



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of California  
District 28

Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
May 15, 2022

The District 28 meeting was called to order by President Elizabeth Doidge (593) at 9:15 AM on Sunday, May 15, 2022 at Gonzales Post 81, and via Zoom. Rituals were recited.

Thirteen officers, sixteen chairmen and three Unit presidents answered roll call.

The minutes of the March 19, 2022 meeting were approved as emailed. There were no communications.

**Treasurer** Sherryl Panek (694) gave the Treasurer's report, advising that she received a reimbursement request from Susan Baker in the amount of \$87.26 for two flag stands and an eagle topper, as approved by members at the March 19, 2022 meeting. The District is still waiting to receive a refund check from the Junior Conference cancellation. Additionally, the \$30 check written to Unit 69 in January has still not been cashed. Reported income since the March meeting was \$216.65 (\$195.36 in deposits and \$21.29 yet to be deposited). Expenses for the period totaled \$155.00. Current bank balance is \$12,558.80.

**Membership** Chair Esther Le Pore (69) reported on District 28 membership, noting that five units have reached Goal, and the remaining units are at 90% or better. One unit member qualified for a National 10 New in 2022 Award.

District Membership Awards:

Earliest to Reach Goal 0-101 (\$10) - Monterey Peninsula Unit 41

Earliest to Reach Goal 102-up (\$10) – Monterey Cypress Unit 694

Largest % of Gain 0-101 Members (\$10) 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Hollister Unit 69

Largest & of Gain 0-101 Members (\$5) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Monterey Peninsula Unit 41

Largest % of Gain 102-up (\$10) 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Prunedale Unit 593

Largest % of Gain 102-up (\$10) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Monterey Cypress Unit 694

Most New Members 0-101 (\$10) 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Monterey Peninsula Unit 41

Most New Members 0-101 (5) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Carmel Unit 512

Most New Members 102-up 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Prunedale Unit 593

Best Supplemental Report 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Monterey Cypress Unit 694

Best Supplemental Report 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Prunedale Unit 593

**Poppy** Chair Rebecca Glenny (694) advised that District 28 units ordered a total of 7,188 poppies this year which is a decrease of 3,865, due in large part to to COVID. Unit 69 reported participation in the Poppy Poster program and Unit 694 is creating their Poppy display for Convention. District Poppy Award: Best Supplemental Report – Monterey Cypress Unit 694.

**Chaplain** Connie Raya (694) advised that she received five end-of-year Chaplain reports. Reporting units sent a total of 157 cards to Legion Family members this year. The Chaplain informed members that she and Past District President Susan Baker draped the Charter to honor Past District President Rosie Eskridge during Rosie’s celebration of life on May 10, 2022. There were no awards given for the Chaplain’s program this year. On a motion by Connie and seconded by Susan Baker, members approved a \$25 donation to the Department In Loving Tribute Fund, in memory of Past District 28 President Rosie Eskridge.

President Liz Doidge (593) had no **Historian** report.

**Americanism** Chair Liz Doidge (593) reported that she learned from year-end reporting that one unit hosted a “Introduction to Our American Flag” workshop for children ages 4-15, where unit members and three veterans introduced the Pledge of Allegiance, a short history of the American flag, the 48 star flag, and folding the 50 star flag. Another unit promoted the Americanism Essay contest in their local schools, but teachers opted out and their students did not participate because of the instructional difficulties created by COVID. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award went to Monterey Cypress Unit 694, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award went to Monterey Peninsula Unit 41.

**Auxiliary Emergency Fund** (AEF) Chair Susan Baker (694) gave her report, noting that District 28 donations collected by Lovely Lulu this year amounted to \$299.36, and would be sent to the National AEF Foundation. Susan thanked members for their generosity and support of this program and urged units to consider establishing a \$1 per member budget line for the program in 2022-23. Certificates of Appreciation were given to Esther LePore (69) and Angela McDaniel (593) for their \$50 personal donations to AEF. No other awards were given for AEF.

