

Past Presidents Parley



Mid Year Report January 20, 2024 Sacramento California

Good Afternoon Madam President Glenda,

It is hard to believe that this year is half over, I guess it's true, time fly's when you're having fun. Are we having fun?

Over the past few months I have been asked what is the Past Presidents Parley, what do we do, who can be in the Parley, what is our purpose, what scholarships do we promote, so, here are the answers:

Past Presidents Parley is a committee which utilizes the experience and knowledge of past Auxiliary leaders for training and encouragement of future Auxiliary leaders.

What do we do: We continue in active service to the Auxiliary, helping ensure strong future leadership for the organization.

Who can me a Parley member/chairman: Per our Department's Past Presidents Parley Code #11, "A member who has served as a Unit President is eligible for appointment as the Unit or District Past Presidents Parley Chairman

What scholarships do we promote: We offer a Nurses Scholarship to help support the efforts of those who are seeking to become a nurse. Each Unit / District / Department Chairman may sponsor special projects for their Parley with the approval of their President.

Now on to the statistical information. This Chairman received 11 District reports and 1 Unit Report ?????, not sure how that happened, but it did. Of these reporting District's there are a total of 116 Units and only 11 Unit Past Presidents Parley, and 1 District Parley, that is less than 10% of our Units, what are we missing here. In order to mentor our members, we need to have mentors in our Units. Each Unit should have a Past Presidents Parley, comprised of their Units Past Presidents. If you do not have a Parley in your Unit, organize one.

Madam President Glenda has "United as One" as her theme this year, are we carrying out this theme in what we do and how we do it, or are they just words. We as an organization cannot last if we do not willingly share what is best for the organization. These, your / our Past Presidents have the experience, the knowledge of the programs, the willingness to give back what they were given.

Okay, enough of the soapbox, the reports I received were full of what we do, Units are being mentored in how to do Mid-Year and Year-End reporting. Social media is being utilized to get the information on our Scholarships out to the public. One District reported that they are distributing the scholarship applications directly to their local colleges as well as colleges specializing in nursing programs. Our Junior members are also being made aware of the scholarships available to them. At District meetings contribution's to the Department Past President Parley Scholarship Fund are being encouraged. One District holds monthly PPP meetings separately from their District or Unit Meetings, where they answer questions that may have come up or discuss issues that need to be addressed. Districts are or will be holding Leadership workshops to train on our programs and to encourage the organization of Unit and District Past Presidents Parley.

I know that many of our Units are small, they are overworked, and we keep asking them to do more, but mentoring is not hard to do, be there when a new member or even a seasoned member ask a question, don't be rude, don't roll your eyes as if to say "You should know that", if they knew it they would not be asking. Think how you would feel if somebody treated you like that, remember the "golden Rule".

I recently received an email and I would like to share part of the contents with you, relax, I am not breaking any confidentialities, but perhaps it is something we need to hear, perhaps some of you already have.

This is a story about 4 people - Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everyone thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

WHICH ONE ARE YOU? I see the same people wearing themselves out - it is time for someone to step up and do some of the work. And for those of you wearing yourself out, THANK YOU for all that you do.

In closing it is imperative that we, as Past Presidents, weather it be Unit, District, Department, or National, take our leadership and share it. We are always encouraging our members to "Step Up" but are we helping or hindering them. Are we guiding them or dictating to them, are we encouraging them or just leaving them to flounder. We have been blessed by those that have gone before us with this knowledge, let's not let it go to waste

Kathie Martinez

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