

**American Legion Auxiliary Mandarin Fallen Heroes Unit 372**  
**General Meeting February 25, 2021**

Meeting called to order by President Reed Bailey at 7:01 p.m.

In attendance: Reed Bailey, Michelle Maze, Marilyn Painter, Judy Bernat, Robin Maltese, Caitlin Bailey, Maelynn Olivero, Christie Easton, Sandra Smith, and Guests Annie Anderson (5<sup>th</sup> District President) and Mary Tarnowski (5<sup>th</sup> District Sergeant-at-Arms).

Opening Ceremonies

Roll Called: Quorum achieved

Marilyn Painter read the highlights of the previous general meeting minutes. Michelle Maze moved to accept the minutes as read and corrected, second by Sandra Smith. Approved by member vote.

### Correspondence

Marilyn Painter shared a thank you note from Support Our Troops and a card enclosed with a \$100 donation towards boxes for the military from member Joy Goff. She will be mailing the newly signed Constitution and Bylaws to Department tomorrow.

### Officer Reports

**Treasurer:** Judy Bernat provided the Treasurer's report, which is available upon request. Robyn Maltese moved to accept the Treasurer's report, second by Sandra Smith. Approved by member vote.

**1st Vice Report (includes membership):** Michelle Maze reported we currently have 24 active members. She sent a thank you note to Joy Goff for her \$100 donation. There were no February birthday cards to be sent, but she will send the March birthday cards this weekend. Maelynn Olivero has received her membership card.

**2nd Vice Report:** absent

**Chaplin:** Robin Maltese reported that she sent a sympathy card to Carl (SAL Commander) on the passing of his mother and asked us to remember the 500,000 dead from the pandemic

**Executive Committee Report:** Reed Bailey reported that the Executive Committee had approved several reimbursements for Unit expenses for under \$40.

5<sup>th</sup> District President Annie Anderson thanked us for having her and 5<sup>th</sup> District Sergeant-at-Arms Mary Tarnowski. President Anderson invited us to the 5<sup>th</sup> District and Children's Picnics in April. She will send the information to Caitlin Bailey, who will post it on the website.

### Unfinished Business

Poppies have been ordered as approved at the January meeting – and more were found in storage in the meantime. We need a place to set up and distribute on Memorial and Veterans Days. Caitlin Bailey volunteered to compose a letter to Winn Dixie (on San Jose) to be signed by President and Secretary. Proceeds from poppies, minus the cut sent back to Department, must go only for Veterans relief.

Items have been collected for our Support Our Troops boxes, and we will be packing them after the meeting. Caitlin Bailey will submit a photo and article to the Mandarin Newslite of what we are doing and how to join.

### New Business

Robin Maltese suggested we brainstorm fundraising ideas. She suggested resuming meals at meetings and holding a regular movie night/drive-in movie event, which she volunteered to head getting started. Caitlin Bailey suggested looking into sponsoring ALA Unit 372 nights at local establishments like Main Event, where we could get a cut of the night's proceeds, minus alcohol sales, from anyone who chooses to participate, like the elementary schools do. She also suggested similar fundraisers such as car washes where we get a cut if a particular code is entered. Michelle Maze showed some coasters made from wine corks and suggested we make such inexpensive crafts to sell at arts markets (cost?) or along with our own events such as membership drives, where we'd also give out membership guides. Reed Bailey will send a link for requesting funds/donations from Publix to Judy Bernat for follow up.

We briefly discussed looking into supporting Girls State moving forward with a goal of sending one candidate in 2022. Annie Anderson informed us that the cost is currently \$350 per girl, plus bus fare, though she expects that by 2022 it may be \$400 per girl, and suggested we attend this year's orientation to learn more.

**President's Report:** Reed Bailey reminded us that it is time to form a Nominating Committee for this year's elections. She informed us that anyone leaving a position should turn in a procedures list for their successor. The Nominating Committee was formed of Caitlin Bailey, Christie Easton, and June Crawford.

Reed Bailey then presented a gift to Annie Anderson, who thanked our Unit for turning around our prior downward trajectory and successfully working towards building membership and participation so that we are no longer potentially in danger of losing our Charter. Mary Tarnowski invited any of us to attend her Unit meetings (Unit 129, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays of the month) if interested.

### [Announcements](#)

Next general meeting will be March 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Painter, Secretary