**Children and Youth** Chair Sondra Castillo (81) reported that the District 28 project for the Month of the Military Child went well. Donations of toys, bubbles, pencils, notepads, bracelets, bookmarks, thank you letters and teddy bears totaling \$500 were distributed to children in our local military communities during the month of April. A total of 60 gift bags were created for the children. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award was given to Monterey Cypress Unit 694; no award for 2<sup>nd</sup> place was given.

**Community Service** currently has no chair, however President Liz (593) reported community service donations to the Veterans Transition Center (\$200) for Thanksgiving turkeys, American Legion Post 31 (\$410.70) for the Community Thanksgiving Feed, and the Salvation Army (\$400) for Share Your Holiday. The District’s special project this year is G. I. Josie, and \$500 was raised for the organization. The District also supported veterans through Project Hero by donating

\$1,897 worth of food, snacks, and supplies for the group's stay in Carmel. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award went to Monterey Cypress Unit 694. No other awards were given.

**Constitution and Bylaws** Chair Ruby Kapsalis (591) was unable to log-on via Zoom so President Liz read her report. It was noted that all District 28 units are not required to re-write their Constitution and By-Laws until 2026. Units who have made changes to their C/B this past year need to send one copy of the signed copies received from Department to the District for the records. No awards were given for this program.

**Distinguished Guests** – Sophie Grant (69) had no report.

**Education** Chair Molly Smith (589) gave her year-end report via Zoom, noting that four units reported Give Ten donations totaling \$428.59; one unit adopted a teacher and donated \$300 in school supplies to her students. District Education funds totaled \$422.17 and six units gave a total of \$195.00. District Poppy Seal purchases totaled \$31.00. Molly advised that no applications were received by the District Scholarship Chair this year, so none were awarded. Members were reminded that the District Scholarship Fundraiser with Rally-Up would soon end; all proceeds to benefit the District Scholarship Fund. No year-end awards were given for this program.

**Girls State** Chair Linda Lara-Guzman (81) urged all Unit Girls State chairmen to join the monthly Zoom meetings as much information is shared with attendees. She would like to see every D28 unit send one delegate to Girls State next year. This could be accomplished through a district-wide fundraiser with each unit participating to raise funding for their delegate. Linda advised that the annual District 28 Boys and Girls State Luncheon would be held at Salinas Post 31 on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Linda announced that the 1<sup>st</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award (\$10) went to Monterey Cypress Unit 694.

**Junior Activities** Chair Rebecca Glenny (694) reported on various activities that some of our District 28 Junior members participated in this year, including Junior Training in Las Vegas, a Halloween party and costume contest, a drive-thru Christmas party, an Easter party, and the Junior Patch program. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award (\$10) went to Prunedale Unit 593 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award (\$5) went to Monterey Cypress Unit 694.

**Leadership** Chair Robin Falkenberg (512) thanked the Units that provided her with year-end reports. She also reported that the D28 Leadership workshop held at Post 41 was very successful, with 19 members in attendance. Eleven members qualified for their Leadership cards, which are forthcoming from Department. No supplemental reports were submitted, so no awards were given for the Leadership program this year.

**Legislative** Chair Kimberly Stuhler (41) updated members on current legislation pertaining to veterans and again encouraged everyone to visit [www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Bills](http://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Bills) to learn more about veteran-related legal matters. No awards were given for this program.

**Music** Chair Robin Falkenberg (512) had no report for this program.

**National Security** Chair Connie Raya (694) advised that May is National Military Appreciation Month and noted the various patriotic holidays that occur during the month. Connie noted that only one unit submitted a year-end supplemental report for this program, and so the 1<sup>st</sup> Place Best Supplemental Award (\$10) went to Monterey Cypress Unit 694.

**Parliamentarian** Robin Falkenberg (512) had no Parliamentarian report as there was no news.

**Past Presidents Parley** Chair Molly Smith (589) recapped the PPP year, advising that the District PPP donated \$322 to the Department Nursing Scholarship Fund. The District Nursing Scholarship Fund has \$210 in the account, and the current Department PPP fund has \$60.00. Molly informed members that she did not receive any applications for a District scholarship this year. No year-end supplementals were received for this program, so no awards were given.

