



**2024**

**COMPLETE**

**ADVANCE**

**REPORTS**

**ADVANCE REPORTS 2023 - 2024**

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## **2023-2024 ADVANCE REPORTS**

### **REPORT OF THE GRAND PRESIDENT 2023-24**

**Rae Rosas, Grand President, Tierra de Oro No. 304**

#### **Grand President**

I began this journey on June 26, 2023 being installed as the Grand President of the Native Daughters of the Golden West. I feel great that I accomplished what I started. Thank you to everyone who had faith in me and encouraged me along the way.

I couldn't have done this journey without the support of my Parlor Sisters. Anna Ortiz and Kathy Wilcox your support and planning of GPAM has meant the world to me and appreciate it more than words can ever say. To my mentors in heaven PGP Estella Moreno and Rosalie Andrade, I hope I did you proud on this journey and protecting me while driving on the roads to the next function or on my home.

The 2023 -2024 Board of Directors were installed in Stockton with Supreme Past Grand President Susan Collins presiding. The following officers were installed: Rae Rosas, Grand President, Tierra de Oro No. 304; Nina Coffenberry, Jr. Past Grand President, Ursula No. 1; Darleen Carpenter, Grand Vice President, El Tejon No. 239; Heidi Dillon, Grand Marshall, Joaquin No. 5/Oakdale No. 125; Shelley Buchberger, Grand Secretary, Angelita No. 32; Renee Rianda, Sr. Grand Trustee, Woodland No. 90/Aleli No. 102; and Marion Sonny Graves, Grand Trustee, Amapola No. 238/Joaquin No. 5.

The Board of Directors meet during the term as required by the Books of the Order. Thank you for your attendance and attention at the meetings and functions. I could not have done this without your support.

The Board of Directors entered negotiations with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for the sale of the Palomares Cemetery in Pomona this term. More details of the progress can be found in the Real Property Advance Report.

My first function of my term was Old Spanish Days in my own city of Santa Barbara. I attended the Women's Club Annual Fiesta Luncheon at Rocky Nook Park (across the street from the Old Mission). I also was in the Annual Fiesta Parade on my Parlor's (Tierra de Oro No. 304) float. The parade went along Cabrillo Boulevard and back.

I have enjoyed traveling the State of California visiting places I've never been before. Believe me, I look forward to seeing these places again. I met a lot of Parlor Sisters on this journey and I truly appreciate your hospitality and friendship at your Parlor Official Visit. I know that you are the backbone of your Parlor, your community, and Native Daughters. I look forward to seeing all of you again.

Unfortunately, we lost some Parlors again this year. The Parlors that either consolidated or surrendered their charter were Gold of Ophir Parlor No. 190, Oroville; Veritas Parlor No. 75, Merced; West Wind Parlor No. 328, Fairfield; and Tahquitz Parlor No. 333, Hemet.

One of the honors of being Grand President is being able to celebrate your term with a Silver Anniversary Grand President. It was my honor and pleasure to have Debi Stalder as my 25-year Silver Lady. I

appreciate your honesty and encouragement during my term. I enjoyed seeing you at many of the Official Visits and Luncheons.

To my Home Depot co-worker Jenn Peterson, thank you for your support and trading our shifts so that I can attend functions on my weekends to work.

Lastly, to my wonderful family for the love, support, and encouragement along the way of this journey. I appreciate it more than you'll ever know. I'll be home soon so I can start my home to do list. Love you all!

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GRAND TRUSTEES 2024**  
**Renee Rianda, Woodland Parlor No. 90 & Aleli – Salinas Parlor No. 102**  
**Senior Grand Trustee**

This term, the Board of Grand Trustees consisted of Renee Rianda of Parlors Woodland No. 90 and Aleli No. 102 and Marion "Sonny" Graves from Parlors Amapola No. 338 and Joaquin No. 5. Since it was just Marion and myself, I took the position of Senior Grand Trustee due to being on the Board just a little bit longer.

Due to the diligent work of the Board of Trustees, as far back as the 2019-2020 term legislation was written and passed to update the Duties of the Grand Trustees by clarifying or adding what duties each of the five members of the Grand Trustees were to do, several additional duties of the Grand Vice President as Chief Financial Officer, as they relate to our four entities, (Native Daughters of the Golden West (NDGW), Grand Parlor, Home, Children's Foundation and Charitable Foundation) and a current list of working policies. This allowed the current board to dive right into the work of the order immediately. The only concern was there were only two of us instead of the five positions available. While a daunting task, it worked well with two of us and all duties were completed in a timely manner and being a smaller group was not a hinderance to being able to complete all the work required.

The Board of Grand Trustees worked diligently to perform quarterly audits for periods ending June 30, 2023, September 30, 2023, December 31, 2023, and March 31, 2024. We compared income and expense to the approved budgets for each entity and we reviewed the financial books, government submissions or returns, museum status, investment statements, payroll, trust revenues, insurance recordkeeping, taxes and raffle permits for our four entities. We examined incoming Parlor Semi-Annual Reports and contacted those Parlors that were in arrears with assessments or needed a lesson in how to fill out the four-page form. Working with the Grand Parlor Office Support Assistant Eve, we reported the current membership numbers to the Board of Directors, all while collaborating with new bookkeeper Emily Wolf for any financial information the Grand Trustees needed to do their work.

When we found posting errors, we worked with Emily Wolf, our bookkeeper, for corrections. Emily was very responsive, and she made our job easy. Another plus was the updated accounting system, cloud based vs. a desktop in San Francisco information was more readily available, electronic, and transparent. It made things much easier for two trustees as email was our major form of communication and spreadsheets in between the face-to-face Board of Directors meetings. It allowed the Grand Trustees to keep things current in between Board Meetings. The Trustee Quarterly reports were updated to an excel spreadsheet which made the subsequent audits go faster, from 2 days to 3 hours, if the parlor audits were received in a timely manner. Some work needs to be done to improve receipt of the audits and both Marion and I reached out to several to obtain their information in a variety of ways. Now we

have a comprehensive spreadsheet that shows you the previous audits and the current one. This gives NDGW a true picture of parlor financials and membership and helps to identify parlors that need the Board of Directors' help. This spreadsheet was shared with the Past Grand Presidents this past April and the response was favorable so I will personally commit to collaborating with the next Grand Trustees to keep this work updated. It is a great quarterly snapshot of how we are doing and the current membership tally, a living history. Some items of interest as of the December 31, 2023, audit – 63 Parlors, Average Parlor membership is 46, Average checking account is around \$9,900.00, total assets on hand, cash, investments, properties total approximately \$3.8 million. This does not include any Grand Parlor, Home, Children's or CFIC funds or property, this is just our Parlor Assets that have been reported to Grand Parlor. Our hope is the next Board of Directors will continue to utilize this spreadsheet to gather future years' data and see trends and issues to help our order grow, flourish, and not wither away.

We are thankful to the Delegates of Grand Parlor Annual Meeting 2023 who elected us and to Grand President, Rae Rosas, PGP, Sherry Farley for her knowledge of where things were and who to ask, Emily Wolf, our vibrant bookkeeper who makes it look easy, Francine Bremer, emeritus advisor and the Board of Directors for their guidance and support.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
**Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon Parlor 239**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

The job of the Chief Financial Officer is to review the work of the bookkeeper and ensure the accuracy and health of our financial records. To this end, I worked closely with our bookkeeper, Emily to ensure all revenues and expenses were properly recorded. Any miscalculations were corrected when necessary. I reviewed the financial reports, Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Budget to Actuals, Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable, and the General Ledger for all entities, Grand Parlor, Home, Childrens Foundation and CFIC.

I also worked closely with the CPA on any unusual activity or issues and coordinated the annual Review done by the CPA. When the Review was complete, I reviewed the draft financials and the 990's and RRF-1's which are filed with IRS. We may need to replace our current CPA this year and I have started to speak with a possible replacement. We will interview 2-3 firms before making a final Board decision.

I have been working with a firm who prepares applications for The ERTC (Employee Retention Tax Credit) which is a pandemic-era tax credit that was designed to help businesses remain open and their staff employed during the height of the COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent economic recession. We kept our employees working, so we are eligible for this credit. IRS is dragging their feet in processing these rebates, but I am in constant contact with the firm on any progress.

The Home has had an issue with no proper tracking of gift certificates. The logging during the gift certificate days was inadequate or non-existent. Accounting regulations do not allow carrying an unsubstantiated number on the balance sheet. Based on instructions from the CPA we are adjusting this number over 3 years to rectify the issue. In the future, any gift certificates are required to be pre-printed and pre-numbered and logged. The detail must match the number on the Balance Sheet. The Home continues to struggle due to aging of equipment and the building itself. Plumbing is always an issue. We

need to develop a list of vendors who have been vetted and are insured for emergencies and for scheduled maintenance.

Childrens has been able to support many projects this year and has legislation pending for awarding even larger grants to help children and bring us some name recognition which could bring more donations. Childrens is still failing the Public Support Test required by IRS which could cost us our non-profit status. WE need more individual donations.

CFIC has again done very well with Cash for Christmas and is working to spend their money. Grand Parlor is stable and has taken no principal this year after the large increase in per capita last year. There is no increase anticipated for this year.

Investments are still doing well and our Advisor Greg Allesandro does a great job. As of May 31, 2024 our balance is \$6,474,190 which has increased in a year by just under 1 million.

Subordinate Parlors seem to be doing well. The Trustees have audited all the semi-annual submitted to the Grand Parlor Office. They have contacted any Parlors who are delinquent in paying their assessments or missing rosters and will continue to follow up. There are a couple of Parlors on the watch list at this time.

We have a very competent staff with the bookkeeper and the Office Support Assistant as we move forward into the future and the electronic world.

### **Americanism and Civic Participation 2023-24**

**Report Dated 5/15/24**

**Chairperson Linda Srulevitch**

**Rancho La Puente Parlor No. 331**

One of the challenges and responsibilities of this grand organization is to be involved in our communities with the idea of letting people know who we are and why we exist. This committee provides ideas and suggests activities to motivate parlors to be active in community affairs and represent the Order thereby promoting our mission.

As Chair of this committee, I have provided information to parlors, through Monthly Mailings and the STAR, on the types of projects and/or activities they can do to demonstrate Americanism and Civic Participation. The main project this year has been the Flag Project. Parlors were informed that they could order the American and/or the California Bear Flag from this committee with the intention of presenting said flags to an organization in need of one or both. An application was designed and sent out. Parlors had to indicate which organization was being awarded with the flag and also perform a Flag Ceremony.

Six parlors applied for and received requested flags. Two parlors have sent photos and reports of the Flag Ceremony. Four parlors have not scheduled presentation at this date but have indicated who will be receiving them. In addition, the Home Committee requested four sets of flags to fly over the Home. Due

to the cold, wind, and other weather elements, flags deteriorate quickly in San Francisco and need to be replaced about 4 times a year. Four sets were sent to the Home to ameliorate this situation.

The parlors seemed very appreciative of this opportunity to replace tattered or missing flags and provide beautiful new flags to organizations in need. Parlors receiving flags include Berendos No. 23, Nataqua No. 152, Lugonia No. 241, Grace No. 242, Cotati No. 299, and Sutter's Mill No 336. Organizations receiving the flags include American Legion Post, School, Fire House, historical buildings, and Community centers.

It has been my pleasure to serve GP Rae Rosas during her tenure. By serving on this committee, I have learned about different ways our order can demonstrate Americanism and Civic Participation while promoting our order to the public. Some parlors, according to their reports, have shared activities which promote our American way of life while letting the public know who we are.

The following parlors have submitted actions they have undertaken to support the American way of life and devotion to the flag.

**BONITA PARLOR No. 10** Bonita Parlor members are involved in many community activities in the community. Bonita Parlor is a member of the Historical Union Cemetery on the National Registry with one member serving on the board. On Memorial Day the members of our Parlor provide flowers for the children to place on the soldiers' graves. We wear our yellow ND jackets exposing our Order to the public. Our Bonita Parlor Sisters prepare small bouquets of flowers for the local school children to place at each historic grave site along with small American flags. It is a glorious celebration for Memorial Day which also includes a program presented by the city of Redwood City. Our Member, Past Grand President Suzi Riley has twice presented the keynote address at this wonderful historic and patriotic community event

Several Bonita Parlor Members also volunteer at the Redwood City Library in the archival department supporting patrons with research and local city historical questions. Our dedicated Sisters also at the Veterans Memorial Senior Center weekly serving on the Hospitality Desk, greeting, welcoming and assisting the seniors who visit the VMSC.

We feel with all the volunteering that is done by our Members, our Order is well known in the community.

**BERENDOS PARLOR No. 23** The Order of the Native Daughters of the Golden West is a fraternal and patriotic organization founded on the principles of Love of Home, Devotion to the Flag, Veneration of the Pioneers, Faith in the Existence of God. Love of California is evident in the Order's unceasing efforts to promote the study of her romantic history and reverence for the memory of the sturdy Pioneer Fathers and Mothers, the founders of our great state.

The mission of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, as one of the oldest associations of diverse California born leaders, is to preserve California's history and better the quality of life through active participation in education and community service.

The State Committee on Americanism and Civic Participation has made available to participating Parlors, 4x6 flag sets to donate to their community. A photo was provided showing our presentation to Red Bluff Community and Senior Center on April 26. Pictured were: Members Fran Potts, Bonnie Love,

Community Center Supervisor Karen Shaffer, member Christine Rainwater, President D'Lorah Hurton, members Kathy Sibert, Carol Mieske, Red Bluff City Manager Tom Westbrook.

Respectfully submitted,

D'Lorah Hurton, President, Berendos Parlor No. 23

**REICHLING PARLOR No. 97 and ARCATA PARLOR No. 325** On July 15, 2023 Reichling Parlor #97 member Lee Cramer and Arcata #325 members Lynn Leger and Lee Cramer (yes, I'm a dual member) marched with the Native Sons of the Golden West Parlors Ferndale #93, Ferndale and Humboldt #14, Eureka helping to carry the California Bear flag. It has been the first time in a long time the group had enough people to carry both the United States of America flag and the California State flag. This was in the Fortuna Rodeo Parade. On April 27, 2024 Dual members of Reichling Parlor #97, Fortuna and Arcata #325, Arcata Fay Curtis and Lee Cramer, were in the Rhododendron Parade along with the Native Sons of the Golden West Parlors Ferndale # 93, Ferndale and Humboldt #14, Eureka helping with this time the United States of America flag. We ladies carried the Native Sons of the Golden West banner in front of the large flag. Sincerely and Fraternaly, Lee Cramer Recording Secretary Reichling Parlor #97, Fortuna

**NATAQUA No. 152** A California State Flag and a United States of America Flag were presented April 12 to Juniper Ridge Elementary School, Ravendale-Termo Elementary District, by Lassen County's Nataqua No. 152 of the Native Daughters of the Golden West. Teacher Cheryl McCormack and Aide Jesse Snyder along with students Jolene, sixth grade, and Ru, fourth grade, accepted the new flags from ND Nataqua President Toni Gillaspie and Members Mary Morgan and Linda Kennedy. The flags will be displayed on poles in the school's yard. Photos of this event were sent to Chairman Linda Srulevitch.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Morgan, Member Nataqua Parlor No. 152

**LUGONIA PARLOR No. 241** Worthy Grand President Rea Rosas, Our members may be small but are "Blessed" and "Happy" in serving our community. Many still promote good images as Native Daughters in our community through local and statewide participation in our commitment to the NDGW/NSGW San Bernardino. Four of our members serve as dual members in our district. In addition to our service in our church and city of San Bernardino, Highland, Rialto and some local communities.

Some members CONTINUE to volunteer at their churches by working and counseling our youths, helping adults by driving them to and from their destinations (doctor or/and hair appointments, to the store and bag, plus, carry their groceries, and sometimes offer to buy something; take them out for a meal or two. Help a friend out with senior care, child care or pet care. House sit or dog sit. Attend and participate in the Dr. Martin Luther's parade. This year we had planned to walk and carry the American Flag in the Christmas Youth Parade locally but it was so cold our bodies complained.

Carmen attended the local Veterans Parade and greeted the participants and/or sat with some of our Military armed forces and their family watching and holding the American flag. Some of us attended the Memorial Veterans events at the cemetery wearing our NDGW shirts and spoke to some of the attendees about the NDGW/NSGW and Happily show how to contact the closest Parlor to them.

We continue to collect tabs and recycling items for the Ronald McDonalds House in Loma Linda. Our members will continue to collect clean, used clothing, shoes, socks, purses, belts, hats, under garments,

books, stationary and writing materials, Carmen happily offers some of her citrus fruits to the man's and woman's homes that house the homeless, the neighbors and families, to the homeless on street, in the Inland Empire.

Barbara Kimball continues to be active in many other organizations as a volunteer. Such as, the Historical Society, San Bernardino's Santa Fe's Railway Museum, the Retired Teachers Association, and much more. Whereas Carmen Paredes continues to be involved in the Churches Food Distribution for the needy; also, in July, Carmen assist in preparing schools backpack's (filled with needed supplies for the children). During the other holidays she blesses families in distributing clothing, food, and prayers to needy families.

Carmen donates elementary supplies she no longer needs to the Sunday school teachers and to the local children that are in the pre-K and the elementary level and children's books library at Myers Elementary school in Rialto. Carmen made copies of the NDGW's booklet on California's Mission, and California's state symbols and California state puzzle to a fourth-grade teacher to share with other fourth grade teachers. Carmen donated two United State puzzle to the fifth class. Carmen sometimes tutors in the elementary level. Carmen donates trees, cactus plants, and poppy seeds, other flowering seeds and vegetable seeds to the neighborhood and anyone who wants them. Carmen continues to help people and friends with needed furniture, kitchenware, bathroom stuff, cleaning materials for their house, toys for the kids, clothing with hangers and they will continue to help the needy. That includes the homeless. Carmen and her son continue to help the neighbors (& his worksite) prepare for disasters by assigning who checks on whom and where to meet later to report making sure everyone is counted for and safe. Our members have several pictures of our American and California Flags, other California's symbols in our homes on displayed. Many other members are involved in the same way or more. Many hours have been donated to serve our community and will continue to if our body and health allows us and with God's grace it will be done. The parlor has also received flags from the Committee to present to Allen and Alisha Stanly, owners of the historic Enterprise Building in San Bernardino on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Reporting, Carmen Paredes, The Committee for Americanism and Civic Participation

**GRACE PARLOR No 242** The parlor toured Casa Romantica Cultural Center in San Clemente and noticed they had no California Flag. When asked if they would like one the Center was elated according to Judi Smedley. A California flag has been ordered and sent to the parlor for presentation at a later date.

