that I will use the lessons that they shared about finding their place in their career fields as I continue in my academic and professional careers

I feel so grateful to be able to confidently say that I now know what sisterhood feels like.

From the moment I logged into Girls State, I felt welcomed and empowered by the community of women across the state, and this feeling has not waned one bit.

Michele Chen, Mont Vista High School



Introducing the New United Through Reading App

For 30 years, United Through Reading has provided the opportunity for service members to be video recorded reading a storybook aloud to a child they love.

While we encourage military members to video record stories at more than 200 physical UTR Story

Stations around the world, the service member can now download the United Through Reading App, which is both FREE and SECURE, on the Google Play and Apple Stores.

Upload and send your story time video by clicking the checkmark and entering an adult's email. Children can watch your story on a web browser on a computer or mobile device, making story time available anytime.

A free book is sent to the child with every recording.

Visit utr.org/app for more information.

Tech Corner Answers Your Questions



The surfing video running in the background is cool but makes me a little seasick when I'm trying to read the text on the page. It's distracting. Can it be turned off?

Yes, you can pause the background video by placing your mouse at the bottom left of the page above to reveal the "playback" controls. You cannot see it until you "mouse over" it. When you do, you will see the icons for pause (II), speaker, time points, enlarge screen, and the red progress bar (see above). Press the pause (II) button to stop the video and waves. Then you can move about the page without distractions.



The ALA Academy on National's website isn't working properly. I cannot open it no matter how many ways I type in or paste the URL into my browser.

Visit www.alaforveterans.org and either go to Member Sign In (top right) or create your profile. Once you sign in, go to Meetings/Trainings, then Online Training, and choose ALA Academy. The shortcut URL is www.alaforveterans.org/ALA-Academy, but you still have to sign-in. Then Launch Academy and you will have options to Get Started, Go to Your Learning Center with your list of courses, or pick up where you left off on a course like Using Poppy Funds.



How can I share large files like documents and pictures easily without having to use a "cloud" app?

AirDrop, Quick Share, and Nearby Share are all proprietary sharing apps for Apple, Samsung, and Android devices respectively. They all function similarly and require that you find the icon for the service on your mobile phone or tablet, turn it on, and then choose with whom you want to share a file. It also requires that the other person's device also be turned on to receive the file. It may also let you use a link to a cloud to share.

Swipe down on your mobile phone or tablet and go to

Settings . Look for the word AirDrop (iPhones), Quick Share (Samsung) or Nearby Share (Android) and make sure it is turned on. If you don't see it, swipe right or left to reveal additional pages. To share with devices nearby, turn

on your Bluetooth , device location , and Wi-Fi

. The other person will need to turn on these settings in their device as well. Now you are both visible to each other's device.

To Share your File with Someone:

1. Open the content, like a photo or webpage.
2. Tap Share or Nearby Share (you may need to Turn On).
3. Hold your phone and your friend's device close to each other, about 6-12 inches.
4. Under "Looking for nearby devices," tap your friend's device.
5. When the "Sent" message shows, tap "Done."

To Get Content from Someone:

1. If you haven't already, make your device visible, tap the notification to do so.
2. If you haven't already, turn on Nearby Share, Bluetooth or location
3. If you didn't get the notification or your friend can't find your device then
 - a. Assuming you have done the above, check Airplane mode, turn on, and then off.
 - b. Turn your phone off, then back on.
 - c. Start again.



Still Have Questions?

If you have questions on tech subjects, please email cnewman419@yahoo.com or call 650-219-1041.

Don't forget to check out tutorials at zoom.com. There will be a Leadership Q&A in October on Zoom!

They Will Long be Remembered

Yolanda “Lonnie”(Dollosso) Fugate

Gently, gracefully, and peacefully, just as she lived, Yolanda Fugate left this world for the next on August 2.

Especially devoted to helping veterans and their families, Lonnie was locally active in Twin Cities Unit #313 of the American Legion Auxiliary. She served as an officer for over 56 years. Lonnie served on the state level of the ALA as well, working for 34 years as the Managing Editor of the statewide ALA newspaper.

Many a State President thanked her for her anonymous editing, which often changed their monthly 100 word column into a majestic and inspiring 250 word essay.

She had an unerring eye for copy content. In 1979, her skill was recognized nationally when her paper was awarded first prize as the year’s best auxiliary publication in the United States.

Lonnie’s life was well lived; her journey continues. Rest well in God’s love.

Steve Fugate



Jereene “Jeri” Adams

Jereene "Jeri" Adams passed away on Friday, August 6.

Jeri was a 25 year member of Camarillo Unit 741. She was very active in her Unit as the Past Unit President and was currently serving as the Parliamentarian and Girls State Chairman. She had also just been installed as the President for the 16th District for 2021-2022 and she was serving the Department on the Department Membership Team for Area Six. Her two loves were Membership and Girls State.

