



Good morning, Madam President Dee Ann and the amazing department of California.

I would like to first start off by saying thank you to all the districts that sent in Mid-Year reports. Even though they were not required it was great to see all the things that are going on though out the districts. I did get some that said there was not much to report but I wanted to take minute and remind each of you what Leadership means it does not mean that you need to be out front leading the charge for example: Let's say your unit or district planned a toy drive and you were given the responsibility of collecting the toys maybe you did not come up with idea to have the toy drive but you did plan and execute on how, when and why the toys needed to be collected so in other words you showed leadership.

The reason I bring this up is because when we are getting ready to write our end of the year report and I know this chairman is going to get a lot of supplemental (I can't wait) I want you to think outside the box of what leadership means and to have a better understanding and please remember no matter how big or small the task may be, it takes a leader to execute.

I do have to take a moment and apologize this Beach Ball was flat for a while, with my mother's surgery, my dad's surgery, the passing of my aunts and getting covid this Beach Ball just did not have any bounce left but we are blown up again and I have some exciting news. The leadership Beach Ball crew will be on the road in February.

February 12, 2022 District 22

February 19, 2022 District 16

February 26, 2022 will be up North

Keep eye out for the flyers on the website

I do have some openings in March, please see me after session today.

I will also be working on a zoom call for report writing in March 2022.

I want to touch on the National Web site you can use that site for the ALA Academy it is a very easy tool to be able to learn more about who we are and what we do. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, National will be holding the mission training in Las Vegas unless something happens, such as Covid, but you can register on the web at <https://www.legion-aux.org/home>

Let's get ready to report, the Unit report forms are to be sent to the District Chairman by the second Friday in April. District report forms are to be sent to the Department Chairman by May 1st. Department Chairmen reports are to be sent to their Western Division National Chairman by May 15th.

When or if you have any questions please call me, email, or text me I want California to come out on top at National convention.

Before I wrap this up, I would like to thank everyone who came out to the 23<sup>rd</sup> District for the leadership workshop and I have your cards, please see me after session today.

If you stopped by the Beach Ball table at the Surf City board walk yesterday (what great time was that) and filled out a Best Leadership quote with Madam President Dee Ann permission I would like to read the winner now and please come and get your gift basket.

Last thing someone the other day told me that life is like chapters in a book some chapters are longer, and some are shorter, but they have impact on our lives and the way it makes us feel be it good or bad. Let's make the chapters of the American Legion Auxiliary impact the world in a positive way.

This Concludes my report.

For God and County

Tracy Varnell Fercho

Department of California Leadership Chairman.

Madam President Dee Ann a moment of privilege.

