



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY *Department of California*

MID-YEAR JUNIOR ACTIVITIES REPORT 2024



The Youth Council Commission has been connecting statewide via monthly zoom meetings discussing a variety of topics such as local junior individual activities, assisting other juniors with their special projects at their units and/or districts, the patch program, mission training, conference, convention and fundraising activities.



Juniors have been strongly encouraged to work with Senior Auxiliary members and the Legion family in promoting the ALA Mission and working with the Legion Family on all levels. From the Mid-Year reports, the Youth Council noted 13 Districts and 1 Unit reporting. This included Junior participation in the patch program, service projects, technology assistance, and scholarship awareness. Unfortunately, of those reporting just a small percentage reported some mentoring, coaching or leadership training.

However, the reports also included a total of 54 patches already awarded across the Red, Gold and Blue levels for four (4) Districts. Which also included collaboration in service projects, assisting with regular dinners, backpack drives, district baby shower, flag placing, service dog donations, assisting with fundraisers, participation in Veterans and Memorial days and special theme parties to total 654 hours of Junior volunteer hours. Some of the Department of California Juniors activities have been featured in social media locally, statewide and through the National ALA Juniors Instagram account.



I want to share some highlights of Junior projects:

1. Olivia/Unit 716 - Christmas Art for Barstow Veterans Home with Legion Riders delivery and Art/Pizza/Ice Cream event at Los Alamitos Post 716 for juniors to work art.
2. Brooklyn/Unit 521 - Donation of Veterans Day cards/personal delivery and Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser at Post 447.
3. Rebeka/Unit 299 - Christmas Cards for veterans/service members, international care packages to service members overseas, Junior Quatermania fundraiser event at Elmer C Jertberg Post 299 and donations to Jr. Activities, Patient Remembrance/Gift Shop and Presidents Special Project.
4. Maddison and Kairi/Unit 180 - held a bake sale raising money for ALA scholarship funds.



This chairman has participated in the National Western Division zoom meetings which included divisional break out sessions. Information share included scholarship information, upcoming webinars, "Lunch and Learn", ALA Academy online training portal with video recordings and more opportunities for Juniors as ALA has introduced a new Purple level as part of the patch program this year.

We are looking forward to the next half of the year for more engagement and creative participation in the ALA programs by this Youth Council Commission.

Juniors Rock!

Martha Romano
Junior Activities Chairman

