



Grand Parlor Office  
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## NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

July 1, 2017

Dear Sisters,

As summer steps into full swing and the temperatures are rising throughout the State, I wish you cool nights and amazing vacations. For those Parlors that are dark in July and/or August I hope that you were able to enjoy family time in the sun.

Your Grand Officers are ready to begin this term with great hopes and expectations. One exciting issue presented at Grand Parlor was how to encourage, help, all Parlors send representatives to Grand Parlor. It is a requirement set forth in our Constitution, but some Parlors are unable to attend. Therefore, discussion was held during Grand Parlor following the withdrawal of Legislation increasing the fine for non-attendance.

The fruits of this discussion created a special committee to evaluate the needs of the Parlors and to formulate a plan to assist every Parlor in getting representatives to Grand Parlor each year. I am very excited for this Committee to begin their work and present their findings at GPAM 2018 in Sacramento.

Installation Friday, June 23, 2017 was quite exciting and, yet, so very humbling. It was an absolute whirlwind of activity and emotion. The best part was being able to share it with so many dedicated sisters, friends, and family. I look forward to this year and spending time with all my Sisters throughout California and having the opportunity to share the many wonderful sites our beautiful State offers.

My theme for the term is Believe. I chose this simple term because I believe that we have the capability to build a future for the Native Daughters of the Golden West that is incomparable to other fraternal orders. All we need to know is that, if every one of us truly believes it is possible, it can and will happen.

I chose the California Poppy (*Eschscholtzia Californis*) as my emblem for the year. To understand my choice, one need only read the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President's charge from our installation ceremony. The California Poppy celebrates the delicacy, strength, and beauty of our Sisters and our Order.

I thank you for believing in me as I believe in you.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Cynthia Connelly, Grand President

Cynthia Connelly, Grand President Acceptance Speech  
GPAM June 23, 2017

My theme for the year is BELIEVE.

Believe is simple word, but a very powerful concept! To believe is to know that something exists, whether or not you can justify its existence using your 5 senses.

And it is an amazing concept. We have all heard the phrase, “If you believe it, you can achieve it.” Consider how this word – this concept – can spur changes and advances in Native Daughters of the Golden West. It is a “ripple affect” in the grandest scheme.

Here’s how it works: I believe I can achieve a specific goal. I share that belief with 5 of my friends. They believe in my goal and are very excited to help me achieve said goal. Now there is a community of believers. Each person now shares OUR beliefs with 5 of their friends not connected with the original community. This continues on until your community has exponentially grown to vast proportions!

What an incredible journey we are taking! Every one of us here tonight has the opportunity to make a huge difference in the state of our Order. How so, you ask? BELIEVE! I believe we can achieve a stronger, more visible Order.

You are not “just one person.” You are the beginning of the ripple that begins with believing it is possible.

But, there is so much more to growing and advancing our Order than this. In the nomination speeches presented this year, I noted several of your Grand Officers referenced working for the future of the Order. These are not just words. I am confident that you will see great strides in the forward movement of this Order during this term. This Board of Grand Officers has learned from the Past. We embrace the present and will use what we have consolidated into shaping the future of the Native Daughters of the Golden West.

This year, we opened the floor for discussion about how to encourage or assist our smaller, very rural Parlors to attend Grand Parlor as mandated by our Constitution. Your provided some of the answers. Due to this discussion, I have formed a Special Committee to investigate and establish a GPAM Scholarship Program where our Parlors may apply for grants to bring delegates from every Parlor.

One such idea was to “adopt” a Parlor suffering difficulties and help them to find ways to earn the funding to attend Grand Parlor. Realizing that each Parlor operates in a way that best suits their unique population is a huge step in understanding what will benefit our Order. It is through our diversity that we can celebrate the uniqueness of our Sisters and bring growth and unity to our Order.

Therefore, Sisters I implore you to lend a hand to your Sister in need. She just needs for you to believe in her and she will blossom into the Native Daughter who will bolster our Order.

My emblem is the California Poppy (*Eschscholzia Californica*), the beautiful, golden-orange floral emblem of our State. I have set it against a simple black background to accentuate its unmatched beauty. One need only read the Third Vice President’s charge in our initiation ceremony to see why I am so enamored of this flower.

Cynthia Connelly, Grand President Acceptance Speech  
GPAM June 23, 2017

“So, by day and night of golden light they made the golden weather;  
Together sun and stars did sow down in the fields below.  
Up the gold did burn, and, in its turn,  
Matched Earth’s with Heaven’s glory.  
Thus the story of our poppy’s told,  
Our blossom of the gold.”

During the 2017/2018 year, I look forward to spending time with all my Sisters throughout this glorious, golden State as I travel for Official Visits and meals. Because, as we all know, if you feed them, they will come!

I suffer from an allergy to crustaceans (lobster, crab, shrimp, etc.) and the pollens of some flowers.

Thank you.



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## NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

July 1, 2017

Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents,  
Officers and Members of Subordinate Parlors  
Native Daughters of the Golden West

Dear Sisters:

It was an absolute pleasure to connect directly with so many of my Sisters at the 2017 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting (GPAM) last week and place faces with your kind voices! I was excited to attend my first *full GPAM* meeting and humbled to observe the thoughtful dedication of the Parlor Delegates, PGP's, State Chairwomen, and so many of my Sisters.

