



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Department Secretary



A new year brings new challenges. We've already seen some Unit and district issues, confusion with the website, and National Convention confusion.

The Department Office seems to be a forever learning curve. I'm going into year two and thanks to Covid handling things like Clovis and National Convention for the first time. Luckily Clovis is in person and there is an awesome team out here in Clovis that knows what they are doing. National Convention is coming together for the Department of California, but has been a learning process for both myself and the Legion as Crystal and Barbara Lomanto, the Department Adjutant are new this year. We've been working closely together to make sure all your reservations are in place for Convention.

The new website has been a challenge all on it's own. There is definitely a learning curve when it comes to finding where everything is. When you come to the new website pause and ask yourself where you would file what you are looking for, and go there. We don't have a general catch all for forms. We're trying to keep forms with their corresponding program to keep things organized. We are also updating all the Department Form, so they are taking a little longer to get to the website. If you can't find something, shoot me an email or give me a call. Chances are we don't think the same, or it's not there yet.

We're always looking for ways to improve our processes. Last year we got it into your heads that everything with money was mailed to Pasadena. Well, we're going to change that again.... Only Membership and Department Donation forms will go to Pasadena. Everything else will come to San Francisco and I will be sending all checks with a tracking number to Pasadena.

We've finally set up a dedicated phone line for the office phone to work remotely. I no longer should be making calls with my cell phone. If you call the office I can take the calls on my cell and I can call you back with the office number. No more random 831 number calling you. The new plus with this is you can also text the office number. If you text 415-861-5092 it comes to my cell phone. When a new secretary takes over, they will very easily be able to install the app and take over the office phone and texting capabilities. If you call and I don't answer, leave me a message. Calling me right back is fruitless. I'm likely on another call or in the restroom.

The girls start school on Monday (actual school... Hallelujah!!!!). Therefore, I will be in the office at least twice a week starting next week. If it feels like I need to be there more, then I can do that, but I think twice a week will allow me enough time to accomplish what needs to be done and start scanning the files that are there so we have access to them remotely.

In closing, I'm here to help you so always feel free to give me a call or shoot me an email.

Liz Doidge