**JURUPA PARLOR No 296** We are working with the Old Spanish Trails Foundation and the Riverside Woman's Club to help restore the historic Trujillo Adobe site in the former village area of La Placita. Our members work at the Tamale Festival each year, on April 27, 2024, to raise awareness and also help raise funds for the Trujillo Adobe. Riverside's past and present is closely tied to the Spanish Heritage of the Riverside area. We were honored to remark the plaque at the Mission Inn on the Agua Manza bell that had been sold to the Mission Inn in years past. This bell was responsible for ringing and saving the early settlers along the Santa Ana River during flooding in the 1860's. Jurupa Parlor is also moving forward to mark the historic Evergreen Cemetery in Riverside where many of Riverside's former leaders are buried.

Jurupa Parlor volunteers a number of hours in the community in conjunction with other non-profit charitable organizations. Jurupa Parlor members and friends save pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The annual event is held on the first Friday in May. A total of 71,656 pull tabs were

presented to the Women’s Club. Special thanks to State President of NDGW Past Presidents Dorothy Rogers who brought a large box of pull tabs and presented them to Marti Noyes.

A large number of toys were collected this year for the “Spark of Love” toy drive during the Holiday Season. The bags were delivered to the Fire Department on DeAnza Avenue in Riverside on December 15<sup>th</sup> by President Peggy Fryc and Marti Noyes. The department was very happy to receive said toys.

Our members are especially involved with our Veterans and active military. 100 “goodie bags” were collected, prepared, and delivered to the local VA Hospital. Alison Eccleston, Marti Noyes, and Melanie Vigil were able to hand out the bags to veterans inside the lobby of the VA Hospital on Nov. 7, 2023. We hope to be able to give them out to patients in their rooms next year as COVID concerns are eased.

Respectfully submitted, Allison Eccleston, Treasurer/Past President Jurupa Parlor No. 296

**COTATI PARLOR No. 299** The parlor has requested and received flags from this Committee. Several members noticed that the flags at the Rancho Adobe Fire District were very worn. Chief Veliquette was contacted and said they would be honored to receive new flags. They look forward to a ceremony to dedicate new flags.

**RANCHO LA PUENTE PARLOR No. 331** Our parlor has continued to be very active at the El Monte Veteran’s Village in El Monte, here in the San Gabriel Valley. We attempt to have a visit once a month bringing food, supplies, games, and activities. This year we did a paint activity led by one of our talented members, Jennifer Gabel. The 12 or so men did an outstanding job and had a great time. They requested that we do another so in June will bring our supplies back. Since we have been active for more than 6 years with these veterans we have gotten to know many of them and they are opening up and becoming more social. Several have told us that we are the best helpful group that comes in.

In addition, we collected Christmas toys for “Sparks of Love” and donated food to a local food bank who services families in our area. We also reached out to 4<sup>th</sup> grade educators with the offer of a mini grant to promote California history. Two teachers were awarded \$100 each. One teacher needed funds to transport students to tour the San Gabriel Mission while the other purchased supplies to demonstrate panning for gold. It was our goal to make ourselves known to local educators and we hope to improve upon this next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Srulevitch

Chair, Americanism and Civic Participation

Member, Rancho La Puente Parlor No. 331

**2023-2024 Advance Report for the Board of Grievance  
Dawn Dunlap, PGP, El Pinal Parlor No.163 State Chairman**

The Board of Grievance, hereinafter “the Board”, was reappointed to serve a successive two-year term at the meeting of the College of Past Grand Presidents in Madera on October 27, 2023.

The Board is comprised of PGP Marie M. Otto, Grace Parlor No. 242, Fullerton, PGP Beth Perrin, Toluca Parlor No. 279, Burbank, PGP Margaret Mallette, Annie K. Bidwell Parlor No. 168, Chico, PGP Jean E. Koehl Gilroy Parlor No. 312, Gilroy and Annie K. Bidwell Parlor No. 168, Chico, and PGP Dawn Dunlap, El Pinal Parlor No. 163, Cambria. The Board affirmed PGP Dawn to serve as Chairman and PGP Marie to serve as Secretary.

The Board held two Zoom meetings this term. During these meetings we discussed the following: the history of the Board since its inception at GPAM 1985, the current Procedures and Policies for the Board in the Books of the Order and potential amendments thereto, methods for resolving conflicts and grievances at the District, Subordinate Parlor, and Grand Parlor levels, procuring information regarding procedures for resolving grievances i.e., conflict resolution or Member misconduct in similar organizations, e.g., Native Sons of the Golden West, Rotary International, Lions Clubs International, Order of Elks, and Supreme Emblem Club, and our goals for this term.

We are awaiting the outcome of Delegates' discussions and decisions of legislative recommendations at GPAM 2024 and are looking forward to our meetings during the next term.

Potential grievance inquiries were sent via email to Chairman PGP Dawn Dunlap, but no formal grievances have been filed with the Board to date.

#### **REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA ADMISSION DAY COMMITTEE 2023-24**

**Suzi Riley, PGP, Bonita Parlor No. 10  
State Chairman**

As all dedicated Native Daughters sadly know, ***California Statehood Day*** is no longer observed as a legal holiday in our glorious golden State. Therefore, it is so important that we do our best to preserve and acknowledge this important date in our State's illustrious history. Congratulations California on 173 years and thank you to the Sisters who celebrated California Admission Day in many unique ways with their local Parlors and in their communities!

**Petaluma Parlor No. 222** was proud to celebrate Admission Day this year with a great event. Six Members of the Parlor greeted community members in front of the Petaluma Historical Museum. Everyone was delighted to hear about the importance of this forgotten date in California history. Parlor Members explained that this was California's 173rd Birthday. Information about the California Bear Flag was shared and small California flags were handed out to the many visitors. California coloring pages and facts-sheets were given to the children that came by, as well as color pages of the California Poppy, Quail and the California Bear Flag. Many older people reminisced about how we used to celebrate Admission Day and that it was sad that it is no longer acknowledged. Several visitors even quizzed us with questions about California's history, like where was the Bear Flag first raised (Sonoma!!). Additionally, Members Dolori Beard and Linda Dusek made a presentation about Admission Day to the fourth-grade classes at McNear Elementary School in Petaluma. Linda provided a bit of history about California's admission to the Union, a much-forgotten fact about our great gave a state. And we all sang Happy Birthday to California for its 173<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Posters with photos of our glorious state of California, the California State Seal, the State Bird, flower, tree and other symbols of our state were presented. The students were so attentive to the information presented to them. The teacher played "*I Love You California*". on her computer, and the children began singing along and waved their California flags! It was so amazing to see and share this moment with these young students. We were so happy to educate

these children about this important date in California history. We were honored to be able to educate both young and old about Admission Day, as well as to be visible in the community as Native Daughters of the Golden West. It was such a fun and successful event that we are looking forward to celebrating again next year for our glorious 174th birthday!

**El Tejon Parlor No. 239** was proud to celebrate Admission Day this year with a great event. On Thursday, September 7, 2023, their Parlor held a luncheon and program in honor of California's 173rd birthday at the Hungry Hunter Restaurant in Bakersfield. Approximately 28 were in attendance and every year a different topic of California history is presented. This year's speaker was Mr. Ken Hooper a history and archivist teacher at Bakersfield High School, the President of the Kern County Historical Society and historian of the Kern Veterans Memorial Foundation. His Power Point and talk were on the history of Kern County were informative and well-received by all. Each attendee received a magnet of California in the shape of our State made by one of our new members, Linda Chitwood. The table decorations for the event, of course, were our beautiful poppies with the California flags designed by our Chairman, Ethel White. The program was prepared by Darleen Carpenter, GVP/CFO. While Parlor President, Brigitte Bonnet opened the celebration, with the Invocation offered by Ethel White, followed by the flag salute, which was led by Darleen Carpenter, GVP. After a delicious luncheon, we were presented with proclamations and resolutions from the Office of Kevin McCarthy, Speaker of the House and the Office of Congressman David Valado. The program concluded with the serving of our beautiful Birthday cake. Many thanks to the committee Ethel White, Chairman, Darleen Carpenter, and Brigitte Bonnet. It was a wonderful event and was enjoyed by all in attendance.

**Grace Parlor No. 242** shared that the Sisters of Grace Parlor celebrated Admission Day on September 9th during a luncheon meeting held at Keno's Sports Bar and Grill in the city of Anaheim. The tables were decorated with California Flags and each Member received a California Flag pin. Additionally, Grace Sisters, PGP Sherry Farley and Brendamarie Curtis attended the California Admission Day celebration in San Francisco and reported back to the Parlor on the educational information about the NDGW Home which was presented at the event by PGP Dawn Dunlap, keynote speaker of the day. The Parlor donation of \$31.00 to the State Admission Day Committee was symbolic of California being the 31st State to enter the Union. Grace also mailed a "Happy Birthday California" card to Governor Gavin Newsom and the Brea City Council.

**Cotati Parlor No. 299** celebrated Admission Day by having an information table at the Rohnert Park Public Library. They display flyers about the Native Daughters and provide coloring pages of California items for the children. A large California flag is always proudly displayed and many people stop and chat with our Cotati Members. We enjoy this annual tribute to California's Birthday.

**District 15, NDGW and District 1, NSGW's Annual Grand California Luncheon**, celebrated Statehood Day with more than 130 Native Sons and Daughters from all across our golden state gathered together to Celebrate Admission Day – California's 173rd Birthday at South San Francisco's Basque Cultural Center on Admission Day on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>! Everyone enjoyed a fine meal and eagerly took part in the raffle. Grand Officers and Past Grand Presidents from both Orders attended making the event even more special. We were also grateful to welcome our *Silver Anniversary Past Grand President Debi Stalder* and her husband Bill Stalder. The event raised funds for the historical preservation of both Orders and we were elated to celebrate California Admission Day in San Francisco. Honorary Co-Hosts of the event, **NDGW Grand President Rae Rosas and NSGW Grand President George Adams** ensured the entire afternoon was a wonderful success. Historic displays filled the Luncheon room with the **N.D.G.W.**

Home's Evelyn I. Carlson Historic Collection State Chairman Kathy Kelly-Breitler and her excellent Committee presenting a wonderful exhibition of our N.D.G.W. Admission Day history.

Many folks still remember when Admission Day was a holiday, with no school! It was **such a fun and successful event that we are looking forward to celebrating again next year for our glorious 174th birthday. Everyone is invited to attend!**

*Congratulations and thank you to the Sisters who celebrated California Admission Day in their local Parlors and in their communities!* Thank you to also to all who donated and continue to support California Admission Day!

Ursula Parlor No.1  
Joaquin Parlor No. 5  
Bonita Parlor No. 10  
Eshcol Parlor No. 16  
Santa Cruz Parlor No. 26  
Aleli Parlor No. 102  
Darina Parlor No. 114  
El Vespero Parlor No. 118  
Oakdale Parlor No. 125  
Reina Del Mar Parlor No. 126  
Nataqua Parlor No. 152  
Vista Del Mar Parlor No. 155  
San Juan Bautista Parlor No. 179  
Morada Parlor No. 199  
Fort Bragg Parlor No. 210  
Petaluma Parlor No. 222  
Fort Bragg Parlor No. 210  
Petaluma Parlor No. 222  
El Tejon Parlor No. 239  
Grace Parlor No, 242  
San Bruno Parlor No. 246  
Charter Oak Parlor No. 292  
Cotati Parlor No. 299

Tierra De Oro No. 304  
Gilroy Parlor No. 312  
Rancho La Puente Parlor No. 331  
Zinfandel Parlor No. 337  
Rae Ann Rosas, GP  
George Adams, GP, NSGW  
Darleen Carpenter, GVP  
Heidi Dillon, GM  
Chris Adams, GM, NSGW  
Renee Rianda, sGT  
Joan M. Hall, PGP  
Marilynn Rodrigues, PGP  
Suzi Riley, PGP  
Bonnie M. Tabor, PGP  
Sherry A. Farley, PGP  
Dawn M. Dunlap, PGP  
Dorothy Rogers, SP, PPA  
Viola Gene Dana  
Mary Burton  
Sue Gabel  
Joseph Ursino, PGP, NSGW  
Bob Teal, SDDGP, NSGW

Thank you for your generosity, and as result of your donations, the following donations were made to support Admission Day celebrations and events across California:

El Tejon Parlor No. 239 - \$290.00  
Darina Parlor No. 114 – \$250.00  
Petaluma Parlor No. 222 – \$75.00  
Fort Bragg Parlor No. 210 – \$120.00

In 2023 we celebrated the 173rd Anniversary of California’s Statehood Day and we encourage all Native Daughters to plan to participate in 2024. If you do not have a local event, please attend an Admission Day celebration in your area and support your local parlors who host events.

On behalf of my outstanding, dedicated and hardworking California Admission Day Committee: **Donna Fletcher, Darina Parlor No. 114, Sherry A. Farley, PGP, Grace Parlor No. 242 and Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon Parlor No. 239, we wish to thank Grand President Rae Rosas for the opportunity to serve our Order and preserve to California’s History for future generations.**

**NDGW California History, Landmarks, & Historic Buildings Committee 2023-2024 Report  
Jenni King, Woodland Parlor No. 90, State Chairman**

The Mission of our Committee shall collect and record historic data pertaining to our Order and State; assist Subordinate Parlors in marking historic buildings or sites; preserve the memory of the Pioneers; be alert to prevent destruction of buildings or sites having historical significance and to proposed changes in names of areas, towns, and streets having historical significance; shall encourage development of a California History, Landmarks and Historic Buildings Speakers Bureau in the districts; and utilize every possible means to preserve our heritage.

The Committee consisted of Jenni King (Woodland No 90), Chair, Marjorie McKisson (Sutter 111), Chair of Monuments & Indexes, MaryAnne Azevedo (Woodland No 90), Cynthia Mulholand (Encinal No 156), Frances Levy (El Pinal No 163), and sGT Renee Rianda Woodland No 90 and Aleli No 102).

The Committee Reviewed, Attended, and/or is working on these items;

1. The committee was able to award Five (5) \$350 grants to parlors who are working on new or replacing NDGW Historic Markers. Encinal Parlor No 156, San Miguel Parlor No 94, Mariposa Parlor No 63, Annie K Bidwell Parlor No 168, and Woodland Parlor No 90.
2. The committee is watching the Alum Rock Log Cabin in San Jose and Alba School house in Santa Cruz. The plaques were recovered by the local historical societies. Plans are under way for reconstruction of both sites. San Jose Parlor No 183 dedicated both plaques. The Alum Rock Log cabin was dedicated in 1983 and the Alba School House in 1970.
3. Palomares Adobe replacement Plaque. This adobe was the family home of Don Ygnacio and Concepcion Lopez de Palomares, a 13 room, one-story adobe structure built between 1850-1855, and was the family home for several decades before being utilized as an overnight stagecoach stop between Los Angeles and San Bernardino.
4. Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum is working on preserving the “Sister’s Gates”, as part of the 200-year celebration.
5. The Eagle Tree, in Compton fell down and had to be removed. There was a NDGW plaque at the tree dedicated in 1952 by NDGW Compton Parlor No 258. The plaque was recovered by the Save the Eagle Tree

committee and will be relocated/re-dedicated when a new tree is planted. The Eagle Tree is the eastern border of the Dominguez Rancho.

6. Ruby Parlor No 46 is working on placing a Historic marker on the Stone building, Main Street, Murphys. Ruby Parlor is also working tirelessly on preserving the Murphys School.

7. Committee plans to meet to review, organize, and file the data into the California Room Archives. Committee can purchase Plain white 2" Binders, with front page insert and spine insert, plastic matte sleeves, to finish out the 58 counties.

Parlor reports received are summarized below.

**Woodland No. 90, Woodland** – Parlor members have acted as docents for the Historic Woodland Stroll. Woodland Parlor members have been helping Woodland NSGW with the startup of a new museum at the Yolo County Fairgrounds. Woodland Parlor is working the Woodland NSGW on placing a Historic Marker at the Chicago Café, Northern California’s oldest running Chinese restaurant.

**San Miguel No 94, San Miguel-** Parlor members worked hard to obtain funding and place a marker at the El Camino Real bell in Caledonia, built in 1915, honoring Jena Hoffman and the NDGW who placed the bell in 1906. The ceremony took place on October 21, 2023.

**Encinal Parlor, No. 156, Alameda-** In the mid-1960s an Art Deco fountain was designed, built, and dedicated by the NDGW to Sallie Rutherford Thaler, a Grand Secretary of long standing. The fountain, located in Oakland’s Lakeside Park, was given to the City of Oakland on the day it was dedicated. A rededication was held on October 16, 2023.

**Annie K Bidwell Parlor No 168, Chico-** Sisters of AnnieK Bidwell worked long and hard to replace the marker at College Hill, Sierra Polytechnic Institute, lost in the CampFire of 2019. The rededication was held on December 29, 2023.

**Lugonia Parlor No. 241, San Bernardino-** Sisters of Lugonia Parlor are on the lookout for missing or damaged plaques. San Bernadino Museum has one of missing plaques and the El Camino Real Bell. Lugonia Parlor is working on getting the plaques returned and rededicated.

**Grace Parlor No 242, Fullerton-** Grace Parlor has been carefully watching the marker placed on Brea Canyon Road for Don Gaspar Portola. There has been much talk of relocating the marker.

**Jurupa Parlor No. 296, Riverside** – Parlor members participate in the Tamale Festival to help raised funds for the Trujillo Adobe historic site as part of the Old Spanish Trail Heritage Foundation. There are future plans for plaque dedication. The Parlor was able to rededicate the San Salvador bell from the Aqua Mansa Mission, now at the Mission Inn in Riverside. The original plaque was dedicated in the 1957. Plans continue with the Evergreen Historical Cemetery to mark and dedicate where the founding fathers of Riverside are buried.