**Public Relations** Chair Esther Le Pore (69) reported that she received six Unit year-end reports, but no supplementals, so no awards were given. Esther advised that five Units currently maintain social media accounts. Members actively promote the Auxiliary by wearing clothing, pins, and face masks, and sport ALA bumper stickers on their autos.

**VA&R** Chair Karol Adams (31) was absent and no report was given.

**VA&R Hospital Representative/Deputy** Connie Raya (694) reported that on April 12, 2022, she delivered to the Palo Alto Building 7 Spinal Cord Ward gift cards valued at \$300; Canteen books valued at \$170; and Easter donations valued at \$60. Connie also delivered a \$200 check from Unit 694 for Summer/Winter Games, and a \$100 check for Veterans Creative Arts. She shared a total of 79 Easter cards made by students for Palo Alto Veterans.

**President** Liz Doidge (593) gave her report, noting that Unit 121 has nearly completed the required paperwork to surrender their Charter at Convention. Additionally, Liz has been working with Unit 31 to get their annual donations, financial obligations, and membership in to Department.

**Unit Reports** were given by Units 31, 41, 69, 81, 512, 589, and 694.

### **Unfinished Business**

- Robin Falkenberg updated members on the Monterey County Stand Down 2022, to be held June 17-18 at the Monterey Fairgrounds. No overnight accommodations. Participants will be bused to and from the facility each day. The Volunteer forms should now be available on the website at [www.montereystanddown.org](http://www.montereystanddown.org).
- Members were advised that the United Veterans Council of Monterey County meets at the Veterans Transition Center at 6:30 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month. The District and each Unit are invited to join the group. Up to three members per unit may join at \$20 per person.

- It was noted that the District finally received a \$181 check from See's Candy for the recent fundraiser.
- The group approved naming the District 28 Relay for Life team "Molly's Red-headed Step Children," in honor of member Molly K. Smith, who has been battling cancer this year.
- On a motion by Deniece Clay (694) members approved a \$500 donation to Some Gave All, an organization that will be flying the Gold Star family of a fallen hero to the Presidio of Monterey to witness the naming of the Presidio's Track and Field facility in memory of their son later this year.
- On a motion by Deniece Clay (694), members approved a \$500 donation to the District 28 Honor Guard to help with the renovation and repair of their travel van.

### Election of Officers

District 28 President:

Esther Le Pore (69) and Rebecca Glennly (694) were nominated for President for 2022-23. Rebecca respectfully declined the nomination, and Esther was then elected viva voce.

District 28 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Rebecca Glennly (694) was nominated for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; there were no other nominations and Rebecca was elected viva voce.

District 28 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Kimberly Stuhler (41) was nominated for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; there were no other nominations and Kimberly was elected viva voce.

### Election of Delegate to National Convention

Susan Baker (694) was elected as delegate to the National Convention.

### District 28 Memorial Service

Members participated in the annual memorial service for District 28 members who died this last year, including Patti J. Velten (41); Frances DeVasier, Amelia Gonzales, AnnaMae Zamora (69); Dorothy Baumann, Rebecca Guzman, Mary Jane Vierra (81); Marjorie Avila, Margaret Cooper, Rose Eichinger (591); Katherine Anderson, Barbara Cheek, Cynthia A. Hernandez, Pamela Lynne Monteith (593); and Rosie Eskridge, Dolores Foster, Edie McDonald, Ethel Milburn (694).

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Susan Baker, Secretary  
ALA District 28

**NOTE:** The District 28 Executive Committee Meeting will be held at Prunedale Post 593 Senior Center at 9:00 AM on Sunday, August 7, 2022. Agenda items will include calendarizing the 2022-23 meeting schedule, Department Program Changes, annual review of the D28 Constitution and Bylaws, and the 2022-23 budget.

Here is the Zoom link for the executive committee meeting to be held on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at 9:00 AM. Please note that this link will be valid for ALL District 28 meetings held in 2022-23, so please save the information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89051982464?pwd=Z0RYUklOM0hNK2wxcWkycjZnbjBQQT09>

Meeting ID: 890 5198 2464

Passcode: 28

One tap mobile

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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Meeting ID: 890 5198 2464

Passcode: 28

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89051982464?pwd=Z0RYUklOM0hNK2wxcWkycjZnbjBQQT09>