She is survived by her daughter Jeanne Hardesty and son-in-law Jaime, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

She will be missed by friends she worked with and her many American Legion Family members. She was a very special person always willing to volunteer, mentor members and share her knowledge with everyone. She was a true friend to all she met and you could always depend on her.

She will be greatly missed.

Linda Fercho



Arthur Kapsalis

Art was a proud Navy veteran.

After retiring from the Navy he dedicated 44 years to The American Legion, joining and continuously serving the organization since 1977.

He served as a Post Commander and was currently a member and officer of The American Legion Post 591 located in Seaside.

His dedication helping veterans and others through the programs sponsored by The American Legion served as a model for others to emulate.

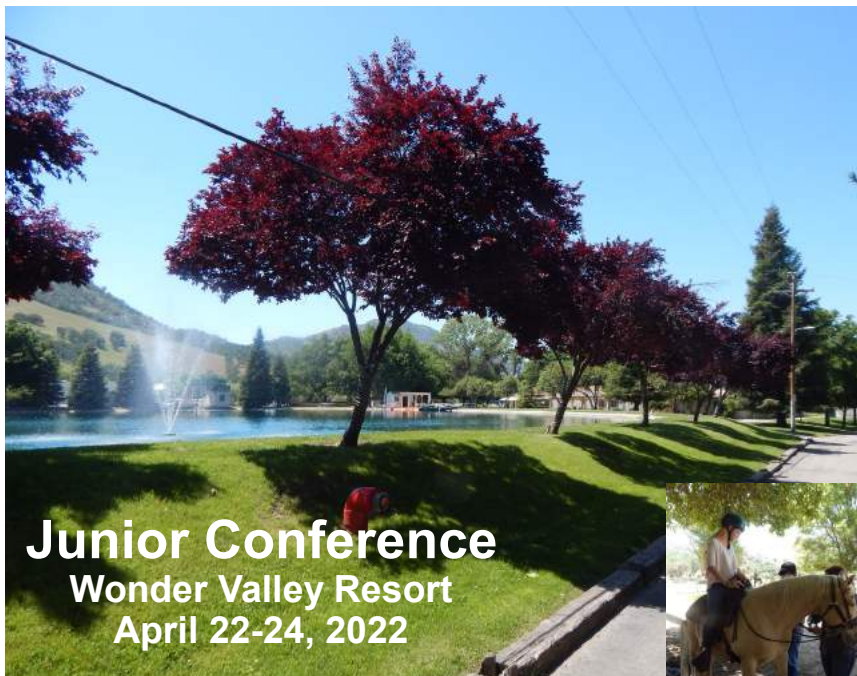
He not only gave his time to the Legion but also dedicated thousands of hours during the 12 years he served as the Webmaster for the Department of California Auxiliary, 28th District Auxiliary and American Legion.

Deepest condolences are extended to his wife ALA Past Department President Ruby.

For more information visit dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/seaside-ca/arthur-kapsalis-10298948



Photo Judy Evridge



Junior Conference
Wonder Valley Resort
April 22-24, 2022

Junior Conference, held at the Wonder Valley Resort in Sanger, is open to all eligible juniors. The conference helps instill in Junior members the ideals of the Auxiliary and presents opportunities to teach the ALA’s founding principles of justice, freedom, loyalty, and democracy.

The conference is self-supporting. Please help our fundraising efforts by purchasing the Junior Conference opportunity drawing tickets allotted to each district. All ticket stubs and payment should be sent to Department.

Ann Philcox, Department Junior Activities Director

Create Your Will
Free of Charge

At convention The Childhood Leukemia Foundation publicized their online resource for helping individuals make a will for free.



A will is important for everyone and can be useful regardless of estate size. It's a way to support the people and causes important to you. Having a will ensures that your wishes are known, saving your loved ones the stress and cost of intestate probate proceedings.

FreeWill’s product is made possible with the support of nonprofit organizations. Many of the people who use FreeWill choose to leave a portion of their estate to charity. It is hoped that you will considering doing the same.

FreeWill offers other end-of-life planning documents. They have advance healthcare directives (also known as healthcare proxies or living wills), and durable financial power of attorneys as well. All are free to use.

Visit their website at www.clf4kids.org and click **“Start Your FREEWILL Today.”**



What’s a Resolution?

Resolution: A word that not many of us really understand. It sounds complicated, but if we do research and read about it, we are going to learn and understand the meaning of it.

Resolution: The official expression of the opinion or will of a legislative body. The practice of submitting and voting on resolutions is a typical part of business in Congress, state legislature, and other public assemblies. These bodies use resolution for two purposes.