## **REPORT OF CALIFORNIA LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE 2023-24**

**PGP Susan Collins, Fort Bragg Parlor No. 210**

**State Chairman**

I would like to thank Grand President Rae Rosas for my appointment and for appointing such a wonderful group of Sisters to the committee. Members Vickie Van Winkle, Donna Bryant, Lori McGrath, Terri Kurrach, and Valerie Eller Baxter were wonderful to work with. The committee members were quick to respond to emails and attended all Zoom meetings. We presented a photo contest to the Membership of Native

Daughters of the Golden West which was two parts. Members were encouraged to visit California Lighthouse and photograph them. The photos entered into the first contest will be judged by attendees of GPAm 2024 in the art talent room. The winners will be awarded cash prizes. Members who sent photos of themselves at a lighthouse to the committee chairman will be entered into a drawing to win a valuable prize.

The Committee arranged a tour on the USS Potomac on the San Francisco Bay to view Bridges and Lighthouses. Sisters from all around the State enjoyed the trip on May 4 despite the rainy weather. What a wonderful group of good sports.

Applications for grants were sent to 16 California Lighthouses. The applications will be reviewed and applicants notified soon.

## **REPORT OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE 2024**

**Shelley Buchberger, Angelita Parlor No. 132**

**State Chairman**

I would like to thank Grand President Rae Rosas for giving me this appointment. It has allowed me to again work with some amazing women.

Over the past two years, we have worked very hard as a Committee to bring our Order into this century with our digital imprint, Social Media presence, and to make things easier for our Members to access items they need to run their Parlors. Our website is running fabulously and we update it often to suit our Order's needs. We have also been working on being able to pay digitally for attendance at Grand Parlor and for the Grand President's banquet and luncheons. I hope you all were able to utilize this as it is a time saver for everyone and easy to make changes.

I mentioned this on last year's report but thought it needed another mention. If you are hosting a fundraising luncheon for the NDGW Home, Childrens, or CFIC or any committee under their purview, remember that there are many ways to donate. Donating electronically via PayPal and electronically with a credit card through the Native Daughters website at your next fundraising event is an option for attendees if they'd like to donate that way instead of a check. They can still fill out the paper donation form but instead of a check, they can write that they donated online so that you have a record of it. Please have them note in the online transactions that they are for your parlors fundraising event and where they'd like the money to go.

Our Committee will again be helping out with Zoom at the GPAM meeting. Anne Riley has donated her time and equipment to save us quite a bit this year. We won't need to rent the equipment like we have needed to do in previous years. Thank you so much Anne! We will also have all of the recommended Resolutions and up to date minutes on located on the website. Remember to bring your tablets or laptops to easily access them.

The EVENTS tab on our website is still available to add your upcoming event. Event organizers can send us event flyers which can be posted on the NDGW website and will be there for everyone to plan and sign up for future events.

At last year's GPAM, we tried something new. PGP Suzi Riley was able to use her school's scanners and she created barcodes for each attendee to get scanned in and out of the room. This helped her get her tally numbers for those in attendance. We are going to try it again this year and if it works as well as it did last year, we hope to make it permanent. Unfortunately, we do not have Sentinels for the doorways so this is a great way to compensate.

**eNews:** If you have not signed up to receive eNews through Constant Contact, please visit the NEWS page on the website and click the orange colored "SIGNUP" button. We send out several eNews blasts each year with important information. Don't be left out!

**California Star:** The California Star has had a huge update! At last year's GPAM, it was voted to take the Star digital. This was an interesting transition for us and it has worked out well and saved us a lot of money in the process. I have received many emails about how nice it looks in the new format. Thank you. We appreciate your feedback very much.

**Public Relations and Social Media:** The Native Daughters have multiple social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter. Facebook accounts are managed for Grand Parlor and the NDGW Home through the Electronic Communications Committee. A single Twitter account is managed for Grand Parlor. We hope you have been able to view these Facebook sites and help out any prospective members that might be looking at us. Please remember to also have more than one person with your Parlor Facebook log in.

I wish to extend my Gratitude to the Members of the Electronics Communications Committee. I could not have asked for better support. These wonderful women are, Past Grand President Sherry Farley, Web Mistress, Anne Riley, State Chairman for the California Star and ECC Treasurer, PGP Debi Stalder, State Chairman for Public Relations, Kathleen Valerio, ECC Secretary, and Sandra Firpo, Member at Large. Our meetings are always open to anyone who would like to attend and learn more about what we do. We know that technology can be intimidating but with all of us working together, we pool our strengths and are able to learn so much more than individually. Tech can be scary but it is also fun! It has truly been my pleasure to be your Chairman this year.

## **2023-2024**

### **Advance Report for Education and Scholarships Committee Dawn Dunlap, PGP, El Pinal Parlor No.163 State Chairman**

The Education and Scholarships Committee held nine four-hour Zoom meetings, and multiple telephone conferences this term. At our meeting in July, we discussed the outcome of the legislation our Committee submitted at GPAM 2023 in Stockton. We also discussed the feasibility of obtaining a grant from a local charitable foundation.

In August we reviewed high schools, trade schools, community colleges with nursing programs, colleges offering teacher certification programs, and Veterans organizations and villages in California to solicit applicants for our NDGW Scholarship program. We prepared three flyers for the September Mailing from the Grand Parlor Office.

The first listed information regarding the NDGW Scholarship program that offers a variety of scholarships awarding \$850.00 to \$1,500.00 to undergraduate and graduate students, Veterans, dependents of Veterans, and personnel currently serving on active military duty.

The second flyer listed information regarding the Sharon M. Johnston Music Grant program for students between the ages of 8 and 18 studying music. The third flyer listed information regarding Sharon M. Johnston Music Grant program for schools for printed or recorded music for instruction, musical accompanists, uniforms, or travel expenses to performance venues.

We also contacted Subordinate Parlors encouraging them to promote the NDGW Scholarship and Sharon M. Johnston Music Grant programs in their Parlors and communities.

In October the following lists were compiled: Three hundred high schools in rural, inner-city, and underserved areas in California, Eleven colleges with nursing programs, Eleven universities and colleges offering teacher certification programs, and Twenty-five Veterans' organizations and villages. Flyers and informational memoranda were mailed to each of them in November and December.

In response, we received over one hundred and twenty-five inquiries from counselors, ombudsmen, administrators, and applicants.

Between October 1<sup>st</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>, we received sixteen applications for grants from the Sharon M. Johnston Music Grant program, to wit, nine from students and seven from schools.

In January we chose the following four recipients for Sharon M. Johnston Music Grants for the 2023-2024 term.

**Student Grants:**

Suahnag Shelly Xaydang Lee - \$450.00 for private cello lessons at the United Conservatory of Music in Fresno.

Marco Barajas, Jr. - \$500.00 for private trumpet lessons at Harvard House Music in Fresno.

**School Grants:**

John F. Kennedy High School in Sacramento - \$500.00 for printed music for instruction and uniforms.

Columbia Elementary School in Columbia - \$280.00 for printed and recorded music for instruction.

In order to accommodate receiving more Subordinate Parlor sponsored applications, the Committee extended the NDGW Scholarship submission deadline from March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup> through telephone conferences in February.

We held three meetings in March wherein we discussed legislation to present for consideration at GPAM 2024. We prepared recommendations modifying the Committee Policies in the C.G.P. regarding Bertha A Briggs Scholarships for Veterans, and personnel currently serving on active military duty and their dependents, as well as enhancing the availability of applications for NDGW Scholarships and Sharon M. Johnston Grants and simplifying the application submission deadlines.

The Committee's significant recommendations for this term are the following:

In addition to interest, dividends, and donations, we are requesting five percent (5%) of the principle of our Investment Account annually to fund the expanded Scholarship and Grant programs that are outlined in additional recommendations.

In March we submitted our legislation for GPAM 2024 and are looking forward to finalizing it with the State of the Order Committee.

In May we reviewed the funds available for our NDGW Scholarship program, and the sixteen applications and supporting documents we received to determine the scholarship award recipients.

We chose the following thirteen recipients for NDGW Scholarships for the 2023-2024 term:

Cera Burns, sponsored by Donner Parlor No. 193, Byron – UC Scholarship – \$1,1350.00

Alexandra Favela, sponsored by San Juan Bautista Parlor No. 179, San Juan Bautista –Annie L. Adair Scholarship - \$1,300.00

Tanner Fry, sponsored by El Pinal Parlor No. 163, Cambria – NDGW Nursing Scholarship - \$1,000.00

Maddi Hansen, sponsored by Annie K. Bidwell Parlor No. 168, Chico – Sue J. Irwin Scholarship - \$1,000.00

Juliana Huffman, sponsored by Fresno Parlor No. 187, Fresno – Sue J. Irwin Scholarship - \$1,000.00

Matthew Huffman, sponsored by Fresno Parlor No. 187, Fresno – Sue J. Irwin Scholarship - \$1,000.0

Jennifer Kirby, sponsored by El Pinal Parlor No.163, Cambria – NDGW Nursing Scholarship - \$1,000.00

Allison Kerth, sponsored by Grace Parlor No. 242, Fullerton – UC Scholarship –\$1,350.00

Andre Lapachet, sponsored by El Vespero Parlor No. 118, San Francisco – Sue J. Irwin Scholarship - \$1,000.00

Russell Olvera, sponsored by San Jose Parlor No.81, San Jose – UC Scholarship – \$1,350.00

Sara Sullivan, sponsored by Grace Parlor No. 242, Fullerton – NDGW Nursing Scholarship - \$1,000.00

Elias Wilmert, sponsored by Napa Parlor No. 16, Napa – Annie L. Adair Scholarship - \$1,300.00

The names of the award recipients, the scholarships they will receive, and their sponsoring Subordinate Parlors will be announced at GPAM 2024. An article highlighting this term’s award recipients will be submitted for publication in the Fall edition of the California Star.

We received Activity Reports from the following Subordinate Parlors:

Bonita No.10, Redwood City celebrated their 52nd year of awarding their Parlor’s Madeline B. Wallace Scholarships to three young women graduating from Northern California high schools. All three award recipients are daughters and granddaughters of Bonita Parlor Sisters. This year many Parlor Members generously donated funds to the NDGW Nursing Scholarship in memoriam honoring their Parlor Sister Patricia Riley, a dedicated nurse and devoted Native Daughter.

Santa Cruz Parlor No. 26, Santa Cruz awarded four continuing education scholarships, and thirteen new scholarships this year. Their scholarship program is funded by a munificent bequest from Parlor Sister Phryne Lorenz and is restricted to scholarships for students graduating from high schools or community colleges in Santa Cruz County.

Woodland Parlor No 90, Woodland awarded three scholarships to young women attending colleges or trade schools in California in 2024. The Parlor raises funds to support their scholarship program by selling See’s Candy throughout the year. They encourage all eligible applicants to join the Order.

El Pinal Parlor No. 163, Cambria awarded a scholarship to a young woman graduating from Coast Union High School in Cambria who also will be initiated and welcomed as the newest Member of their Parlor. Their scholarship program is funded by an annual enchilada sale generously supported by the community.

Grace Parlor No. 242, Fullerton sponsored four applicants for NDGW scholarships this term. Members of their Parlor also generously donated funds in support of the NDGW Scholarship program and the Sharon M. Johnston Music Grant program.

Reina del Mar Parlor No. 126, Santa Barbara encouraged local junior and high school students and schools to apply for grants from the Sharon M. Johnston Music Grant program. Four applications from students and schools were received by the Committee from the Santa Barbara area.

I greatly appreciate the efforts and dedication of the members of this hard-working Committee that included Mary Louise Days, Reina del Mar Parlor No. 126, Santa Barbara, Gloria Courtney, San Bruno Parlor No. 246, San Bruno, Kristi Jenkins, El Pinal Parlor No. 163, Cambria, and Catherine Wong El Vespero Parlor No. 118, San Francisco.

#### **Environmental Issues 2023-24**

**Debi Stalder, PGP**

**Laurel Parlor No. 6**

**State Chairman**

Preserving of natural resources of California is a passionate effort from NDGW Sisters. I am pleased to announce that all Parlors do their part in numerous ways from big impact to small efforts. Parlors report that they participate in protecting parks, beaches, forests and protection of wildlife. The Parlors also practice and encourage recycling, waste reduction, water conservation, and energy awareness. Another favorite project that is supported is "Pennies for Pines" with several acres of Pine Tree seedlings planted in fire impacted areas of our California Forest's. A new project that has been introduced to also help land management weed control is using herds of Goats and Sheep to graze especially in steep areas that is easier than human efforts. Please check it out as 3 areas of the State Forestry has had NDGW Financial support to fund the Sheep and Goat grazing program. Ronald McDonald Can pop tops collection from members and Parlors has benefited from our efforts. I delivered 5 pounds of the pop tops to the Ronald McDonald House in Sacramento from our Order for their recycling for funds to support their Ronald McDonald House.

The Committee Donations:

Sierra and Nevada County Forestry for the Goat and Sheep Program.

Save the Redwoods League

Parlor Written Reports:

Lugonia Parlor No. 241- Pennies for Pines 1 acre each year to San Bernardino National Forest, pop top collections, recyclable glass bottles, plastic containers for cash, Member collects stray cats and dogs and has them neutered. A Member has a roster and a red hen to help control the bugs in her backyard. Member donated several cacti plants, bushes and fruit trees in honor of Arbor Day, Poppy Day and Earth Day..A member volunteers her time on educating children to recyclable and reuse items (newspaper, milk or juice cartons, egg containers, coffee cans, coffee grounds, used tea bags, banana peels and egg shells).

Sutter's Mill Parlor No. 336 numerous Pennies for Pines acres have been presented to several different Forests in California. Pop tops collection.

Laurel Parlor No. 6 Monetary gift to Goats and Sheep program in Nevada County.

Thank you Rae Rosas, GP for my appointment since this was a great passion and project highlighted in "Pennies for Pines" that 100's of acre's were financially supported, twenty five years ago when I was Grand President. My committee support was Betty Gross, Califia Parlor No. 22, Dorothy Rundell, Califia Parlor No. 22 and Elaine Johnson, El Vespro Parlor No. 118.

## **REPORT OF THE EXTENSION OF THE ORDER COMMITTEE 2023-24**

**PGP Susan Collins Chairman**

**Fort Bragg Parlor No. 210**

The extension of the order is sponsoring a contest to encourage Parlors to add to their membership by recruiting members of their community to join Native Daughters of the Golden West. The committee members sold Christmas Ornaments and Chocolate to earn money so that cash prizes could be given to the Parlors initiating the highest number of members during GP Rae Rosas term. Prizes will be awarded to the first three Parlors that added the highest number of new members.

As you know the Order is only as strong as its membership. I encourage each member to do something to increase the membership of the Order before it's too late. Parlors can hold membership drives, serve the community, and be a recognizable organization wherever they go, Members can talk about Native Daughters of the Golden West and the good we do for California to their families, church groups, and other community organizations. In other words, be present and speak positively in an effort to grow and save this valuable Order. It's up to you.

## **Finance Committee Report 2023-24**

**Sherry Farley, P.G.P, State Chair**

The Finance Committee is an important part of our organization. We are dedicated to oversee the funding and spending, including:

- Implementing the annual budget
- Monitoring monthly financial statements
- Overseeing financial reporting, including the annual Raffle Permits, Charity Registration with the State of California, IRS Form 990 and all required tax filings
- Internal controls, accountability, transparency and risk management
- Ensuring the organization has the cash reserves and investments necessary for long-term success

The Members of this Committee have embraced this responsibility with dedication and devotion. We are grateful to the Voting Members at the 2023 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting for approving a budget that allows the organization to function in a fiscally responsible manner with a substantial increase in the per capita tax. Understanding, this change was not easy, the Finance Committee will be proposing to maintain the per capita tax at the current rate of \$42.00 per Member for the ensuing, 2024-2025, term and doing everything in our power to refrain from requesting administration fees for the 2023-2023 term.

On a monthly basis, the Finance Committee has reviewed the financial statements and reports. The Committee met six times this term and renegotiated our contract for the Grand Parlor office copy machine. We have moved to a higher level of electronic document storage and online meetings, proving to save time and money.

Working together with the Bookkeeper has been beneficial to the entire Order. In collaboration with the Board of Directors, the Bookkeeper and Grand Parlor Office Assistant are now responsible for an improved documentation system for individual donations and acknowledgements. We are blessed to have them on our team preparing reports and seeking approval for unexpected expenses.

Future considerations: Under the California Nonprofit Integrity Act, a charitable corporation with gross revenues of 2 million dollars or more, must prepare annual financial statements audited by an independent certified public accountant (CPA). This is an important consideration for any future potential revenue, such as the sale of property, and was not included, but considered, in the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

The Members of this Committee thank Grand President Rae and the Board of Directors for our appointments. It has been a pleasure to serve the Order.

**REPORT OF FRATERNAL JEWELRY 2023-24**  
**Camelia Robles, PGP, State Chairman**  
**Poppy Trail Parlor No. 266 – Montebello**

This committee is responsible for the ordering of the Orders service emblems. At this time, service emblems are awarded for membership years as follows: 10 year, 25 year, 50 year and 75 year. All but the 10 year awards are made in the Los Angeles area. The 10 year emblem is made overseas. Parlors are responsible for purchasing the 10 year and 25 year emblems, while Grand Parlor pays for the 50 year and 75 year emblems.

Another responsibility is ordering the regalia's used by our Grand Presidents, and Past Presidents pins that are available for purchase. Grand Parlor Office notifies the chairman when awards need to be ordered.

Each year, the Grand Vice President will design a pin/pendant, to be used for her term, and is referred to as "The Grand President's Pin", and she distributes it during her term. Many times they will consult with the Fraternal Jewelry Committee to help with the design and guide her through the process of actually producing "her" pin.

