

**MARCH 2026**

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# CALIFORNIA STAR

*Native Daughters of the Golden West*

## Women's History Month!

According to the US Census Bureau, Women's History Month honors the successes and sacrifices of U.S. women. It dates to March 8, 1857, when hundreds of women from New York City garment and textile factories rallied to protest harsh working conditions. In 1909, New York City became the site of the nation's first Women's Day celebration, a year after 15,000 women there marched to demand shorter working hours, better pay, an end to child labor and the right to vote.



More than seven decades later, in 1981, Congress set aside the second week of March as Women's History Week. Six years later, Congress expanded the week to a month. As we celebrate Women's History Month, keep an eye out on the [NDGW Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for social media articles that reflect upon the advances women have made in our State and Country.

### **March is Nomination of Delegates to the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting (GPAM)**

C.S.P. Article Eleven, Delegates to the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting, Section 2. Nominations for Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) to the Grand Parlor Annual Meeting shall be made at the last regular meeting in March.

Elections shall be held the first regular meeting in April. Nominations may be re-opened the night of election by a favorable vote of a majority of Members present.





## **Women's History Month Special Webinar: Who Saved the Redwoods?**

Date & Time: Mar 17, 2026 10:00 AM in Pacific Time (US and Canada)

### **Description**

Join the California Parks Department for a special Women's History Month PORTScast as we travel into the tall, awe-inspiring redwood forests of Northern California to discover the amazing women who helped save them. Who Saved the Redwoods? shares the stories of women's clubs, community helpers, and brave leaders who spoke up for the forests at a time when women didn't even have the right to vote yet. Learn how these women used teamwork, creativity, and courage to protect some of the last ancient redwoods—and explore the HERstory behind the beautiful groves we can still visit in our parks today.

Visit the website <https://ports.parks.ca.gov> to learn more about California State Parks' PORTScast Programs. Follow them on social media @PORTSprogram to become an official #PORTSfan!

Pre-registration is required.

[Registration Link](#)

## **Get Ready for Poppy Day -**



## April 6th

*Submitted by the Electronic Communications Committee*

### Help Spread the Word

Education is an important part of charity work.

- Give out Poppy Seeds to Parlor Members, Friends, Families, Schools and other organizations.
- Watch the [Poppy Reserve Live](#) Stream to see the daily changes in the Poppy Reserve
- Share "Poppy Day - April 6th" with your Parlor Sisters
- Wear a poppy shirt or pin to celebrate the day!
- Copy the "Happy California Poppy Day!" image and use in your Parlor Newsletter

### Events...

- [California Poppy Festival \(Lancaster\)](#): April 17–19, 2026. This signature event features live entertainment, food, and more.
- [AV Fair and Event Center \(Lancaster\)](#): April 17-19, 2026. Arena events are festival seating only. Arena event tickets **do not** include admission to the California Poppy Festival™.
- [California Nature Art Museum](#) (Solvang): April 12, 2026. Offers free admission, native plant sales, and crafts.
- [Poppy Festival at Shasta State Historic Park](#): April 11, 2026, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. A celebration of spring located six miles west of Redding on Highway 299W. Includes Blacksmith demonstration, California Poppy Craft, Poppy photo station and story walk. Call 530-243-8194 for more information.

### Blog Question of the month

How did you help spread the word about "California Poppy Day" ?

### Share Here

## Wildflower Hotline begins March 6th

New reports are released every Friday, March through May.

Call **818 768-1802** ext 7 to hear weekly recorded wild flower reports, **narrated by Tom Henschel**.

### Find Out More





## Ask Minerva...

To submit a question, email [webmistress@ndgw.org](mailto:webmistress@ndgw.org)

**Question:** Are there any laws prohibiting picking California poppies?

**Answer:** According to the *California Department Fish and Wildlife* website, it is often believed that there are laws prohibiting the cutting or damaging of the California poppy because it is the state flower. While there is no law protecting the California poppy specifically, [California](#)

[Penal Code Section 384a](#) requires written landowner permission to remove and sell plant material from land that a person does not own, and removing or damaging plants from property that a person does not own without permission may constitute trespass and/or petty theft. This is true for state highways and public lands.

However, these laws do not prevent the collection of California poppies on private land by the landowner. California poppies are a beautiful and easy-to-grow addition to your garden, and although you may choose to pick them from your property, they last much longer in the ground!

## Thank You from P.G.P. Nina Coffenberry

My family and I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all my Native Daughter Sisters for your caring and thoughtful words of sympathy following the loss of our beloved Gary. Your kindness has truly been an overwhelming source of comfort during this difficult time.



To my sisters in Ursula Parlor, I want to extend a special thank you for your incredible support. You are, without a doubt, the best!

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Pam Van de Kamp - 50 Year Member**



Pam Van de Kamp's remarkable 50-year journey with Encinal Parlor No. 156, Alameda, is a testament to her dedication and commitment to the Native Daughters of the Golden West. Pamela is daughter of the late P.G.P. Dorothy Coats.

Pam pictured with Parlor President Cynthia Mulholand and Grand President Heidi Dillon.

Pam's story is an inspiration to all members, showcasing the value of long-term service and loyalty.

[Text Link](#)

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 155 Legislative Measures Update

*Submitted by Denise Delmatier Theisen, Program Manager*

As reported last month, a bipartisan resolution has been presented in the California State Capitol to honor both the **Native Sons of the Golden West (NSGW)** and the **Native Daughters of the Golden West (NDGW)**.

The measure specifically recognizes the contributions of these two fraternal service organizations through their respective charitable foundations:

- **NSGW Cleft Palate Foundation: Honored for its work in the well-being of children.**
- **NDGW Children's Foundation: Recognized for its similar commitment to California's youth.**

The resolution, now designated as Number 155, highlights the importance of these orders in safeguarding California's rich history and supporting its youth. As it progresses through the legislative process, we anticipate more updates. Stay connected for the latest developments next month...



## PARLOR HAPPENINGS

### Southern California Childrens Foundation Committee Fundraiser

*Submitted by P.G.P. Sherry Farley*

The Sisters from Southern California Parlors herded together March 8th to "**Rumble Through the Jungle**" and help fundraise for the the children of California.

The afternoon program focused on **Camp Nugget**. Since its establishment in 1970, Camp Nugget at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), has served thousands of children with disabilities. The program offers children positive opportunities to enjoy and successfully participate in physical activity, games, sports and aquatic experiences that may be limited to them in other camp programs.



Most importantly, CSULB kinesiology students who are studying to become credentialed public school adapted physical education teachers act as camp counselors/paid interns under the supervision of kinesiology faculty and staff. These university students will graduate and provide quality services for many years to children with disabilities throughout California.

Last term, the NDGW Childrens Foundation proudly supported over 26 camps each receiving a \$3,000.00 grant. Thank you NDGW Children's Foundation!

The monthly *California Star* is brought to you by the Members of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC). We welcome your articles, suggestions and feedback via email to: [webmistress@ndgw.org](mailto:webmistress@ndgw.org)

[www.NDGW.org](http://www.NDGW.org)



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