First, resolutions express their consensus on matters of public policy; lawmakers routinely deliver criticism or support on a board range of social issues, legal rights, court opinions, and even decisions by the Executive Branch.

Second, they pass resolutions for internal, administrative purposes. Resolutions are not laws; they differ fundamentally in their purpose. However, under certain circumstances resolutions can have the effect of a law.

Watch for the next article to learn more about the resolution process!

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

ALA Unit 383 Helps Pack Boxes for Troops

When you enter the Move America Forward (MAF) warehouse on Fite Circle in Sacramento, you are overwhelmed by the mountains of boxes of Girl Scout Cookies and Cup of Noodles plus dozens of other items

Raab who said "Right now, we have a tremendous need for volunteers to help sort, assemble and ship military care packages. We have a lot of boxes to send out and now more than ever we need your help!"



Suzanne Winters, ALA Unit 383 President at that time, contacted Raab to set up the first packing date. Now whoever is available on Monday mornings spends a few hours helping to pack hundreds of boxes while enjoying the company of other groups from all over Sacramento County and beyond.

Raab thanked ALA Unit 383 and said, "What is amazing about your group you consistently send people to pack boxes, it's different people all the time, but now they bring others. You are a very important part of our program."



ALA Unit 383 at the Move America Forward Warehouse

MAF is a nonprofit military charity based in Sacramento, California and is the nation's largest grassroots pro-troop organization dedicated to supporting the brave men and women of our Armed Forces. Their principal mission today is to provide care packages and letters from grateful Americans to the troops deployed in combat areas around the world.

laid out in long production lines. In January of 2021 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 383 in Fair Oaks received a request in an email for help from MAF Outreach Director Scott

To date the program has shipped over 380 tons of care packages to troops serving overseas.

Elise Spleiss, ALA Unit 383

Leadership Workshop

Be sure to schedule your Leadership Workshop with Tracey Varnell-Fercho as soon as possible.

She will also have a Zoom meeting in October and although this will not be an official workshop it will be a good place to have a question-and-answer session.



Veterans Day takes place on the 11th day of the 11th month of the year. For 2021 that means that Veterans Day takes place on **Thursday, November 11.**

For more on Veterans Day, including Veterans Day discounts for veterans and active service members, as well as more on the history behind the holiday and more information on Veterans Day events, visit [Military.com's Veterans Day section.](https://www.military.com/veterans-day)



North Coast Fire Relief Donations Needed

American Legion Post 274 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 274, in partnership with Pay it Forward Humboldt, are collecting and distributing desperately needed supplies.

Items needed:

- Tents
- Water
- Can openers
- Toiletries
- Sleeping Bags
- Socks
- Diapers
- Razors
- Prepackaged Snacks
- Hand Sanitizers
- Pet Food

Call 707-601-6619 for more information.

Scholarship Information

October is Education month! If you have not begun working your program yet, now is the perfect time. Students have been returning to their classrooms after a very strenuous year like no other. I know any support that can be provided will be greatly appreciated.



It is time to get the scholarship information to the schools. Visit the National ALA website for full scholarship information. Department specific scholarship information is on the Department website. Give 10 to Education is also a simple way to participate in the program. I know in my school, students are discouraged from sharing

supplies, such as pencils, pens, scissors, crayons, markers, etc. To supply each student with individual items can get expensive. Check with your local school and see how you can help out. If you can, partner with a neighboring Unit and work the program together.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or ideas. We can all share and make the program better together.

Robin Falkenberg, Department Education Chairman

Divorced Spouse: Eligible or Not?

November is Membership Month

Is an individual eligible through the war service of a divorced spouse?

A divorced person does not occupy the status of spouse and, therefore, has no eligibility.

But the fact that a member of the Auxiliary has become divorced from the person whom they gained

eligibility does not force them to surrender Auxiliary membership, even if they remarry. However, if they become delinquent, they may reinstate their membership only by payment of back dues for all years of delinquency or by establishing new eligibility.

ALA Department Operations Guide

Halloween Resources

Halloween Coloring Books may be purchased at emblem.legion.org or by calling 888453-4466.

You can also download them for free at ALAforVeterans.org/Resources.



Photo Judy Evridge



Photo Judy Evridge

Save the Date!

October

Education Month

- October 10: Ms. Veteran America Pageant
- October 11: Columbus Day
- October 13: Navy Birthday
- October 26: National Day of the Deployed
- October 31: Halloween

November

Membership Month

- November 07: Daylight Saving Time ends
- November 10: Marine Corps Birthday
- November 11: Veterans Day
- November 25: Thanksgiving
- November 28: Hanukkah Begins

December

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

- December 01: Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday
- 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