



Auxiliary Newsletter

January 2023

Laguna Niguel Unit 281

Issue #2

Facebook: American Legion Auxiliary Laguna Niguel Unit 281

Email: alaunit281@gmail.com

GALENTINE
Fashion Show
FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2023
11:30 AM
Crown Valley Community Center
29751 Crown Valley Parkway Laguna Niguel, CA
Reservation Deadline: February 8, 2023
\$45 per person
Admission includes fashion show, lunch, dessert and a raffle ticket.

NAME: _____
NAME: _____
NAME: _____
NAME: _____

of persons @ \$45 per person = \$ _____ check# _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALA UNIT 281
P.O. BOX 6367, LAGUNA NIGUEL, CA 92607
FED ID 501(C)19 #: 32-0421342
QUESTIONS:ALAUNIT281@GMAIL.COM

2022-2023 Officers

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| President | Martha McNicholas |
| 1st VP/Membership | Betsy Sater |
| Sec/Treasurer | Mary Smith |
| Chaplain | Elaine Gennaway |
| Americanism | Marilyn McCloskey |
| Children & Youth | Carole Allen/Laura Jaffee |
| Constitution/Bylaws | Stephanie Winstead |
| Girls State Chairs | Martha McNicholas/ Donna Carter |
| Poppy Chair | Jessie Leber |
| Sgt-at-Arms | Donna Mulvaney |
| VA & R Chair | Stephanie Chiang |

ALA Leads the Way.....in Fashion too!

Get a first look at the newest fashions to hit the runway at ALA Unit 281's **Galentine Fashion Show** on February 18. Premiering the fresh, modern, stylish Cabi Spring '23 fashions, you and your guests will be the first to see and wear these sought after additions to your wardrobe. Invite your gal-pals to join you for this fantastic fashion show and luncheon. You will feel great raising funds for *Girl's State Scholarships* which develop our community and country's future leaders. Funds raised also go to support active military and veterans. You will also feel great wearing the confidence boosting fresh fashions of Cabi, which you will be able to order at the luncheon. Invite your friends and send in your reservations now (please send in reservations for those wanting to be seated together, together). Tickets are selling fast!! The 4 VIP tables with premium seating are already sold out!! Hurry and get your reservations in!

Unit Meetings

Feb. 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, and June 12 - 5:30 PM - Unit Meeting at:

**Crown Valley Community Center
29751 Crown Valley Parkway**

LAGUNA NIGUEL'S
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 281
INVITES YOU TO OUR
GALENTINE
Fashion Show
FUNDRAISER

FASHIONS BY CABI

Proceeds will fund scholarships to send local high school girls to Girls State; promoting civic involvement to make our country a better place, and honor active military and veterans.

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|---|--|
| Saturday, February 18, 2023 11:30 am Crown Valley Community Center 29751 Crown Valley Parkway Laguna Niguel, CA | \$45 per person Admission includes fashion show, lunch, dessert and a raffle ticket. \$450 for a table of 8 with prime seating Only 4 available and selling fast! |
|---|--|

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Membership

We have 68 members. We welcome **SHELLIE PEARL** as a new member and **HANNAH CARTER** as a transfer from Unit 295.

VA&R - ALA 281 Helps Make Christmas a Little Merrier for Veterans

For the Veterans housed at the recently opened Veterans Outreach O.C. home in Tustin, Christmas was made a little more merrier with the help of the “elves” of ALA 281 Laguna Niguel. Using our VA&R (Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation) funds, our Unit Chaplain Elaine Gennaway coordinated with Deanne Tate of Veterans Outreach O.C. to provide the residents a new 75" flat screen TV and maintenance contract, just in time for the holiday sports and TV special events. “We asked what they wanted or needed, and I am so glad we were able to be Santa for them,” remarked Elaine.