While the new design of 10 year, 25 year and 50 year emblem was approved, the actual cost of ordering them became troublesome. In the Books of The Order, it is stated that the 25 and 50 year emblems must be made in the United States of America. As the 10 year emblem did not have that stipulation, we were able to order it overseas at a very low price. The quotes given to have new molds made along with the high cost of each pin if made in the United States, was never approved. Recently, I was asked to request a quote from the company that produced the 10 year emblem. We will have that information available and presented at GPAM 2024.

My sincere appreciation to Grand President Rae for my appointment and the opportunity to serve the Order.

**2023-2024 Report of the Grand Parlor Office**  
Eve Brockmann, Grand Parlor Office Support Assistant

**Parlor Changes**

- There were no new Parlors instituted during the 2023-2024 term.

- Gold of Ophir No. 190 closed effective November 11, 2023.
- Tahquitz No. 333 consolidated into Jurupa No. 296 effective January 1, 2024.
- Veritas No. 75 closed in 2024.
- West Wind No. 328 closed in 2024.

**Membership Changes, 2023-2024 Term, effective May 16, 2023 through May 15, 2024**

**[118]** Initiations; **[28]** Reinstatements  
**[146]** Resignations; **[146]** Suspensions  
**[72]** Deceased Sisters

Dual Memberships, Life Memberships and Transfers were not tracked.

The estimated number of Members in the Native Daughters of the Golden West as of May 29, 2024 stands at 2,966.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Ursula No. 1:** Pearl Campbell

**Joaquin No. 5:** Keith Bickley, Joan Stafko, Les Tomlinson

**Laurel No. 6:** Marille Hopkins, Thelma Gates-Jackson, Julia McCullough

**Bonita No. 10:** Carol O'Loughlin, Helen Cocco

**Marguerite No. 12:** Karen DeBerry, Carolyn Collins

**Eshcol No. 16:** Janet Cannizzaro, Anne Thompson, Diana Whitney

**Califia No. 22:** Dorothy Rundell

**Santa Cruz No. 26:** Jacqueline Rall

**Veritas No. 75:** Catherine Taylor, Margaret Peterson

**San Jose No. 81:** Annabelle Lang, Ruby Tull, Jeannie Gregorio

**Forrest No. 86:** Ella Emerson, Janet Parker

**San Miguel No. 94:** Sandra Culver

**Reichling No. 97:** Glenda Miller, Patricia Cooke

**Aleli No. 102:** Rita Dominy

**San Luisita No. 108:** Frances Chaves, LaVerne Stafford

**Sutter No. 111:** Margery Brownell, Melanie Conover, Marilyn Wordlow

**Eschsoltzia No. 112:** Jean Taylor

**Darine No. 114:** Esther Jennings, Marilyn Starkey

**El Vespero No. 118:** Marilyn Driscoll

**Reina del Mar No. 126:** Sue Ziliotto, Charlene Hovey, Alice Tarbush

**Placer No. 138:** Aileen Gage, Linda Aidnik

**Encinal No. 156:** Margaret Florance

**El Pinal No. 163:** Lorraine Gomes, Judith "Sally" Friend, Eleanor Garcia

**Gold of Ophir No. 190:** Linda Thompson

**Morada No. 199:** Betty Wynne

**Fort Bragg No. 210:** Kimberly Koskinen, Roen Mallory, Jeanne Duncan, Mary Meskis, Ethel Piviroto, Jane Bavo

**Liberty No. 213:** Melba Mosher

**Petaluma No. 222:** Stella Corda

**El Tejon No. 239:** Denice Mettle  
**Lomitas No. 255:** Judy Yriarte, Delores Jorge, Gloria Escallier  
**Poppy Trail No. 266:** Anna Marie De La Torre  
**Toluca No. 279:** Jackie Thomas, PGP  
**Jurupa No. 296:** Susanna Buchko  
**Tierra de Oro No. 304:** Marie Mackey, Eileen Gray  
**Rancho La Puente No. 331:** Camille Gillespie  
**Tahquitz No. 333:** Ruth Mathews, Mary Ellen Parmelee

## **TWO ANNIVERSARY PAST GRAND PRESIDENTS 2024**

**By Mary Louise Days, Historian of the Order, Reina del Mar Parlor No. 126**

### **50-YEAR PAST GRAND PRESIDENT MARIE C. LANDINI**

Our much-loved 50-year Past Grand President, Marie C. Landini, presided at the eighty-eighth Annual Session in San Jose in June 1974. She was born in San Francisco on November 6, 1918, to Italian immigrant parents Angelo Cinquini and Paulina Del Chiaro Cinquini. Marie Susan Cinquini had three older brothers and no sisters. She graduated from the San Francisco High School of Commerce and attended two years of a private Italian language school. On January 17, 1937, she married Anthony Landini. He was born in Milan, Italy, and arrived in California as a small child. He owned a produce market until his death on August 30, 1969. They raised two daughters, Patricia Landini LaMetre and Shirley Landini Svindal. Marie then managed the family business's office. At various times she worked as a bookkeeper at the Native Daughters Grand Parlor office.

On July 15, 1941, Marie joined Palo Alto Parlor No. 229. When asked why she was interested in joining the Native Daughters of the Golden West, she replied that she was inspired by the Admission Day parades. On May 12, 1962, Marie transferred to San Jose Parlor No. 81, San Jose. She held every office in her Parlor and served as Recording Secretary for San Jose Parlor for over thirty years. She also held the offices of Deputy Grand President and Supervising District Deputy Grand President several times.

Marie was especially interested in the N.D.G.W. Home and the Childrens Foundation. She enjoyed marching in Admission Day parades, and was a member of the Past Presidents Association. Marie served on a number of N.D.G.W. state committees such as Junior Native Daughters, the N.D.G.W. Home (8 ½ years), the Childrens Foundation (16 years), Veterans Welfare, Young Women's Activities, Art Talent Contest, and Grand Parlor Annual Meetings.

Several of her family members have joined the Native Daughters of the Golden West. A granddaughter and great grandsons have been recipients of Native Daughters Scholarships.

In June 1965 Marie was elected to the office of Grand Outside Sentinel. By 1967 she had progressed to the office of Grand Trustee. At GPAM in 1970 she came in second in a competitive election for Grand Marshal. The following year, 1971, Marie won election to the office of Grand Marshal, and in 1972 she was elected Grand Vice President. On June 21, 1973, in the Civic Auditorium at Santa Cruz, California, Marie C. Landini was installed as Grand President of the Native Daughters of the Golden West.

Decorations of the evening featured a backdrop of blue and a large silver star with smaller stars at the five points. Members of District 26 wore white formals and carried silver stars backed by blue tulle as they formed an escort team for the Grand President-elect, who was attired in a sequined blue satin gown. Her two daughters, Assistant Supreme Grand Marshals Patricia LaMetre and Shirley Svindal, escorted Marie to the Altar. Her granddaughter, Julie LaMetre, presented her with a bouquet of white roses. A vocalist sang "When You Wish Upon A Star."

During her address the newly-installed Grand President announced her theme as "Wishing On A Star" because silver stars in a field of a blue could represent an "unlimited horizon" and wishing could make all of her dreams and aspirations for the advancement of our Order become a reality. She asked for the support, guidance, cooperation, and understanding of all Native Daughters to help carry out her program. She described the benefits of the Childrens Foundation, the Scholarship program, committees on California History and Landmarks, Art Talent Contest, Pioneer Roster, Historical Room, Conservation and Safety, Americanism and Civic Participation, including others, all contributing to our guiding precept of "service to our Order, State and Country."

The new Grand President pledged to support all projects sponsored by the Order, but said she would stress Extension of the Order. She said she would re-institute Schools of Instruction for Deputy Grand Presidents and officers and members of parlors. Marie gave a "traveling gavel" to each district for passing on to the parlor having the most new members between official visits. She also emphasized the Native Daughters Home and said it would be the recipient of her Silver Coin Marches. She quoted President Abraham Lincoln by closing with "I say try; If we never try, we shall never succeed." The drill team in turquoise chiffon formals then gave an exhibition drill. A musical medley followed.

During her Grand Presidential year she also supported Mission Restoration, Tournament of Roses, Mission Soledad, and Veterans Welfare. She gave radio and television interviews and attended a Women's Day luncheon at the State Fair in Sacramento. In 1973 Grand President Marie served as a National Awards Juror at Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The first Grand President to represent the Order in this capacity was Elmarie H. Dyke of Junipero Parlor No. 141, Monterey in 1952. Grand President Marie Landini initiated the Freedoms Foundation Scholarship in 1974.

In 1973 the Order hired P.G.P. Jewel McSweeney to work in the Grand Parlor office. She was later given the title Executive Secretary and served until her death in 1983. The Articles of Incorporation were amended during the 1973-74 year. At the end of Grand President Marie's term it was announced that the Order was successful in attaining a property tax exemption for the N.D.G.W. Home. She remained active in the Order, serving on committees and fondly advising her sisters. On Marie's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Grand President her daughter Shirley Svindal published an article in a 1999 *California Star*. The story ends "Marie followed her Star to the highest apex of our Order and she remains as one of the brightest examples of a true Native Daughter."

When Marie Landini died on August 12, 2006, her devoted friend Past Grand President Sharon M. Johnston wrote a beautiful eulogy, reading it at the funeral and during Memorial Services at 2007 GPAM. "A great lady...and a great sister to all of us."

## **25-YEAR PAST GRAND PRESIDENT DEBI STALDER**

Debi Stalder, our 25-year Past Grand President, has continued as a hard-working and conscientious Native Daughter since the 1999 conclusion of her term. She joined the Order in 1986, inspired by her mother-in-law and her husband's grandmother, members of Charter Oak Parlor No. 292, Visalia. Debi was a member of Auburn Parlor No. 233, Auburn, and then joined Laurel Parlor No. 6, Nevada City.

Debra Adam Stalder was born in Fresno on May 13, 1953, the daughter of Bette Adam and CO "Biff" Adam. Her mother was a Chico native. Debi grew up in Fresno and Simi Valley. She graduated from Simi Valley High School and attended Merced College and Sierra College at Rocklin. She earned a degree in Pre-Med and a Registered Dental Assistant license. She worked in medical billing, was a full-time volunteer, and served on the Placer County Grand Jury.

William "Bill" Stalder and Debi were married on August 24, 1974. He is a retired PG&E engineer. Bill is a longtime member of Auburn Parlor No. 59, N.S.G.W. He is a Charter Member of N.D.G.W. Sutter's Mill Parlor No. 336, Coloma, and an officer of Laurel Parlor No. 6, Nevada City. He and Debi serve on many committees. They have three children: Dr. Brian Stalder, and twins Dean Stalder and Dawn Ann Stalder Johnson. Their grandchild is Andrew Dean Johnson.

Having aspired to Grand Office in 1991, becoming Grand Outside Sentinel, Debi then served two years each as Grand Trustee and Grand Secretary, then Grand Marshal and onward-- a total of nine years. She was installed Grand President in June 1998 at Concord. The stage was decorated with lighted freshly-cut pine trees. Debi wore a black and gold beaded sheath formal with matching jacket. She and the other Grand Officers carried silk gold poppies. Special escort took place for Silver Anniversary Past Grand President Marie Landini. A dozen yellow roses were displayed—a gift from the new Grand President's mother, who had died one week before.

During her Grand Presidential year Debi Stalder established and raised funds for the current Atrium at the N.D.G.W. Home in memory of her mother. She approved having the Pioneer Roster publicized on the World Wide Web. Through the James D. Phelan Fund she supported parlors who own meeting halls. Debi and P.G.P. Sharon M. Johnston took part in a First Pitch at Candlestick Park and the Grand President gave a speech. She also endorsed the Pennies for Pines project. Special interests were N.D.G.W. History and Landmarks, Environmental Issues, and Community Service.

In more recent years P.G.P. Debi has been involved in furthering youth sports and art, twice Woman of the Year for her sorority, support groups for mothers and children, classic car clubs and restoration. Debi and Bill are business owners of B&D Ventures.

P.G.P. Debi Stalder is honored to be an Ambassador for our Order.

**REPORT OF THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Anna Ortiz, Tierra de Oro Parlor No. 304**  
**State Chairman**

The insurance policies of the Native Daughters of the Golden West are brokered through Cohn, Reid, and O'Neill Insurance Services as for many years. Cohn, Reid and O'Neill are associated with Risk Strategies, a National Insurance Company. They provided direction and insights into the best insurance markets available.

Because our Parlors are acting together to secure insurance coverage, we are able to obtain lower rates for all lines of insurance. Currently, all except three Parlors take full advantage of this program.

If your Parlor owns property, and it hasn't been appraised in the past 3 years, seriously consider moving toward that goal. Only you can ensure that your property is sufficiently covered in case of catastrophic loss. This is true whether you are insured through Native Daughters or not.

Please keep in mind that, if you are underinsured, replacement of your building could literally bankrupt your Parlor because the insurance company will only pay up to the value of the policy.

Another way in which this Committee is working to save you money is seek quotes from agencies that specialize in group insurance (also referred to as pools). We actively look for brokers who can provide for our specific needs, thus ensuring the best service and coverage available.

We have had 2 large water loss claims both have been covered by our Insurance carrier.

I want to thank PGP Debi Stalder and Bill Stalder for all their hard work in getting the parlor put back together and keeping our home in working order so we will not have claims.

I want to thank Grand President Rae Ann for my appointment.

### **Report of the Investment Committee 2023-2024**

#### **Jenni King, Woodland No.90, State Chair**

The Investment committee met quarterly with the Order's Financial Advisor, Greg Alessandra, Alessandra Capital Management LLC. The meetings were held via Zoom and in person.

This committee is charged with overseeing the financial investments of the Order. This involves tracking withdrawals for the various committees who have a percentage in the Investment Pool, and meeting with our Financial Advisor. During these meetings we discuss the market values, strengths, weaknesses, and variations. We also review our investment portfolio, as well as the stocks and bonds bought or sold on behalf of the Order.

It is not the Investment Committee's duty to control the participants of the Investment Pool or advise them how to use the funds. The committee does have an obligation to offer advice if the subcommittee is pulling funds from the principal investment. The committees are encouraged to use the interest and dividends to fund projects throughout the year.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West portfolio consists of 53 % Stocks, 37.1% Bonds, 5.3% Non-US Stocks, 2% Cash, and 2.5 %Other.

Investments Fair Market Value on July 1, 2023 was \$5,895,742.80

Interest and Dividends earned from July 1, 2023 thru April 24, 2024 was \$39,419.62

Portfolio Expenses \$ 35,555.54

Investment Fair Market Value as of April 24, 2024 was \$6,242,824.74

The Investment committee consists of four appointed members; a one-year term, a two-year term, and a three-year term member, as well as a member at large (non-voting). The Grand President, the Grand Vice President, and the Senior Grand Trustee (non-voting) are part of the Investment Committee. The Finance Committee, the NDGW Children's Foundation, the Home Committee and the CFIC committees are also represented.

Thank you to Grand President Rae Rosas for my appointment. Thank you to the members on this committee for all of their work to benefit the Native Daughters of the Golden West: GVP Darleen Carpenter (El Tejon Parlor No 239), sGT Renee Rianda (Woodland No 90 and Aieli No 102), Children's Foundation PGP Camelia Robles (Poppy Trail Parlor No 266), CFIC Tina Foss (Reina del Mar Parlor No 126), Home William Stalder (Laurel Parlor No 6), Finance PGP Sherry Farley (Grace Parlor 242), Jacki Matejka (Eshcol Parlor No 16), PGP Joan Hall (Charter Oak Parlor No 292), Carmen Delgado (Sutter Parlor No 111).

**REPORT OF THE JAMES D. PHELAN FUND 2023-24**

**Rae Rosas, Grand President, Tierra de Oro No. 304**

**State Chair**

There were three (3) requests for assistance this year. All three (3) requests were for Members assistance. All Members are in good standing with the Order and are members of the same family.

The Committee met and assistance was granted for all three (3) requests.

I would like to thank the Committee members, Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon No. 239; Heidi Dillon, GM, Joaquin No. 5/Oakdale No. 125; Renee Rianda, sGT, Woodland No. 90/Aieli No. 102; and Sherry Farley, PGP, Grace No. 242.

**Report of the Laws and Supervision Committee 2023-24**

**Heidi Dillon, GM**

**Joaquin Parlor No. 5, Stockton and Oakdale Parlor No. 125, Oakdale**

The Laws and Supervision Committee is responsible for examining and approving all By-Laws adopted by Subordinate Parlors to concede they conform with the By-Laws of the Constitution of the Grand Parlor, prior to their becoming effective.

The following Subordinate Parlors submitted By-Laws for this term were:

Laurel Parlor No. 6, Nevada City  
Angelita Parlor No. 32, Livermore  
Forest Parlor No. 86, Plymouth  
Woodland Parlor No. 90, Woodland  
Reichling Parlor No. 97, Fortuna  
Golden Era Parlor No. 99, Columbia  
Sutter Parlor No. 111, Sacramento  
Eschscholtzia Parlor No. 112, Etna  
Darina Parlor No. 114, San Francisco

Oakdale Parlor No. 125, Oakdale  
Reina Del Mar Parlor No. 126, Santa Barbara  
Junipero Parlor No. 141, Monterey  
Annie K. Bidwell Parlor No. 168, Chico  
San Juan Bautista Parlor No. 179, San Juan Bautista  
Fresno Parlor No. 187, Fresno  
Donner Parlor No. 193, Byron  
Fort Bragg Parlor No. 210, Fort Bragg  
San Bruno Parlor No. 246, San Bruno  
Gilroy Parlor No. 312, Gilroy  
Sutter's Mill Parlor No. 336, Coloma

Our committee also received By-Laws from Hiawatha Parlor No. 140, Redding; however, the final copy of revisions were not received in time to complete this term.

I would like to thank Grand President Rae Rosas for my appointment as State Chairman, and a special thank you for my hardworking and dedicated committee members: Donna Bryant, Jeanne Meil, Leslie Pettinger, and Mary Whitaker, all of Oakdale Parlor No. 125, Oakdale.

#### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURES COMMITTEE**

**Denise Delmatier Theisen, Chairman**

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

**June 6, 2024**

There was no activity by the Legislative Measures Committee during the past year due to the lack of State legislative measures that required monitoring or legislative advocacy on behalf of the Native Daughters of the Golden West. The members of the Committee stand ready to engage in active legislative representation of NDGW at the appropriate time whenever the California State Legislature engages in legislative activity that warrants participation by NDGW.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Delmatier Theisen, Chairman

#### **Report of the Legislative Monitoring Committee 2023-24**

**Heidi Dillon, GM**

**Joaquin Parlor No. 5, Stockton and Oakdale Parlor No. 125, Oakdale**

The duties of the Legislation Monitoring Committee are outlined in Procedures of the Constitution of Grand Parlor, page 38, Item 21.

The committee worked diligently to update the Books reflecting all changes adopted at the 2023 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting. Due to the numerous updates a reprinting of the entire Books of the Order was warranted. To be better stewards of our environment, as well as saving printing costs, and with special permission from the

Board of Directors, the Index was removed from the current printing. The Books were uniformly formatted for more concise printing thanks to the assistance of the Grand Parlor Office Support Assistant.

I want to thank our Worthy Grand President Rae Rosas for my appointment as State Chairman and for those on my committee: PGP Joan Hall, Charter Oak Parlor No. 292, Visalia; and Kathleen Valerio, Encinal Parlor No. 156, Alameda. I was extremely blessed to have two dedicated Sisters to help with such a time-consuming yet important part of our Order. Their insight and experience were immeasurable and so greatly appreciated. I sincerely appreciate the time and talent of our Grand Parlor Office Support Assistant, Eve Brockmann, for her assistance and educating me in the software used.

## **Native Daughters of the Golden West**

### **Mission Restoration State Committee Report**

**Kristina W. Foss, Reina del Mar Parlor No. 126, State Chair**

**May 2024**

This year, two California Landmark Missions became recipients of the prestigious National Park Service' Save America's Treasures Grants. These two were Mission San Juan Bautista north of Salinas in the town named for its mission and Mission Santa Ines in Solvang, California. These grants require matching funds, dollar for dollar. The purpose is to retrofit these two missions to strengthen them for earthquake stability. Without retrofit, these missions would have to close to the public. The Native Daughters Mission Restoration Committee therefore will expend their allotted funds evenly divided between these two missions for the purpose of matching the SAT.

Several efforts of individuals and Parlors have helped raise funds for this match. The Christmas fund provided by the raffle was most helpful and gave a portion of the proceeds to our committee, for which we are most grateful.

In addition, Eshcol Parlor No. 16 in Napa, California, brought back their wonderful Mission Restoration Luncheon put on this year at the Napa Native Sons Hall on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. They raised \$1,200 for the Missions Committee. This Parlor has for many years strongly supported the Committee with fundraising and other efforts. Many thanks to former Mission Restoration chair Jana Jack and her fellow Parlor members for their wonderful support.

NDGW Reina del Mar No. 126 also responded with support. The parlor has a long history of support of Mission Santa Ines since 1909. When I asked that they contribute to the SAT match, this Parlor raised over \$6,000 and donated it directly to the match through the California Missions Foundation. \$5,000 of that was from the generous donation of member Betty Dominquez in memory of her late husband Robert. Member Mary Louise Days also contributed a major donation for the match through the California Missions Foundation.

A number of Native Daughters from various Parlors attended the yearly Missions Conference sponsored by California Mission Foundation, this year held at Mission Santa Ines and La Purisima Mission State Historic Park. Included in this report you will find several images of the lectures on Mission history and awards to historians and Native Daughters participating (see the shovels) in the SAT retrofit project official groundbreaking ceremony held at the conference.

SAT Project Groundbreaking at Santa Ines Mission and NDGW members in attendance.

Dr. John Johnson lectures on the Chumash Revolt of 1824 in the Mission while La Purisima was location of other lectures by Mission era scholars. Dr. Krieger and Dr. Hoover receive lifetime achievement awards at the conference for their work for Mission preservation. Dr. Krieger is a historian retired from Cal Poly SLO and Dr. Hoover ran the Cal Poly Archeological Field School at Mission San Antonio for many years. NDGW members supported their work.

One of the Committee's goals for the coming year will be to expend the funds sitting unused in the specific earmarked accounts of various missions. NDGW has received donations for specific missions and currently holds these funds in need of distribution for valid restoration projects that meet the reasonable preservation standards and criteria under the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Places. We hope to spend time next year dispersing these funds and setting guidelines for future NDGW committee members in regards to Mission Preservation.

Our Committee wishes to thank all who made this a successful effort for the preservation and restoration of the California Missions. Our thanks for these committee assignments go to Grand President Rae Rosas for having faith in our committee to research and move forward in support of the Missions and preservation of California's heritage.

**REPORT OF THE N.D.G.W. CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC. COMMITTEE**

**Suzi Riley, PGP. Bonita Parlor No. 10**

**State Chairman**

Since the passing of legislation at the 2019 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting, allowing, all of the nine public benefit committees of the N.D.G.W. Charitable Foundation under the CFIC and the State Chairmen of those Committees to comprise the Charitable Foundation Committee.

In an effort to involve all of State Chairmen under the CFIC's umbrella: Americanism & Civic Participation, California Admission Day, California History, Landmarks, and Historic Building and its two sub-committees of the Art Talent Contest and the Essay Contest, California Lighthouse Preservation, Education & Scholarships, Environmental Issues, Mission Restoration, Veterans Welfare and Welfare made up the NDGW CFIC State Committee. This approach has worked well and allows for no meeting expenditures as we have continued to meet virtually and therefore eliminate all travel and other costly expenses. The communication between CFIC Committees helped to serve as a sounding board for new ideas and has especially helpful to new Committee Chairmen by offering ideas and procedures to assist them as well. While all State Committees are different, and over the years there have been changes implemented which were not always successful, but this change has proven to be a huge benefit to our Order. It is our hope that next year's CFIC Committee will expand and grow on the work done this year.

Our annual "**Cash for Christmas**" drawing was held again this year and we were able to sell more tickets than ever before. The Committee was unanimous in raising funds for our CFIC State Committees and we sold an amazing 1,260 tickets and raised \$8,620 (after expenses) to directly benefit our CFIC State Committees. Each Committee received \$718.33 to use towards their fundraising efforts and to meet their program goals for the year. Thank you again to everyone for supporting our project. Special thanks to the Official Publications for allowing us to advertise and for the many Sisters who supported our effort; we are grateful to you!

Many thanks also to **Senior Grand Trustee Renee Rianda, Bookkeeper Emily Wolf and Finance Chairman Sherry Farley, PGP** for their hours spent ensuring that the CFIC Committees each received their dedicated funds to support their charitable programs for the term. We appreciate you all and look forward to using the funds raised to support our charitable-giving goals! This outstanding Committee continues to operate in the black and we are proud of the State Chairmen and their Committee who find new and innovative ways to utilize the funds raised in the best ways possible. Congratulations to these dedicated Sisters!

The NDGW CFIC's **Cash for Christmas** opportunity drawing was held on Sunday, December 3, 2023 and this year's lucky winners received the following monetary prizes: FIRST PRIZE: \$500.00 to Maria Elena Serna from Zinfandel Parlor No. 337; SECOND PRIZE: \$300.00 to Charlene Bole from Wheatland, CA and THIRD PRIZE: \$100.00 to Robin Cederlof, from Goleta, CA. The Charitable Foundation wishes to thank everyone for participating and also a HUGE thank you to our Native Sons of the Golden West Brothers for their continued support of the C.F.I.C. Committee. **Thanks to your generosity, the CFIC sold 1,160 tickets and raised an AMAZING \$8,855.00!** The profits were equally divided between the CFIC Undesignated Fund and our CFIC charitable Committees received \$705 to spend on this year's projects. Thank you!

- Americanism and Civic Participation ~ Linda Srulevitch, State Chairman
- California Admission Day ~ PGP Suzi Riley, State Chairman
- California History, Landmarks and Historic Buildings ~ Jenni King, State Chairman
- CA History, Landmarks and Historic Buildings – Subcommittee: Art Talent Contest ~ Barbara Tollison, State Chairman
- CA History, Landmarks and Historic Buildings – Subcommittee: Essay Contest ~ Stephanie Whittle, State Chairman
- California Lighthouse Preservation ~ PGP Susan Collins, State Chairman
- Education and Scholarships ~ PGP Dawn Dunlap, State Chairman
- Environmental Issues ~ PGP Debi Stalder, State Chairman
- Mission Restoration ~ Kristina Foss
- Veterans Welfare ~ Viola Gene Dana
- Welfare ~ Marti Noyes, State Chairman

A special thanks to **all of the CFIC State Chairmen** and our **Cash for Christmas Co-Chairs**, Senior Grand Trustee Renee Rianda and State Chairman Jenni King. Your hard work and fundraising efforts are exemplary and greatly appreciated!! Thank you! We could not do it without you!

Worthy Grand President, Rae Ann, it has been our pleasure and to serve on this important State Committee and we thank you for the opportunity. I urge each Member to reach out and find out what you can do to preserve our glorious, golden California and provide for the future of our State. We need your support of our Order and these Committees to be relevant in the future.

**Report of the Childrens Foundation Committee 2023-24**  
**Camelia Robles, P.G.P., Poppy Trail No. 266**  
**State Chairman**

The Childrens Foundation was established in 1952, a joint project of Grand President Jewel McSweeny and Past Grand President Hazel B. Hansen. The main focus was to help the children of California, especially those needing funding for services not covered by insurance.

Seventy-two years later, we are still helping the children of California, except many services are now covered by insurance, so our committee is committed to seek out children who need help in a variety of ways, and to make their life a little easier.

It has been heard over and over, that the Childrens Foundation doesn't need donations "as they have a lot of money". Nothing could be further from the truth. We are limited to rely on interest and dividends, along with donations made during the term. This year, the budget submitted is in the \$60,000.00 range. We have had years that our interest and dividends have given us a cushion to carry over to the next term or terms.

The Investment Committee was established during the term of Grand President Barbara Dulinsky in 1986-1987. Barbara appointed me as State Chairman, and together with a terrific committee and the Board of Directors, legislation was presented at the 1987 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting to establish the Investment Committee. Approximately \$1,000,000.00 created the "pool" of investments. Every committee became part of the pool. Depending on the amount of money each committee had to invest, they were given a percentage of the pool.

Childrens Foundation held approximately 55 percent of the invested pool. How was it that they had approximately \$550,000.00 to invest? Throughout the years, members donated stocks and bonds to the Childrens Foundation. The money invested in the pool came from those stocks and bonds. Through the years, the NDGW Investment pool has grown to what is now over \$6,000,000.00 dollars. The amounts of the pool percentage have grown for every committee, not only the Childrens Foundation. Keep in mind, every committee has benefited financially by being part of the pool, funding programs of each committee. Also, during all this growth, most committees have not added any money to increase the amount they have of the pool. The increase of our investments has been the result of having money managers who have the best interest of our Order in mind as they buy and sell to increase the investments of the Order.

The problem the Childrens Foundation, and only the Childrens Foundation faces, is that we have a larger amount to prove to the IRS that we are supported by members and friends of the Foundation. According to our CPA, we are looking at another year of not meeting the "Public Support Test". During Covid, the IRS did not press the "Public Support Test", but they are again looking out for Non-Profit, 501(c) (3) who do not meet the test.

What is the test? As we have tried to explain in letters, in articles in the Star, and in messages by our Grand President and at various fundraisers, 33 ⅓ percent of our donations must come from individual donors, thus showing that we have support from a variety of members, and friends. It is better to give a donation by individuals, rather than one large donation. A donation of \$500.00 is counted as one donation to the IRS, while a donation by 100 individuals in the amount of \$5.00 each, counts as 100 individual donors.

Our status with the IRS is real and serious. Losing our Non-profit 501(c)(3) status could be a reality. We are hoping our donations by individual members will increase by the end of our fiscal year, and that those attending GPAM 2024, will help the Childrens Foundation meet the test.

Childrens Foundation has presented important legislation to State of the Order, which will be presented during GPAM 2024 for the consideration of the Voting Members present. This will help lower the amount of our invested funds of the Childrens Foundation only, (will also lower our obligation to the IRS for the next term), and help the children of California on a larger scale.

We are hopeful that the legislation will prove successful and show that the Committee is looking at many ways to bring honor to the Native Daughters of the Golden West Childrens Foundation as we help the children of California.

Reports were received from the following Parlors:

Reina del Mar Parlor, No. 126, Santa Barbara, Two of their members, Betty Dominguez, CF Chairman and President Lianne Figueroa traveled to attend the Southern Counties Childrens Foundation Luncheon held aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach.

Grace Parlor No, 242, Fullerton. Co-hosted the Southern Counties Childrens Foundation luncheon with Rancho La Puente Parlor. They donated \$200.00, donated decorations, as well as multiple gifts for the raffle along with individual tribute donations. A member helped underwrite expenses associated with the funding of the luncheon.

Poppy Trail Parlor No. 266 Montebello. A large group of members attended the luncheon held aboard the Queen Mary. A donation of \$200.00 was presented. Members donated many gifts used for the raffle.

Rancho La Puente Parlor No. 333 La Puente. Co-hosted the Southern Counties Childrens Foundation luncheon with Grace Parlor. They donated \$400.00 and members donated many gifts for the raffle, as well as individual monetary donations. One member purchased an entire table for members and friends. The sound system used for the event was donated by a friend of the Parlor. They raised funds through members' donations and a yard sale.

The Southern Counties Childrens Foundation luncheon was held aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach. It was a fabulous event, started with a visit by Commodore Everett, who presented many interesting facts and related historical stories to all in attendance. The theme was "Hula on Over and Come Rock the Boat" which fit in perfectly with Grand President's theme for the years. Every effort was made to increase the individual donations, and 161 individual donations added up to over \$6,000.00. It was a beautiful event.

The report of the children we have helped during the term, along with the campships awarded, will be presented in a supplement during GPAM 2024.

**NDGW Home Report**  
**Debi Stalder, PGP, Laurel Parlor No. 6**  
**Marilynn Rodrigues, PGP, Angelita Parlor No. 32**  
**2023-2024**

The NDGW Home had a very busy year starting with a very large undertaking to complete the renovations after unnecessary delays with the repairs from the water damage that happened to the front interior of the Home from the Fourth Floor down to the First Floor after almost two years after the repair of the water leak! A formal rededication unveiling took place at the Christmas Open House, December 2023 in the “Mariana Bartola, PGP Parlor” A picture of her and a plaque was placed on the wall in the Parlor and the Parlor was rearranged for a more comfortable, relaxing atmosphere and seating. All museum cases and items were moved to the First Floor Bertha Briggs Auditorium.

Reorganizing the Management and rewriting the NDGW Home Volunteers Procedures was immediately revised and Safety and Job duties mandatory class was required before becoming a volunteer. The transition from the status quo would be an understatement!

The primary goal for the future success of the NDGW Home is being managed as a business to insure that the Home could be sustainable for years to come without draining Parlor members financial Home Assessment requirement and impacting substantial draining of funds from the NDGW Home Endowment Investment account.

A very comprehensive evaluation of the financial condition and yearly usual expenses were studied and a determination was made to reduce or eliminate some services along with becoming aware of mismanaged expenses and becoming clearly aware of areas that eliminating services or doing services in house could become a big savings and eliminate impact on streamlining the operation of the Home in a positive direction.

After an intense focus on this large undertaking the final report had good news! If we implemented new Management Policies, Procedures and Reorganizing the Home Finances the NDGW Home could become healthier financially! Unfortunately the previous Home Committee continued to sell discounted Room Stay Gift Certificates after the 2020 COVID year which unfortunately realized a \$45,000.00 loss in revenue that will ultimately cause the NDGW Home Income to have at least 3 more years and possibly beyond to write off this bad debt, by honoring these Gift Certificates. May we plead with members that have gift certificates to surrender them to the NDGW Home would be greatly appreciated as the Home is making zero money when those certificates are used.

The Home Committee has been able to have some financial support from the Grand Parlor and the Home Committee is continuing to pursue more financial support with discussions with the Board of Directors. Appreciation to the 6 District or Parlor’s that hosted a Luncheon Fundraiser to support the NDGW Home. The Parlors that financially support a room or bathroom in the Home. The Committee truly appreciated the several individual donations to support the NDGW Home that help make improvements to our Grand Lady.

This term the Committee did have some improvements realized such as bringing the damaged original hardwood floor in the Parlor back to the original beauty. The Committee brought in more larger beds and rearranged the bedrooms to be more functional. We replaced all shower heads throughout the Home through a donation. The Home did several improvements in the Voss Garden including a new commercial gas BBQ Pit that was donated and BBQ Pit Gazebo that was donated by a member to use to protect the BBQ Pit and be able to use year-round. Automatic sprinklers were added in the Atrium. A Reading Room with a desk and comfortable chairs were added in Room 403A for guests’ use. The NDGW EIC Collection was moved to the Bertha Briggs Auditorium and displays were updated.

Unexpected repairs did arise and were dealt with in an immediate manner. Plumbing and Electrical were the main issues.

Priorities for future needs at the Home are Plumbing replacement, Electrical replacement, an over 25-year-old Boiler possible replacement, and replacing twin beds with Double, Queen and King beds.

A Hawaiian BBQ Luncheon was held in the Foley Annex at the Home using the BBQ pit and dedicating three Azaleas in the garden in Honor of Rae Rosas, GP, Memory of Marie Landini, Golden PGP, and Honor of Debi Stalder, Silver PGP and unveiling 14 additional personalized bricks on the retaining wall in the garden.

More than a Thank you is deserving of the Committee, Staff and Volunteers willing to support the very responsible and working commitment to serving on this Committee. Appreciation to the Members and the Board of Directors in having the confidence and trust in Marilyn Rodrigues, PGP and myself with our Leadership directives. We had several very difficult issues to respond to in a timely manner and we had a complete united front. We always dealt with problems immediately and our priority was always the Integrity and Safety of our Proud and Beautiful Julia Morgan Jewel of our Order.