It was an honor to support the culmination of the NDGW 2016 – 2017 Board of Directors' service and hard work, and gallop down the Golden Trail to such an auspicious GPAM. I feel renewed by our Grand President Cynthia Connelly's theme of BELIEVE, and I am thrilled to be supporting her and the 2017 – 2018 Board of Directors!

**Monday - Tuesday, July 3 – 4, 2017 GRAND PARLOR OFFICE will be CLOSED  
in observation of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July**

### **Recording Secretaries: IMPORTANT Target Dates & Reminders**

**NOTE:** In consideration of *Parlors* that are **dark in July**, the Board of Directors has **extended 2017** target dates for **Per Capita Payments and Semi-Annual Audits** from July 31, 2017 (i.e., per Books of the Order) **until August 15, 2017**. **Please see forms (attached separately) to July Parlor Mail email, which are provided as fillable forms for your convenience.**

-  **(7/31 – \*8/15/2017) Semi – Annual Audits / Per Capita Payment** \*Please include a brief note to explain to Grand Parlor Office if Parlor dark in July, or other extenuating circumstances.
-  **(8/15/2017) Directory Information Sheets**
-  **(8/15/2017) Member Information Form**

I am striving to deliver the most accurate **Official Directory in 2017 – 2018**, which is dependent upon your timely submission of any new changes, or ongoing errors/omissions.

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Brendamarie Curtis*

Brendamarie Curtis  
Grand Parlor Office Support Assistant



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July 1, 2017

Officers and Members of Subordinate Parlors  
Native Daughters of the Golden West

Dear Sisters:

**The Native Daughters of the Golden West encourages all Members to recognize September 9 as California Admission Day.** California Admission Day, also known as California Statehood Day is celebrated annually on September 9 to commemorate the anniversary of California's 1850 admission into the Union as the glorious, golden thirty-first state

In accordance with Native Daughters of the Golden West, Committee Policies, Admission Day, Page #3, Number 4, the California Admission Day Committee, "shall be supported by a voluntary contribution of \$.20 per member." This voluntary contribution is used to assist Parlors and Districts with celebrations and activities during California History Week. Please contact the State Chairman, Suzi Riley, if you would like to request funds for a local project or event. The Committee will provide as much financial assistance as funds collected will provide.

**This year, California History Week will be celebrated Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> through Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. You are encouraged to plan activities for the week at the Parlor or District level, with special attention on Admission Day, Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you for your continued support of California's History Week and observance of California's Admission Day Celebrations.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Suzi Riley, PGP, State Chairman

Approved

Cynthia Connelly, Grand President

527 – 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94403-3201  
(650) 465-5691 [niners@aol.com](mailto:niners@aol.com)

Please complete and return with voluntary contribution to the **Grand Parlor Office**. Checks should be made payable to **NDGW C.F.I.C. with California Admission Day on the memo line**.

Parlor Name and Number \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_\_



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## NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

July 1, 2017

### SECRET WORK

We have passwords and signs which must not be committed to writing nor unlawfully revealed.  
The Permanent Password is 4-2-13-10-7-16-19-15-10-2.

Our current password is changed annually and for this term it is: 8-16-13-5-6-15 17-16-17-17-26.

Our sign is made by placing 3-16-21-9 9-2-15-5-20 22-17-16-15 21-9-6 9-6-2-19-21 21-9-6 13-6-7-21 22-17-16-15 21-9-6 19-10-8-9-21 in the manner in which you were obligated and then gently 6-25-21-6-15-5-10 -15-8 3-16-21-9 2-19-14-20 16-22-21-24-2-19-5 17-2-13-14-20 22-17 thus: It signifies 10 19-6-15-6-24 14-26 16-3-13-10-8-2-21-10-16-15.

Our answering sign is made by placing the 16-17-6-15 13-6-7-21 9-2-15-5 22-17-16-15 21-9-6 19-10-8-9-21 20-9-16-22-13-5-6-19 and then gently 6-25-21-6-15-5-10-15-8 21-9-6 13-6-7-21 2-19-14 16-22-21-24-2-19-5 17-2-13-14 22-17 2-15-5 16-17-6-15, thus:

It signifies I respond in the name of 13-10-3-6-19-21-26 and 15-2-21-10-23-6 13-2-15-5.

Our Door Signal is given by 7-16-22-19 raps, pausing slightly between the 20-6-4-16-15-5 and 21-9-10-19-5, thus:

The Voting Sign is made by the 22-17-13-10-7-21-6-5 19-10-8-9-21 9-2-15-5.

At the conclusion of this meeting and at our next regular meeting you will be assisted in learning these Passwords and Signs and their uses by our Worthy Past President and Our Worthy First Vice President.

The Colors of our Order are Red, White and Yellow. Red signifies Courage, White Purity, Yellow the gold of rock and soil of California.

In closing all correspondence emanating from the Parlor only, the Recording Secretary uses the letters P.D.F.A., which signify Patience, Duty, Filial Affection.

The meetings of this Parlor are held on \_\_\_\_\_.  
We shall be glad to welcome you at every meeting.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Connelly, Grand President