



# Children and Youth

Hello to all the amazing Wonder Women

June 2025

Here we are, another auxiliary year is coming to an end. It is hard to believe that we are only 26 days away from convention in Visalia. I hope to see every one of you there it is going to be a very fun convention and I'm sure Madam President Linda has a lot of special surprises for us.

We still have a little bit of business and that is the pre-convention meeting prior to the convention. It will be on June 17th from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM via zoom. I will be sending out the code and everything via e-mail to the delegates prior to this meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this process.

I would like to take a moment and thank Madam President Linda once again for giving me this chairmanship. It was not only a privilege but an honor to have served the Great American legion auxiliary of California as this year's children and youth chairman. The things that I have learned this year and the things that I have experienced will last me a lifetime. At times it was a very difficult year, with the fires in Southern California and to see so many of our auxiliary members along with our veterans and our veterans children be displaced, but this chairman could not be prouder of each and every one of you for making such a horrific time into something so spectacular and coming together as a community to help each other.

I will not go into a lot of the statistical at this time because I do plan on making it a big part of my on stage remarks at convention but I will say I was absolutely blown away with not only the hours, and the donations to this amazing program but how each and every one of you took the time to make children in youth such a big part of your units and districts.

This year we spent over \$5500 in temporary financial assistance to military children. At our DEC last January when we were supposed to have the canned food drive and it turned into a donation drop off. The auxiliary members came together once again and donated over \$10,000 worth of items that were in much need for our sister communities in the South.

We had some amazing end-of-year reports and some spectacular supplementals. Thank goodness that I didn't have to pick the winners, I recruited members from my unit to Judge them, and I cannot wait to share the winners at convention. I have already turned in the best unit supplemental and submitted a best department supplemental to the western division national chairman so let's keep our fingers crossed.

Even though my time has come to an end to be a part of this amazing program. I know that I will continue its mission and purpose within my own district and my own unit as I hope every one of you do as well. Please remember the dandelion, I know is the flower of the military child but in some ways, it is like each of us, because we never know where our destiny is going to take us or where we're going to land but the one thing we do know is that we have each other and the auxiliary is truly a Family. We can count on each other to the good times and the bad but please do not forget our mission of, service, not self.

See you all at the convention.

To Quote Wonder woman: We Will Fight for Those Who Cannot Fight for Themselves

For God and Country Tracy Varnell Fercho tvarnell2@yahoo.com 805-233-4354