So many people gave so much of their time, commitment and devotion to the Home that we must recognize and are greatly appreciated for the obvious Love of the Home. Volunteers: Marco Dillon, Genevieve Ladha, Nancy Phipps, Susan Collins, PGP.

NDGW Home State Committee: Co-State Chairmen Debi Stalder, PGP, Laurel Parlor No. 6, Marilyn Rodrigues, PGP, Angelita Parlor No. 32, Rae Rosas, GP, Tierra de Oro Parlor No. 304, Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon Parlor No. 239, Heidi Dillon, GM, Joaquin Parlor No. 5/Oakdale Parlor No. 125, Bill Stalder, Laurel Parlor No. 6, Deanna Liotta, Bonita Parlor No. 10, Joyce James, Bonita Parlor No. 10 and Bonnie Tabor, PGP, Morada Parlor No. 199

**2024 REPORT  
HOME SUBCOMMITTEE  
EVELYN I. CARLSON HISTORICAL COLLECTION COMMITTEE**

The Evelyn I. Carlson Historical Collection Committee was formed at Grand Parlor in 1960 as the Committee on Relics Museum. At the June 1962 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting, action was taken to change the name from Committee on Relics Museum to the Native Daughters of the Golden West Historical Room. Past Grand President Evelyn I. Carlson was chairman of this committee for many years and was instrumental in the increased acquisition of articles for the museum. In her honor, the Historical Room was renamed as the Evelyn I. Carlson Historical Collection in acknowledgement of Past Grand President Evelyn's many years of fundraising, acquisition, dedication and leadership. The committee is frequently referred to as the EIC Committee.

The Evelyn I. Carlson Committee curates a small museum on the main floor of the Native Daughter Home in San Francisco. As of May 1st, during this term, over 1,400 members and guests were able to visit the museum which is open to the public twenty-four hours a day with no admission cost.

Following repairs from water damage to the Mariana Bertola Parlor on the second floor, several EIC showcases were moved to the Bertha Briggs auditorium on the first floor. Seven showcases now line the east wall of the auditorium which allows museum displays to be in one location. New showcase displays for this term include quilts, including parts of a quilt buried by the Donner party and later retrieved, a complete collection of ceramic California Mission buildings, poppy related items, a silver display, and a new display of Past Grand

President memorabilia. The Silver Lady showcase for this term displays several items related to the Grand Presidency of Debi Stalder including her Installation dress. Nine Past Grand President Installation dresses along with John C. Fremont's personal typewriter, early California artifacts and various Native Daughter items fill the showcases.

For community education, the Evelyn I. Carlson Committee has created several small traveling displays which are brought to various events so that members and guests may view items in our collection. During the Marketplace event at Grand Parlor Annual Meetings, a binder of Grand Parlor Annual Meeting programs from the 1920s until 2019 is available for members and guests to review. Several Past Grand Presidents were particularly interested in photos from past Grand Parlor Annual Meetings and they were able to help us identify many unnamed Sisters who were featured in the photos. For the annual NDGW/ NSGW Admission Day luncheon in September, shadow boxes with Admission Day badges from the early 1900's, a binder with Admission Day programs from 1890 to 2019, and black and white photos of Native Daughters marching in Admission Day parades are displayed. Shadow boxes of badges from several Past President Association Assemblies are displayed during the annual Past Presidents Assembly.

During our meetings this year, the Evelyn I. Carlson Committee members reviewed, sorted and stored items from over thirty-five boxes received from closed parlors. We continue to review all United States and California flags in the EIC collection and flags that are faded or unusable are taken to a fire station for disposal. Additional shelving was added to a few storage closets. All showcases are routinely washed and dusted.

The 2023-2024 Evelyn I. Carlson Historical Collection Committee members include Chairman Kathy Kelly-Breitler, El Vespero No. 118; Barbara Pettit, Bonita No. 10; Joyce James, Bonita No. 10; Vicki Allen, El Vespero No. 118; Recording Secretary Catherine Wong, El Vespero No. 118; Gloria Courtney, San Bruno No. 246; Emerita member Etienne Simon, Darina No. 114. These Sisters have been a great pleasure to work with and the generous giving of their time and efforts in helping preserve the history and artifacts of the Native Daughters of the Golden West and the State of California are to be admired and much appreciated.

I would like to thank Grand President Rae Rosas for my appointment to this committee. It has been an honor and a pleasure to continue the work of the Evelyn I. Carlson Historical Collection Committee with my dedicated committee members.

### **Pioner Roster and NDGW Archives Subcommittee**

#### **2023-2024 Annual Report**

The Pioneer Roster and NDGW Archives (PRA) Subcommittee met by videoconferencing nearly monthly (August to April) and in person in the California Room of the NDGW Home.

A significant change to the California Room occurred this term. The California Room is now Shared by the PRA and the NDGW Home Office. After receiving communication from the Home Committee requesting use of the California Room and suggesting other rooms in the Home for the PR&A, a flexible arrangement to share the California Room was agreed to. The PRA condensed its working space and replaced the existing three desks for one modern desk to accommodate typing and storage. An in-kind donation of an office desk was given by Subcommittee Chair. Other accommodations were made for the Home Office staff and now the room is ready for visiting members and guests. The PRA Subcommittee was able to open the first floor of the Home including the Evelyn I. Carlson Museum to members and the public on a regularly scheduled basis, the second Saturday of the month. The PRA opened the Home in February, March and April of 2024. Due to other public events

and NDGW activities, the PRA will not open the California Room in the months of May due to the Bay to Breakers run in not open in June due to the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting.

This year the PRA is submitting legislation to from the current “Committee Policies.” The update deletes references to obsolete technology and practices, such as microfilm which is no longer used, and deletes notices to the regional libraries since the Pioneer Index is available to all on the NDGW website. We ask delegates to support the proposed legislation.

Looking forward to the Subcommittee’s workload for next term, we anticipate the completion of Volume 69 which will require notification to the California State Library and the regional depository libraries. Interest from the public of early Pioneer stories continues. Ongoing work of the PRA includes updating the software supporting the online Index of Pioneers, processing submitted Parlor books and records into archival sleeves for storage, processing Pioneer certificates and registering Pioneers, and binding NDGW Proceedings. Books were frequently moved over the past several years for better control of significant books, damage prevention, and painting of the California Room. A new inventory of the California Reference Library book holdings will begin next term.

The Subcommittee membership was nearly filled with two new members, one from Southern California, Suzanne Renee Chandler, PGP of Poppy Trail Parlor No. 266, Montebello and one from Northern California, Sigrid Wakefield of Annie K Bidwell Parlor No. 168, Chico. We wish to expand our exposure to Southern California and far Northern California to encourage registrations across all areas rich in early California history.

I thank Grand President Rae Rosas for her appointment, and I thank the Subcommittee members for their time, expertise, input, and talents over this past term, they are: Dianna Geyer, Jenni King, PGP Marilyn Bustillos, Aida Cuevas, PGP Suzanne Renee Chandler, and Sigrid Wakefield.

Marjorie McKisson, Chair

Pioneer Roster and NDGW Archives Subcommittee

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION**  
**AnneMarie Riley, Bonita Parlor No. 10**  
**State Chairman**

It has been an honor to serve as the State Chairman of the Official Publication – the California Star – for the 2023-2024 term. It was a pleasure to receive the articles, pictures, and newsletters from Members and State Chairmen throughout the state, telling of the many Parlor and State Committee happenings. These contributions made the Star an informative tool for the Order. There were several highlights featured in the Star this term:

- Every issue of the newly online version of the Star featured a letter from Grand President Rae Ann Rosas telling of her travels and events throughout the State during her term.
- The Star celebrated our new Members and mourned our deceased Sisters in every issue.
- Zoom and in person Parlor activities throughout the State were featured, including creative fundraisers and activities honoring our Grand President’s Special Project to raise funds for our 3 charities, the Home, Childrens Foundation and CFIC.
- The Summer issue had the 2024 GPAM section that featured the Candidates for Grand Parlor Office for the 2024-2025 term and information on the events for the week of Grand Parlor.

- Our beautiful NDGW Home was celebrated on the reopening of the Parlor with newly refinished floors, courtesy of our member Bill Stalder. And, the landscaping led by our member Joyce James and others, both members and non-members.
- There were articles celebrating Members receiving their 50 and 75-year pins.
- Our new Ask Minerva Column debuted with the Spring 2024 edition in conjunction with the ARC Committee.

Our Order has some very talented and creative Members who have come up with amazing fundraisers and projects for their Parlors held such as luncheons, handmade quilts and tours of historical sites. These were also covered in the Star. To all of you who submitted articles and pictures, thank you and keep them coming!

Our ability to go digital was a decision that was made at the 2023 GPAM and at first it was a little bit rocky but once we got our steady footing, we were off and running! We have researched different software packages and will be using Adobe In Design, Photoshop and Acrobat Pro to publish the Star going forward.

I would also like to thank my Reporter / Assistant to the Editor— Suzi Riley, PGP, Bonita Parlor No. 10 for her help in editing articles and encouraging Parlors to submit articles. She is a whiz with pdfs! Also, my fellow members on the Electronics Communication Committee for all their help and support.

Lastly, I would like to thank Grand President Rae Rosas for my appointment as State Chairman of the Official Publication.

### **REPORT OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE 2023-24**

**Rae Rosas, Grand President, Tierra de Oro No. 304**

#### **State Chair**

The Personnel Committee meetings were held quarterly with additional meetings when it was necessary. Utilizing zoom for the meetings was a great asset to the Committee to make decisions for the good of the Order.

This term the Committee established the hours of operations and holidays for the Grand Parlor Office employee. Established new rules for GPO workplace environment: with no eating in the Office. GPO employee should have their breaks and meal away from their desk.

The Committee handled the daily operation issues for the NDGW Home employees.

The Committee voted to give employees raises this term.

Established employees need to have a specific time to call out sick from work and updated the Employee Handbook to include this.

The Board of Directors established not hiring Members as employees to avoid conflict of interest issues and has written legislation for this GPAM to be voted on.

I want to thank all our Employees – Grand Parlor Office Support Assistant Eve, Grand Parlor Office Bookkeeper Emily, and Home Employee Rebecca, for their dedication to the Order and keeping things running smoothly.

The Personnel Committee members are Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon No. 239; Heidi Dillon, GM, Joaquin No. 5/Oakdale No. 125; Sherry Farley, PGP, Grace No. 242; Debi Stalder, PGP, Laurel No. 6; Marilyn Rodrigues,

PGP, Angelita No. 32; and Karen May, Eschol No. 16. I appreciate all of your dedicated work and due diligence during this term.

**REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE**  
**Nina Coffenberry Jr. PGP, Ursula Parlor No. 1, Jackson**  
**State Chairman**

The Proceedings Committee is tasked with the responsibility of recording the events of the year for each Grand President. This year's committee for the 2022 – 2023 term was outstanding.

My Thanks to Grand Parlor Office Assistant Eve Brockmann for all her help. To my committee members my most greatest appreciation of your help; Joan Hall PGP, Charter Oak Parlor No. 292, Marilyn Bustillos PGP, Califia Parlor No. 22 & Ursula Parlor No. 1 and Mary Carroll, Ursula Parlor No. 1.

**Public Relations 2023-24**  
**Debi Stalder, PGP**  
**Laurel Parlor No. 6**  
**State Chairman**

Public Relations is the backbone to the future success and survival of the Order of the Native Daughters of the Golden West. Ladies we must focus on Marketing and Recruiting in a very large way.

We have tried as best we can as amateurs with what the Order has been able to give you as simple tools and ideas which have given us some comfort in trying to increase membership. It has become increasingly apparent that we cannot do it alone!

Every Parlor and State Committee should appoint a Public Relations Chairman and publicize in every media as often as possible. Getting the name of "Native Daughters" out in your communities or State is part of recruiting and letting your area of the State know about US!

The Board of Directors needs to make a serious financial commitment along with skilled Marketing, Recruiting and Public Relations Professionals to help guide us to new strategies for success in valued membership that believe in the Principles we were founded on. With Native California Born citizens in the Millions there should be no reason we cannot attract new members that believe as strongly as we do with the pride of being Born in the State of California and believe in Love of Home, Devotion to our Flag, Veneration of the Pioneers, and an Abiding Faith in the Existence of God, not to mention our patriotism and protection of our State resources, philanthropic passion and preserving our State History!

I am serving on the Special Committee: Assessment & Renewal (ARC) and after 2 years of Expert Evaluation, Focus Groups and Surveys, it is very apparent that Public Relations and Marketing is a big part of our future success. ARC has submitted a Proposal for consideration to consolidate external focus committees to strengthen collaboration and increase our Public Exposure collectively. I would hope that the Delegates vote to approve this proposal.

Thank you to the Parlor's and State Committee's that reported or participated in Public Events that did give exposure to the Native Daughters of the Golden West:

Native Daughters of the Golden West Charitable Foundation  
Native Daughters of the Golden West Childrens Foundation  
Evelyn I Carlson Committee NDGW Home Museum  
Pioneer Roster Committee NDGW Home California Room NDGW Pioneer Roster and Archives  
NDGW Home Committee Tour of the NDGW Home  
Grand President Rae Ann Rosa Representing our Order at numerous Public Appearance as a Wonderful Ambassador of the NDGW  
Reina del Mar Parlor. No. 125, Santa Barbara Fiesta Days Float  
Fresno Parlor No. 187, Fresno, Veteran's Welfare  
El Tejon Parlor No. 237, Bakersfield California Admission Day  
Tierra de Oro Parlor No. 304, Santa Barbara Fiesta Days Float  
Amapola Parlor No. 338, Sutter Creek Maintaining City Sign flowers and grounds

Native Daughters of the Golden West California Image Awards 2023-2024 will be announced at the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting on June 20, 2024. Three entries were submitted for consideration. A Supplemental report will be inserted in this report when the Image Award ceremony and announced are completed.

Thank you Worthy Grand President Rae Ann Rosas for my appointment and the Judges : Anne Riley, Bonita Parlor No. 10, Shelley Buchberger, GS, Angelita Parlor No. 32, Sandra Firpo, San Bruno Parlor No. 246

#### **REPORT OF THE REAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE 2023-24**

**Rae Rosas, Grand President, Tierra de Oro No. 304**

##### **State Chair**

The Real Property Committee shall have the power to prescribe all rules and methods of procedure for Subordinate Parlors in connection with the investment in real property.

This term the Board of Directors voted to enter negotiations with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for the sale of Palomares Cemetery in Pomona.

After several months of negotiations, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles made an offer of \$2,150,000 with a list of contingencies. The Board accepted their offer without the contingencies. As of May 14, we still have not heard from them if they have accepted our offer. Some of the contingencies from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles are waiting for a vote on rezoning of property around the Cemetery and would not have the money until after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Board of Directors will need to decide to either continue to wait on a decision from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles or list the property publicly.

Native Daughters of the Golden West owns the following properties:

543 Baker Street, San Francisco – Emma G. Foley Wing (Grand Parlor Office)

555 Baker Street, San Francisco – NDGW Home

203 4<sup>th</sup> Street, San Juan Bautista – Adobe

Palomares Cemetery, Pomona

Ruby Parlor No. 46, Murphy's

Hiawatha Parlor No. 140, Redding

Annie K. Bidwell Parlor No. 168, Chico

Reading Family Plot, Cottonwood – Owned by Hiawatha Parlor No. 140, Redding

The Real Property Committee consists of Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon No. 239; Heidi Dillon, GM, Joaquin No. 5/Oakdale No. 125; Sherry Farley, PGP, Grace No. 242; Suzanne Renee Chandler, PGP, Poppy Trail No. 266; and Susan Collins, PGP, Fort Bragg No. 210. I thank you for your dedication to the Order.

#### **REPORT OF THE RITUAL AND MANUAL OF INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

**Renee Rianda, GT, Woodland No. 90 & Aleli No. 102, State Chair**

**Jenni King, Woodland No. 90**

At the GPAM 2022 it was moved by PGP Christine Tripod, Joaquin Parlor No. 5, Stockton, to freeze any changes of the Ritual and Manual of Instruction for a term of three years. It was seconded by PGP Joan Hall, Charter Oak Parlor No. 242, Visalia. Motion carried. 06/30/2022 effective for 3 years.

Year 1 Freeze 2022-2023

Year 2 Freeze 2023-2024

Year 3 Freeze 2024-2025

In Year 4 2025-2026 Legislation may be brought before GPAM in June 2026 in regards to Ritual and Manual of Instruction.

#### **Report of Committee on Roll of Honor 2024**

L. Carol Boné, State Chairman, Morada Parlor No. 199

Deputy Grand President to Morada Parlor No. 199

Native Daughters of the Golden West established the Roll of Honor in 1910 to recognize women who are not eligible to join our Order but have made significant contributions to our Order or the State of California. Their contribution can be in the arts, historical projects, education, conservation, civic participation, social welfare, medicine, or a combination of these. Since its start, the Roll of Honor has recognized over 78 outstanding women.

This year, the Roll of Honor Committee did not receive any applications for this prestigious award. I encourage all of our Parlors and their Sisters to start searching now to put forward a worthy candidate for consideration by March 15, 2025.

My sincere thanks to my Committee Members Jo Anne Davis, Manzanita Parlor No. 29, Jeanne Allgeier, Laurel Parlor No. 6 and to Grand President Rae Rosas for this opportunity to serve our Order.

#### **Veterans Welfare Committee Report 2023-24**

**Viola Gene Dana, Chairman**

**Rancho La Puente Parlor No. 331**

The impact on the lives of our veterans made by the efforts of the Native Daughters of the Golden West members is important. Although the actual reports on Parlor activities were very few in number this year I feel that many more Parlors are engaged in support projects for our veterans. These are the reports received:

Woodland parlor #90 participated in the purchasing and laying of wreaths at the Valley veterans cemetery in Dixon at the wreaths across America event parlor sisters also made and sent cards to the veterans at the Veterans Home in Yountville for Christmas and Valentine's Day members participate in stocking the veteran's house at Travis Air Force Base with household supplies and donating to Gold Star mothers care packages for deployed military veterans.

Grace parlor No. 242, Fullerton- At our November meeting we celebrated veterans from our community at our annual Thanksgiving luncheon.

