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Dear Sisters:

Mea Culpa, this mailing is a little late due to my inability to decide what I would discuss in this letter. I beg your forgiveness.

In the first month of our new year, I have had the opportunity to visit several Parlors and attend many Committee meetings. All I can say is, "WOW!" I offer my sincere congratulations to all newly-installed Parlor officers. May the ensuing term prove productive to your Parlor. I know that you will give your all to ensure the success your Parlor will experience.

The Parlors I visited are very active in their Communities and/or with Native Daughters on the State level. This may be no surprise to you, but many of our Sisters are also members of other organizations and they discuss their other associations within their Parlor meetings. Which brings many questions to mind: Are you as animated about Native Daughters as your other associations? Do you share your enthusiasm about Native Daughters as readily as your enthusiasm for your other associations?

Try it. Find what about Native Daughters peaks your enthusiasm and share it with other people. Enthusiasm is one of the most contagious emotions ever. People respond positively and will engage in your enthusiastic discussion about Native Daughters. They will join because you lit a fire in their being. Once your friend(s) apply and are obligated, call and offer a ride to the next meeting. Get your new Sister started off on the right foot and accustomed to attending meetings.

Most importantly, DO NOT engage in a negative attitude while in meetings. If you are unhappy with someone, take time to think of just one good thing about that person. Obviously, one thing is that you both are Members of Native Daughters of the Golden West. Yes, that is a plus. Remember, Matthew 18 discusses how to handle disagreements. Use His counsel wisely.

The Committees that met in July are now hard at work doing what they do. The Chairmen who were nominated and elected to their posts will prove very effective at their respective positions. I am optimistic about the future of this Order and the legacy that will be there long after we are gone.

I believe we can make a difference.

Cynthia Connelly, Grand President