Girls State Update

The 80th Session of California Girls State is scheduled for June 26 – July 1, 2023 at Cal Sacramento. We are gearing up for the identification of candidates and selection of Delegates from the 8 high schools Unit 281 plans to sponsor: Aliso Niguel, Capistrano Valley, Dana Hills, J Serra, St. Margaret's Episcopal, San Clemente, San Juan Hills and Tesoro. Letters to the school Principals will go out by the end of January. The cost per student has held at \$425 for several years, and last year we had to also include approximately \$200 per student for transportation. We are planning a major fundraising event in February (see attached flyer for Galentine Fashion Show), but we would very much appreciate any contribution to help defray the costs of this valuable program. Checks in any amount may be sent to ALA Unit 281, P.O. Box 6367, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607. We are a 501 (c) (19) Veterans organization #32-0421342.

THANK YOU KIWANIS CLUB OF SAN CLEMENTE for your generous grant of \$750 to support Girls State!

Girls State Delegates Honored by Women Elected Leaders

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 281 in Laguna Niguel CA hosted a reception to honor and recognize the Delegates to 2022 California Girls State sponsored by Unit 281, on September 12, 2022. The eight girls, now seniors, represented the 6 comprehensive high schools in Capistrano Unified School District, plus JSerra Catholic High School and St. Margaret's Episcopal School, both in San Juan Capistrano, CA. They shared their Girls State experiences with a crowd of over 40 proud parents, Auxiliary and Legion members and their high school principals. The highlight of the reception was a photo opportunity with local elected women leaders: Laguna Niguel Mayor Elaine Gennawey, Capistrano Unified School District Board President Martha McNicholas, and California State Assemblywoman Laurie Davies, 73rd Assembly District. "We are just so proud of these outstanding young women and their positive experiences at Girls State. I am very encouraged for their future leadership of our country," enthusiastically reported Martha McNicholas, Unit 281 President and Girls Stater 1970.



Left to Right: Laguna Niguel Mayor Elaine Gennawey, Capistrano Unified School District Board President (and ALA Unit 281 President) Martha McNicholas; Sofia Sipelis, San Clemente High School; Sophia Rheault, Tesoro High School; Emma Brandon, JSerra Catholic High School; Ella Etchandy, St. Margaret's Episcopal School; Rosa Hernandez Diaz, San Juan Hills High School; Sophie Andersen, Dana Hills High School, Olivia Wagner, Capistrano Valley High School; Lauren Cicmanec, Aliso Niguel High School; California State Assemblywoman Laurie Davies, 73rd Assembly District.

Join Us!



Unit 281 Laguna Niguel

***A Community of Volunteers
Serving Veterans, Military,
and their Families***

Eligibility Requirements for ALA Membership

Membership in The American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the:

(1) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion; and

(2) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918 and any time after December 7, 1941 who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of their entry therein served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge;

(3) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941 who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and

(4) to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.*

* A woman who is eligible for American Legion membership is eligible to join the American Legion Auxiliary regardless of whether or not she is a member of The American Legion. However, eligibility of her female relatives (sister, mother, direct descendants) and/or spouse depends upon her membership in The American Legion.

Obtain proof of your eligibility.

Note: If the person who provides your eligibility is living, they must be a current member of [The American Legion](#) and eligibility documentation is likely not necessary; however you do need to provide his or her American Legion member ID number and Post information on your application.

If the person who provides your eligibility is deceased, acceptable eligibility documents include:

- a. DD-214 Discharge Papers (not issued until after the Korean War)
- b. Official Military Orders
- c. Official Military Service Citations/Awards
- d. Letters related to the veteran's military service. Must be on official government letterhead
- e. Certificate from the VA records center in St. Louis
- f. Data from the back of older discharges

*DD-214 Discharge Papers can be requested online by visiting www.archives.gov

Join online: <https://member.legion-aux.org/Joining> Or download a membership application:

<https://member.legion-aux.org/brochures/ala-membership-application>

Return by mail to: American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 281 Laguna Niguel , P.O. Box 6367, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607

Contact: - Betsy Sater , Vice President and Membership Chair, bsater@cox.net