Raina Del Mar parlor #126 celebrated Veterans Day in November by wearing red white and blue to indicate respect for our veterans. The parlor collected donations for our local veterans during November and December; warm clothing, socks, blankets, and canned food as a beautiful way to show appreciation for their service and sacrifice. The Santa Barbara County Veterans Foundation accepts donations to benefit local veterans and veterans groups. We feel it is a great way to directly impact the lives of those who have served our community these donations help promote positive physical and mental Wellness resilience and growth within our veteran community.

Jurupa Parlor No. 296, Riverside- At the parlor meetings in October and November items were collected and then assembled and put into 100 goodie bags. The bags contained a veteran's day card, bag of chips, various snack items, sugar free candy, tissues, a pen and a small notebook, and a deck of playing cards. Last year, due to the continuance of COVID-19 protocols and other medical concerns we could not distribute them personally. This year, however, Marty Noyes and Melanie vigil (with assistance from the VA Volunteer Service Department personnel) delivered the bags personally as part of the Veterans Week celebrations. The Parlor had a small display of NDGW information brochures which had the Parlor's name and mailing address on them. We were pleasantly surprised a few weeks later when we received a personal "thank you" note from one of the veterans.

Rancho La Puente No. 331- The Parlor continues its support of the Veterans Village in El Monte with a monthly event, usually including a luncheon or early supper. Most successfully, they have held wto painting sessions, giving the residents the opportunity to display their talents.

The Parlor has provided various kitchen pieces of kitchen equipment for the Community Room. Recently, an electronic dartboard was installed on the Second Floor Rec Room – an item requested by the Veterans and happily supplied by the Parlor. Gently-used and new clothing are donated by individual members on a regular basis. The members feel that they are establishing real friendships with many of the Vets, noting that iit is rewarding to see some of the men beginning to interact more socially with the group.

The Veterans Welfare Committee responded to two Parlor requests for support this year.

- In response to a request from Dee Goodspeed, President of Sutters Mill Parlor No. 336 for assistance in fund a Transportation Project to service Veterans utilizing the El Dorada Transit system. A grant for \$2,400 was made to the Military Family Support Group in Placerville in March, 2024.
- A request for the purchase of a cardio-defibrillator for the Clovis Veterans District was submitted by Fresno Parlor No. 187 member Karen Fini. By electronic communication and vote, the request was granted for \$1,850.

My thanks to Grand President Ray Rosas for giving me the opportunity to serve as chairman of this committee. My gratitude and thanks to my committee members for their support and input. Thanks to all the members who supported the work of this committee. Please remember to continue supporting our veterans who are in need to whom we owe so much.

**C.F.I.C. WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT 2024**  
**Marti Noyes, Jurupa Parlor No. 296**

The mission of the Native Daughters of the Golden West Welfare Committee has always been to aid our sisters when some type of emergency or disaster strikes. This past year, fortunately, there have been no requests for personal financial aid. Many Parlors continue to provide aid to their own members with time, care, N.D.G.W. mailings and even financial aid with dues and or other needs especially for long term and senior members.

Thank you to the many Parlors who also assist other non-profits in their communities. Reina del Mar Parlor No. 126 donates throughout the year to the Santa Barbara Transition House that provides assistance to families suffering from domestic abuse or homelessness. Grace Parlor No. 242 supports the many NDGW C.F.I.C. Committees with donations and coin marches, as well as to other non-profit organizations such as the National Breast Cancer Foundation and Disabled Veterans. Grace Parlor also conducted a can food drive for the Pathways of Hope in Orange during November. The members of Bonita Parlor No. 10 volunteer at local churches, the hospital, the American Red Cross, the VM Senior Center and the Friends of the Library in Redwood City. Rancho La Puente No. 331 learned that the United Methodist Church where they meet was having some financial difficulties and voluntarily increased their monthly rent payment. At Christmas the Parlor donated toys to the Spark of Love Toy Drive and held a food drive.

Jurupa Parlor No. 296 was able to deliver 66,427 pull-tabs at the Annual Collection Day for the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House on Friday, May 3, 2024. The funds collected from the annual recycling and pull-tab collection day helps pay for overnight stays at the House for the parents and families of ill children. The cost to the parents is reduced or free so their concerns can be focused on the care of their sick child. Many of these children are being treated at the Loma Linda Children's Hospital across the street from the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House or other hospitals in the area. The welfare of the families of sick children is the main reason Jurupa Parlor continues to collect the pull-tabs. Thank you to the other Parlors and Native Sons who contributed a large portion of the pull-tabs turned in this year from contributions given to me at GPAM 2023.

My thanks to GP Rae Rosas for my appointment and support this past year.

Marti Noyes  
Welfare Committee Chairman

**Special Committee: Assessment and Renewal (ARC)**  
**Summary of Actions and Activities**  
**2023 – 2024**

The Assessment and Renewal Committee (ARC) was formed as a short-term committee tasked with developing strategic planning and changes to keep our organization relevant. The Committee is now in its second year (of four) with the focus moving from assessing to implementing.

### **Survey of our Members**

Everything we do has to be with our members' needs and opinions clearly understood.

Last term, in consultation with nationally renowned non-profit expert Zoot Velasco, a survey of our members was conducted (2022-2023). The results were compiled into two reports titled "Evaluation Report 2023" and "Vision Report 2026". Both reports served as a template to conduct the goals for this term.

### **Survey Results and Follow-up Actions**

Based on input from our surveys, we finalized an updated Mission Statement and Vision Statement that were presented at the 2023 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting (GPAM).

- **Mission Statement and Vision Statement**

Most businesses and non-profit organizations have a Mission Statement and a Vision Statement. The best practices of successful organizations are for these to be brief and catchy.

The *Mission Statement* should be something that a member can use as a quick answer to anyone who asks, what is Native Daughters' purpose?

Our NDGW Mission Statement now:

"To actively preserve California's history and quality of life through education and community service."

The *Vision Statement* should answer the question, what do we want NDGW to be?

Our NDGW Vision Statement now:

"NDGW would be a recognized leader in California with a membership that includes every California-born individual."

These were presented and voted on by the delegates at the 2023 GPAM.

- **What needs improving?**

The 2022-2023 survey question number four asked members: What things in the organization need improvement?

The top three items included: **Better Marketing (55%), Membership (46%)** and the **Grand Parlor Annual Meeting**, especially the presentation of legislation (42%).

As identified in the *Vision Report 2026*, three focus areas to support the mission include:

**Infrastructure, Increase Membership, and Leadership**

- **Need for Steady and Reliable Income for the Organization to Grow**

ARC research finds that most successful non-profit organizations charge much higher dues than our parlors do and pay a higher per-capita tax.

Raising the per-capita tax went a long way to helping the infrastructure of Grand Parlor. We understand the difficulty of implementing such an increase and thank YOU for your dedication to this action.

- **Increasing our Membership**

An increase in membership is a goal that is always on our mind. One idea was to implement a new WELCOME page on the official website. We are pleased to report the ARC collaborated with the Electronic Communications Committee and Grand Parlor Office Assistant to complete this project. The page went live the first week of January 2024 allowing new Members to acquaint themselves with the organization and be relevant using technology.

Also, a new column in the *California Star* was established called "Ask Minerva." This is a place where Members can anonymously ask questions about the organization on a multitude of topics. We also entertained ideas for Membership incentives.

More must, and will, be done in this area.

### **Leadership**

Feedback from notes in the ARC GPAM 2023 "Suggestion Box" found many requests to lessen the amount of leadership positions within the organization, especially the Supervising District Deputy Grand President (SDDGP). Additionally, feedback from an additional 2023-2024 survey was 55% in favor of eliminating this position. Thus, prompting this Committee to propose a recommendation at this Grand Parlor Annual Meeting to eliminate the SDDGP position.

Suggestion Box notes also requested to decrease the number of Committees and to streamline the Grand Parlor Annual Meetings. A large number of positive feedback notes mentioned the favorable change to eliminate the GPAM password and continue to include an electronic video option for attendance (such as Zoom).

The Committee took this information to conduct a 2023-2024 survey to investigate the overall support of the Membership to implement these suggestions.

- *Survey question:* Would you be willing to sign up online for the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting (GPAM) registration and/or events?  
54% replied, "Yes" and 25% replied, "Maybe".  
*Action:* ARC gained approval from the Board of Directors and worked with Electronic Communications Committee, Credentials Chair and the GPAM 2024 Sessions Committee to implement the first online registration for a Grand Parlor Annual Meeting with a recommendation presented for future electronic registration options.
- *Survey question:* Would you be willing to pay an additional 3-5% transaction fee to register for GPAM online?  
27% answered, "Yes" with 29% answering, "No" and 32% "Maybe."  
*Action:* Keeping these responses in mind, no additional transaction fees were asked of the GPAM registrants. Instead, Grand Parlor will offset the cost with an expected decrease in printing costs.
- *Survey question:* Would you support eliminating the use of a password and using electronic scanning when entering the GPAM meeting room?

An overwhelming 60% of those taking the survey support electronic scanning as the permanent way to enter GPAM and eliminate the password. The majority of those answering the survey were also in support of an electronic video conferencing option, such as Zoom, for attendance at GPAM.

*Action:* Based on these preferences, recommendations (legislation) were written and presented at this Grand Parlor Annual Meeting.

Regarding the suggestions to combine or eliminate Committees, ARC did an in-depth review of Committees, keeping in mind current restricted program funds, how and who would manage those funds and what Committees could be eliminated. From this in-depth review it was decided to ask a survey question regarding eliminating the Yearbook Committee.

*Survey question:* Can the Yearbooks Committee be eliminated?

63% answered, “Yes”, prompting the recommendation to eliminate this Committee.

ARC also produced the idea for Committees to be made up of “Program Managers,” who would ensure fundraising and charitable work within the restricted funds of those programs.

A place on the survey for other comments raised concerns about the use of “Program Managers.” Therefore, it was decided to implement one such Committee change on a trial basis and evaluate its effectiveness.

It was decided to present combining Public Relations, Roll of Honor, Legislative Measures and Extension of the Order into one new Committee known as the Public Relations and Community Outreach Committee for a one-year trial basis, with an explanation of the “Program Manager” position.

### **Top Response: Marketing of NDGW**

In the 2022-2023 survey the number one response to the question of what needs improving . . . 55% said having better Marketing.

Greater efforts in our social media (i.e.: Facebook) as well as our official website are being accomplished. As well as the addition of the “Ask Minerva” column in the *California Star*. These are just starting points.

Important discussions regarding the culture of our organization take place continuously, with future goals to be implemented in the next term.

The ARC members feel deeply that our Order is one of great history, and more importantly, great potential. We accept that our task is a challenging one and will require sacrifice and effort on the part of our members and leaders.

Each of us is committed to this effort and are appreciative of the trust put upon us in this endeavor.

This terms Committee consisted of the following:

Co-Chair, Darleen Carpenter, GVP, El Tejon No. 239

Co-Chair, Renee Rianda, sGT Renee Rianda, Woodland No. 90 & Aleli No. 102

Debi Stalder, PGP, Laurel No. 6

Sherry Farley, PGP, Grace No. 242

Joelle Dobrow, Toluca No. 279

Maria Elena Serna, Zinfandel No. 337

Fran Neves, Placer No. 138

Sandra Firpo, San Bruno No. 246

Francie Levy, El Pinal No. 163

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES 2023-2024**

Final

Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
June 27, 2023  
Hilton Board Room, Stockton

The Meeting was called to Order at 9:23 A.M. by GP Rae Rosas  
The Opening Prayer was offered by Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry

### **Roll Call was taken with all attending in person:**

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| GP Rae Rosas             | sGT Renee Rianda         |
| Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry | GT Marion "Sonny" Graves |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter    |                          |
| GM Heidi Dillon          |                          |
| GS Shelley Buchberger    |                          |

GP Rae Rosas welcomed and thanked the Grand Officers for attending. She provided breakfast for all in attendance.

**Minutes:** GP Rae recommended that we do an email approval for the GPAM minutes after any corrections are made.

sGT Renee Rianda moved and Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry seconded to approve the minutes from June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried and so ordered.

### **New Business:**

The Board of Trustees have voted for the Senior Grand Trustee and have set their order. The new Senior Grand Trustee is Renee Rianda. The Grand Trustees will take turns acting as clerk and each will report on the audit results.

Jr. PGP Nina moved and GM Darleen seconded that we retain Michael T. Savasta of Ineich and Company, San Mateo, California, as CPA of the Order for the 2023-2024 term. Motion carried and so ordered.

Jr. PGP Nina moved and GM Darleen seconded that we sign a new retainer for the 2023-2024 term with Greg Alessandra of Alessandra Capitol Management, our investment advisor. Motion carried and so ordered.

Jr. PGP Nina moved and sGT Renee seconded that we retain the Attorney of the Order, the law firm of Stein and Law, for the 2022-2023 term. Motion carried and so ordered.

Jr. PGP Nina moved and sGT Renee seconded that we retain Chris Melendres, Realtor for the Palomares Cemetery, for the 2023-2024 term. Motion carried and so ordered.

Jr. PGP Nina moved that the Grand Secretary send a letter introducing the Grand President to the individuals retained above. GT Marion Graves seconded. Motion carried and so ordered.

Jr. PGP Nina moved to set aside the C.G.P. Stand Rules Page 49, duties of Officers No. 6G, so that the Grand Marshal can be a non-voting member of the Home Committee and CGP Standing Rules Page 50, 6H, sGT Renee will become a member of the State of the Order Committee and GT Marion will be on the Legislation Committee due to the limited number of Grand Trustees. GVP Darleen seconded. Motion carried and so ordered.

Jr. PGP Nina moved and GM Heidi Dillon seconded that GP Rae's appointments be ratified. Motion carried and so ordered.

Fraternal Jewelry – sGT Renee moved that we order more ten year pins. GT Marion seconded. Motion carried and so ordered.

PGP Susan Collins Proceedings – GM Heidi moved and Jr. PGP Nina seconded to accept the 2021-2022 Proceedings as the official record of the Order. Motion carried and so ordered.

PGP Debi Stalder requested the use of the NDGW Logo to be put on her father's drums that she would like to donate to a school. sGT Renee moved and GM Heidi seconded. Motion carried and so ordered.

GM Heidi updated the Grand Officers on the printer in the Grand Parlor Office. Currently we pay a \$598 per month lease on it through Pacific Office Automation. The new lease price will be \$291. The newer printer is smaller and slower but the cost reduction makes it worth it. Jr. PGP Nina moved and GVP Darleen seconded to accept the new contract and to apprise the Finance Committee. Motion carried and so ordered.

The new and old signatories will need to be changed. GP Rae will contact the Grand Parlor Bookkeeper to set up an appointment at Bank of America to change the signatories.

GS Shelley Buchberger and GT Marion Graves both need to attend the sexual harassment training program.

GP Rae discussed the attire to be worn at Official Visits and board meetings. She would like the Grand Officers to wear casual clothing.

Instead of doing a Secret Sisters program, GP Rae asked that we all bring a small gift for each member on the Board of Directors at the November meeting for a Holiday exchange.

Rooms at the NDGW Home for Board Meetings:

|              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| GP Rae       | Room 301 |
| Jr. PGP Nina | Room 307 |
| GVP Darleen  | Room 306 |
| GM Heidi     | Room 310 |
| GS Shelley   | Room 412 |
| sGT Renee    | Room 411 |
| GT Marion    | Room 407 |

GP Rae reviewed the Grand Parlor calendar. There are still a few Committee positions that need to be filled.

Fran Bremer, Parlor No. the previous Sr. Grand Trustee, gave the Trustee report at the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting. Sr. GT Renee will get an updated list of Parlors in arrears from the Grand Parlor Bookkeeper and will

update the Grand Officers. sGT Renee will work with GT Marion and the Grand Parlor Bookkeeper on closing out the year and getting everything to the CPA. GVP Darleen will coordinate the Audit with the CPA.

GM Heidi will order new name badges for herself, sGT Renee and GT Marion.

Jr PGP Nina Coffenberry offered a Closing Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
GS Shelley Buchberger

**Final**  
Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
July 25, 2023  
ZOOM MEETING

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M.

Guest: Chris Melendres,

Grand Officers in attendance:

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| GP Rae Rosa           | sGT Renee Rianda, |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter | GT Marion Graves  |
| GM Heidi Dillon       |                   |
| GS Shelley Buchberger |                   |

Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry was excused.

Real Property in attendance:

PGP Suzanne Renee Chandler  
PGP Sherry Farley

Mr. Melendres updated the Grand Officers on what is happening with the sale of the Palomares Cemetery. There is a chance that it could revert to the Catholic Church.

There are a few things that could help us with selling the property:

1. It was condemned as a cemetery in 1969
2. It can be sold as a cemetery to another church.
3. It is currently zoned commercial but can be zoned residential due to the housing crisis.

GM Heidi recommended that we reach out to the Mormon Church to see where the former residents of the cemetery had been moved.

The Catholic Diocese offered 1.8 million dollars to buy the cemetery but offered 3.8 million to purchase the front parcel. Mr. Melendres said that he thinks the offer is too low.

Mr. Melendres left the Zoom meeting so the Grand Officer could confer.

GS Shelley moved to counter the offer and raise it to \$3.8 million. GT Marion seconded. Motion carried and so ordered. GS Shelley will send an email to Chris Melendres confirming the counter offer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelley Buchberger  
Grand Secretary

Final

Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
August 18, 2023  
NDGW Board Room, San Francisco  
Zoom

The Meeting was called to Order at 4:20 P.M. by GP Rae Rosas  
The Opening Prayer was offered by Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry

**Roll Call was taken with all attending in person:**

|                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GP Rae Rosas – In Person        | sGT Renee Rianda - In Person |
| Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry – Zoom | GT Marion Graves – In Person |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter - Zoom    |                              |
| GM Heidi Dillon – In Person     |                              |
| GS Shelley Buchberger - Zoom    |                              |

Guest: Zoot Velasco by Zoom

Zoot Velasco, the Non Profit Advisor contracted by the Assessment and Renewal Committee (A.R.C.), held the Board Development Training Module today as spelled out in his contract. His web site for further content is [www.4m-pact.org](http://www.4m-pact.org).

Mr. Velasco went over the history of the Board of Directors and how they used to be called the Board of Trustees only and is a charitable model.

Issues that can hinder a Board:

Lack of Leadership – a leadership value system should be set up to supply awards and acknowledgements to attract good leadership.

Apathy – Members and Leaders who are not active. Read and discuss the Mission Statement at meetings or events to remind people what we are.

Roberts Rules – recommends all Board Members read up on Roberts Rules of Order and help those who are learning.

Board Members Standings – Board Members are the same as any other Volunteer.

Time, Talent, Treasure – Every Member has their talents. Some have the money to donate and some have the Time or Talents to assist others in creating fantastic events. Every Volunteer is valuable.

Mr. Velasco suggested forming a committee to recruit new Board of Director Members. To find new Board Members, he suggests reaching out at events. Ask Members what they are interested in and what brought them to Native Daughters. Add these Members to Committees so they can learn more about how we are run and maybe they will be on the Board eventually. He recommends visiting the Board Source web site for future tips on Board questions.

Mr. Velasco finished his presentation and left the meeting.

A letter was received from the NDGW Home Co-Chair PGP Marilyn Rodrigues. She requested the use of the old ballot boxes in storage for a crafting fundraiser for the Home. sGT Renee Rianda moved and GT Marion Graves seconded to allow the Home Committee to use the old ballot boxes. Motion carried and so ordered.

A letter was received from Barbara Bruce of San Miguel Parlor No. 94. She asked for permission to use the NDGW logo on a replacement plaque. sGT Renee moved and Jr. PGP Nina seconded to allow the use of the logo. Motion carried and so ordered.

A letter was received from Oakdale Parlor No. 125 asking for a third term as President. sGT Renee moved to ratify the request by the Oakdale Parlor for a third term for their President. GT Marion seconded. Motion carried and so ordered.

Meeting adjourned at 6:01 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
GS Shelley Buchberger

Final

Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2023

NDGW Board Room and Zoom, San Francisco

The Meeting was called to Order at 9:05 A.M. by GP Rae Rosas  
The Opening Prayer was offered by Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry

**Roll Call was taken:**

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| GP Rae Rosas                       | sGT Renee Rianda |
| Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry – By Zoom | GT Marion Graves |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter - By Zoom    |                  |
| GM Heidi Dillon                    |                  |
| GS Shelley Buchberger – By Zoom    |                  |

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as corrected.

### **New Business:**

Grand President Itinerary: District 13 will be holding a Home Luncheon in Rancho Cordova on September 30, 2023.

GP Rae Rosas has signed the contracts from the CPA and the Realtor for the Palomares Cemetery. She needs a contract from our financial advisor Greg Allesandra.

GVP Darleen Carpenter said that the 2021/2022 taxes are complete and need to be filed. The NDGW office is now working on the 2022/2023 taxes.

sGT Renee Rianda read the Trustee's audit and discussed Parlors in arrears. sGT Renee and GT Marion Graves will update the Grand Officers in a month of any changes. The Per Capita owed is \$7284.13 and the Home is owed \$4125.00.

SDDGP Marti Noyes, Jurupa Parlor No. 296, is working to help close Tahquitz Parlor No. 333. GP Rae will send the closing letter for the Parlor.

The bank holding the money for the now closed Hayward Parlor No. 122 is still not releasing the money in the account. GP Rae Rosas will contact the Attorney of the Order to see what our next step is.

GP Rae will type a letter to be sent to PGP Margaret Mallette, Gold of Ophir Parlor No. 190 regarding the status of the possible surrender of their charter.

GP Rae asked for the status for closing out Grand Parlor. GVP Darleen said that the Bookkeeper is sending all of the paperwork by flash drive and all documents will be to the CPA by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Needed still is the amount of gift certificates outstanding. A letter will be sent from the Home Co-Chairman Marilynn Rodrigues, PGP asking everyone to update the Home Committee on the gifts certificates they have unused.

A letter will go out in the monthly mailing saying that fines for not meeting for 6 months and not sending in the Semi Annual Audit on time will now be enforced.

### **Updates on the four Entities:**

Home: Bill Stalder, Laurel Parlor No. 6, will be in to make sure the Parlor floor sealant is dry so the furniture can be moved back in. Brian Stalder, Laurel No. 6, PGP Debi Stalder, Laurel Parlor No. 6, will also help set up and update the internet in the Home and Grand Parlor. The Pioneer Roster will be moved to room 403A. Gift certificates that have been used have not been located.

Children's Foundation: 20 camperships were given out this year at \$2,000 each. GVP Darleen needs an update on the outstanding balance set aside for the children and needs to send it to the CPA.

C.F.I.C.: PGP Suzi Riley, Bonita Parlor No. 10, will write a letter asking for donations for the birthday of California from the Parlors. It will go out in the monthly mailing.

NDGW Attire: More clothing items (swag) need to be ordered. sGT Renee will reach out to companies that Members can place orders from so we do not have to carry inventory. It would all be direct shipping.

Grand Parlor: The closet in the Grand Parlor Office has water damage and needs to be repaired. Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry's Foley project has money left in it but she is not sure how much at this time. Approximately \$3,000 was sent out for the Membership Contest. The rest will go to the Foley Wing. \$400 is coming in for her project from El Pinal Parlor No. 163, soon.

Equipment updates: GM Heidi Dillon stated that the new copier for the Grand Parlor will be delivered on August 28<sup>th</sup>. GS Shelley Buchberger recommended looking into a HotSpot system for doing Zoom at GPAM. Verizon was recommended because we use it for the Home cell phone. GS Shelley also said that the Electronic Communications Committee would like to do a presentation soon on having a Market Place on the web site to pay for Zoom. It was also discussed to have the ECC look into getting bar code readers of our own for GPAM.

The NDGW Home phone will be replaced.

ARC Committee: Legislation from the Committee regarding GPAM voting and using the barcode and Zoom systems to vote will be sent to the Delegates to share with their Parlors. The Committee would like a Zoom meeting with all of the Delegates, Past Grand Presidents and State Chairman. This legislation has to go to the State of the Order Committee first. GVP Darleen said that they will have it done by the Joint Meeting in October and hopefully out to the Delegates by Dec. 31, 2023.

Fraternal Jewelry: A second order of the Ten Year Pins has been sent in. GS Shelley will send an email to the Chairman, PGP Camelia Robles, Poppy Trail Parlor No. 266, to confirm.

The Chet Thomas Trust was discussed.

sGT Renee left the Board Meeting at 11:45 A.M.

GP Rae had two new appointments. PGP Debi Stalder will be SDDGP to District 9 and PGP Joan Hall, Charter Oak Parlor No. 292, will be added to the Investment Committee. Jr. PGP Nina moved and GVP Darleen seconded to ratify the appointments. Motion carried and so ordered.

The NDGW Workers Compensation Insurance was out of date. GVP Darleen updated the Board of Directors information and it needs to be updated every year.

Peter Stanger of Santa Cruz Parlor No. 26 sent a letter regarding the ban on bicycles at the Home. GP Rae will send him a letter back regarding this issue. His letter will be forwarded to the Home Committee to look into and discuss. GM Heidi will let them know our ideas and concerns.

The Grand Parlor Office will need coverage from August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 12<sup>th</sup> due to the vacation of the Office Support Assistant. PGP Debi Stalder will cover from the 31<sup>st</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup>. GM Heidi moved and GT Marion seconded to compensate PGP Debi for her Home stay and mileage. Motion carried and so ordered.

GM Heidi informed the Board that PGP Dawn Dunlap of El Pinal No. 163, will be the Home Hostess from December 14<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. She will use some of the gift certificates that she has for days she is not working.

GM Heidi asked if we can set up cell phones for the NDGW Bookkeeper. It would help with second authorization. She will look into costs.

GP Rae said that PGP Debi informed her that the South Butte Parlor No. 226, have been unable to receive rental income. GP Rae will look into it.

Jr PGP Nina Coffenberry offered a Closing Prayer.

Next Meeting: Joint meeting on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Madera.

Respectfully Submitted,  
GS Shelley Buchberger

**Final**  
Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
Oct. 28, 2023  
Hampton Inn, Madera

The Meeting was called to Order at 3:20 P.M. by GP Rae Rosas

**Roll Call was taken with all in attendance:**

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| GP Rae Rosas             | sGT Renee Rianda |
| Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry | GT Marion Graves |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter    |                  |
| GM Heidi Dillon          |                  |
| GS Shelley Buchberger    |                  |

**Minutes:** This was a brief meeting so none were discussed.

**New Business:**

GVP Darleen Carpenter discussed the gift certificates for the NDGW Home. She met with the CPA and he thinks that there are \$48,000 on the books and suggests that we write off \$16,000 each year over the next three years to reduce that liability. GVP Darleen Carpenter moved that we take the CPA's advice and write off \$16,000 a year for the next three years. sGT Renee Rianda seconded. Motion carried and so ordered. GVP Darleen suggested that we preprint the gift certificates with numbers on them so they can be tracked in the future. GM Heidi Dillon said that we have lost quite a bit of money using the gift certificates.

GM Heidi discussed the NDGW Home, the employees and the need for one more employee. sGT Renee asked how the room sponsorship worked. She stated their district sponsors a room and one of the Parlors would like to update the room. It needs the agreement of all the Parlors in the District. GS Shelley Buchberger asked if the time clock was being used yet for the Home Employees. GM Heidi responded yes. Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry asked if the kitchen doors to take out the trash had been fixed. They were easy to break into and sometimes is not locked. We need to make sure the Home is properly secured. GM Heidi said that we will eventually have to do something about the hall lights on the third and 4th floors. They are flickering and very old.

Some of the duties of the new NDGW Bookkeeper were discussed. She is working 15 hours per week and PGP Sherry Farley, Grace Parlor No. 242, is also assisting.

Next meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,  
GS Shelley Buchberger

**Final**  
Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
Nov 11, 2023  
NDGW Board Room

The Meeting was called to Order at 9:35 A.M. by GP Rae Rosas  
Opening Prayer was offered by Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry

**Roll Call was taken with all in attendance:**

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| GP Rae Rosas             | sGT Renee Rianda |
| Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry | GT Marion Graves |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter    |                  |
| GM Heidi Dillon          |                  |
| GS Shelley Buchberger    |                  |

**Minutes:**

April 24, 2023 Minutes of the special meeting with the Home Committee were reopened and information was added. Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry moved and sGT Renee Rianda seconded to amend the April 24<sup>th</sup> minutes. GM Heidi Dillon then moved and sGT Renee Rianda seconded to approve the changes. Motion carried and so ordered.

August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Minutes were filed as corrected.

October 28<sup>th</sup> minutes of the Board of Directors meeting were filed as corrected.

GPAM 2023 minutes, Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry said that she had read previous filings of the GPAM Minutes and everyone mentioned had their last name added. GS Shelley Buchberger said that she would go over the minutes and add any last names that are missing. When this is finished, it will be filed as corrected.

**Old Business:**

Sean Casey extended stay. Jr. PGP Nina moved and GT Marion Graves seconded to ratify the email vote by the Board of Directors on 8/28/2023. Motion carried and so ordered.

GM Heidi Dillon moved and Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry seconded to rescind the motion to accept Jr. PGP's Susan Collins proceedings. Motion carried and so ordered.

sGT Renee Rianda contacted several businesses to order NDGW swag and liked Printify. She will order samples of items to show the Board at our next meeting. We can set up a store on Printify and people can order directly instead of Grand Parlor storing items.

Delinquent Parlors – an invoice will be sent out to charge delinquent Parlors \$50 for not sending in their Audits. GP Rae Rosas will instruct the Bookkeeper to send out these invoices.

Gold of Ophir Parlor No. 190, Oroville, Liberty Parlor No. 213, Elk Grove, Mariposa Parlor No. 63, Mariposa, Tahquitz Parlor No. 333, Hemet and West Wind No. 328, Fairfield, need letters sent to them stating that their Charter will be surrendered at the end of January if their audits, overdue per capita tax and assessments have not been completed and paid; as defined per C.G.P. Page 58, No. 20 referring to the surrendering of their Charter.

Liberty No. 213, Elk Grove, La Tijera No. 282, El Segundo, Arcata No. 325, Arcata, also need letters sent to bring their Parlors current per C.G.P. Page 58, No. 20.

Gold of Opher No. 190, Oroville, has surrendered their Charter.

Tahquitz No. 333, Hemet, has had a letter sent by DGP Marti Noyes, Jurupa Parlor No. 296, Riverside, regarding the consolidation with Jurupa Parlor No. 296, Riverside.

Defunct Hayward Parlor, GVP Darleen Carpenter will contact our investment advisor Greg Allesandra to ask him how we can transfer Haywards stocks to Grand Parlor.

Fines – the NDGW Bookkeeper sent invoices asking for non-represented Parlors at GPAM 2023 to pay the \$100 owed. GM Heidi moved and sGT Renee seconded to reimburse Golden Era Parlor No. 99, Columbia, for the \$100 that they paid. They had extenuating circumstances getting into the Zoom GPAM meeting. Motion carried and so ordered. The new fine voted in at GPAM is \$200 and is per delegate.

Lunch 12:40 P.M. Returning at 1:49 P.M.

Jr. PGP Nina's project – There is about \$8,700 in the Foley Wing account. She hopes to have enough to fund the installation of new flooring in the Board Room.

GM Heidi Dillon asked if we could have drapes installed in the Social Room.

Grand Parlor Office Closet – GM Heidi Dillon will get a bid to repair the old leak damage.

sGT Rene Rianda said that the Grand Trustee's Quarterly Audit has been completed. Her report stated that not many Audits had been turned in yet. GP Rae Rosas said that she will have the GP Bookkeeper send out letters asking Parlors to get them in as soon as possible.

GP Rae Rosas put in the monthly mailing that all Committees need to write and send in articles for the STAR.

The ARC Committee will be sending out a survey on upcoming changes to the Order that they would like to make. GVP Darleen Carpenter went over questions that they will be asking. An "Ask Minerva" column will be started in the next STAR so members can ask any questions they may have regarding Native Daughters.

GM Heidi Dillon stated she will be writing legislation to make changes to Legislative Monitoring and Proceedings Policies.

Fraternal Jewelry – The 25, 50, and 75 year pins have not been ordered yet. GVP Darleen Carpenter will talk to the Chairman of Fraternal Jewelry to get the order started.

New Appointments – GP Rae Rosas made a few new appointments. PGP Debi Stalder, Laurel Parlor No. 6, Nevada City, will be the Chairman of Public Relations and added to the Personnel Committee. Marti Noyes, Jurupa Parlor No. 296, Riverside, will be added to the Welfare Committee and to C.F.I.C. Helen Leiva of Grace Parlor No. 242, Fullerton will be Deputy Grand President to Jurupa Parlor No. 296, Riverside. Sarah Stanger-Montano, Angelita Parlor No. 32, Livermore, will be added to the California History and Landmarks Committee. PGP Renee Chandler, Poppy Trail Parlor No. 266, Montebello, was added to the Pioneer Roster and Archive. Sandra Firpo, San Bruno Parlor No. 246, an Bruno, was added to Public Relations. Marian Wydo, Bonita Parlor No. 10, Redwood City, was added to the Home Committee. Linda Dusek, Petaluma Parlor No. 222, Petaluma, was moved to DDGP of District 11. Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry moved and GVP Darleen Carpenter seconded to ratify these appointments. Motion carried and so ordered.

New Member Packets – sGT Renee Rianda moved and GT Marion Graves seconded to move the New Member Packets online. Motion carried and so ordered. This will be a cost savings to Grand Parlor.

Financials – GVP Darleen Carpenter reviewed all the financials as CFO.

CPA review – Our CPA of the Order is a little behind on starting our taxes due to an extended filing date set by the Internal Revenue Service. He will be starting on it soon.

Discussion was held on GPAM 2024.

The meeting ended at 4:50 P.M.

Closing Prayer was offered by Jr. PGP Nina Coffenberry.

Respectfully Submitted,  
GS Shelley Buchberger

Final

Native Daughters of the Golden West  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 2024  
Zoom

The Meeting was called to Order at 6:58 P.M. by GP Rae Rosas

**Roll Call was taken:**

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| GP Rae Rosas          | sGT Renee Rianda |
| GVP Darleen Carpenter | GT Marion Graves |
| GM Heidi Dillon       |                  |
| GS Shelley Buchberger |                  |

Jr PGP Nina Coffenberry was excused.

GP Rae Rosas talked to Realtor Chris Melendres to discuss the front property at the cemetery and the new offer received from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in the amount of \$2.1 million. A discussion was held and it was decided to counter offer an amount of \$2.2 million to help offset fees incurred on the sale.

Closed session 7:07 P.M.

Open session 7:25 P.M.

GP Rae Rosas opened the floor for Officers to declare what office they will be running for at GPAM.

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rae Rosas          | Junior Past Grand President |
| Darleen Carpenter  | Grand President             |
| Heidi Dillon       | Grand Vice President        |
| Renee Rianda       | Grand Marshal               |
| Shelley Buchberger | Grand Trustee               |
| Marion Graves      | Grand Trustee               |

GVP Darlene Carpenter is making a list of potential Grand Officers. She requested if anyone has any potential prospects to let her know.

Parlors in arrears were discussed. Letters will be sent from the Grand Secretary to let these Parlors know that they are in danger of losing their Charters.

Veritas Parlor #75 is surrendering their Charter. PGP Sharon Logan resigned as Deputy Grand President of Vendome Parlor No.100.

GP Rae Rosas has received the Hotel information for GPAM and will be sending it out to the Grand Officers tomorrow.

Discussion was held on GPAM 2024. GVP Darleen Carpenter reminded everyone that the dress code for Installation is a long black dress with black shoes and a gold chain. GP Rae Rosas said that her Sessions Committee decided not to have all the luncheons due to the cost and instead will have one luncheon at a local Park. It will be held on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of June. One luncheon for all of the entities. The cost should be approximately \$37 per person.

Meeting ended at 8:01 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
GS Shelley Buchberger