



# East Palo Alto Unit #472

American Legion Auxiliary – Department of California

The first meeting of East Palo Alto Unit 472 was called to order by acting **Unit President Kerry Finley** at 12 pm on Thursday February 2, 2006. The meeting was opened in regular fashion. 15 members registered as present during the meeting.

**Treasurer, Sherry Schneider** posted the financial statement for the unit, it stated that the balance on hand as of 01/31/06 was \$265.00 No corrections were made so it will be placed on file for audit.

## **Kerry posted the following list that details the Expectations of Members for our unit:**

1. Learn the Preamble of the Constitution of the ALA
2. Learn basic Poppy facts—lots of information has been posted to the “Poppy” web page, courtesy of Bea Waggett.
3. Attend as many meetings as you can so you can be and informed member and voice your opinion at the appropriate time. (Remember, the time for discussion is before a vote, not after it.)
4. If you are an officer and will not be able to attend a meeting, email the President as soon as possible and request that you be excused. According to our Bylaws, if an officer misses three consecutive meetings, I may re-appoint her position.
5. If you are overwhelmed, as we all can be at times, and will not be able to complete an assigned task by its deadline, please ask for help. We are a sisterhood, and are here to support each other.
6. Maintain an accurate bio on our Yahoo Group site—a picture of you is optional, but encouraged. You may share personal info on the Yahoo Group site, but we will not publish personal information on the unit web site.
7. Only speak positively about the ALA and its members. If you perceive a problem exists, become a part of the solution. It is better to propose a solution than to merely complain.
8. I strongly encourage you to purchase a Unit Handbook from

Emblem Sales for \$9.95. Just about everything you need in order to build a strong foundation of knowledge regarding how we should operate can be found in this book. The Unit will provide each member with paper applications to the ALA (to have on hand for when you recruit a new member!), a copy of the Poppy story, and hopefully an Auxiliary Pin.

It was reported that the Executive Committee met on January 22, 2006. The minutes from that meeting can be viewed on the unit website.

**Membership Chairman, Mary Martin** reported that as of 01/31/06: Membership for East Palo Alto Unit #472 is as follows: Seniors ~ 24; Juniors ~ 3; Total 27; Of the Seniors we have 3 VIM and 1 PDP.

**Poppy Chairman, Nicole Willis** reported on various aspects of the poppy program and where we as members could go to get more information about the poppy program.

**VA&R Chairman, Bea Waggett** reported that February 12-18 is the week of the VA's National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. Visit their link "[National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans \(Article\)](#)" for more info. February 11 is the VA&R Field Service Orientation (a need for those who volunteer in a Veterans Home and VA Hospital); February 11 is also the Four Chaplain's Day Service, (originated for those four Chaplains of various faiths who were on a sinking ship, gave up their life jackets and then their own lives on the U.S.S. Dorchester, February 3, 1943). She asked that we keep track of Hours, Miles traveled, \$Money spent, and Veterans served. Remember to include anything we may have done previously in the year like at Christmas. All info should be sent to her via email, before the April meeting so it can be tabulated for the Unit reports

**Constitution & Bylaws, Linda Workman** reported that our new Constitution & Bylaws have been signed by the Department Constitution & Bylaws chairman and the Department President and are now posted on our web site for your reference

**Leadership Chairman, Lou Thompson** reported that the 26th District (of which East Palo Alto Unit 472 is associated) is holding a Leadership workshop on Saturday, March 18th from 9:00 AM (PST)

till 3:00ish at Lloyd J. Toby Unit 585 in San Carlos, CA. She also advised members to check out the Mini Workshops on the unit website.

During new business it was discussed that we try to set up a cluster time (an hour during the meeting when most members would try to be available.) We also tried the polling option on the yahoo group to see if it would work for voting purposes. It was suggested that it might be easier to respond to comments if we keep postings limited to one topic per post.

**President Kerry Finley** announced that the first physical meeting will be on Saturday, April 1, 2006 at 1:00pm (PST). It will be held at a location TBD, somewhere in Sacramento. A social activity will be planned for all who wish to attend. Details to follow. We will likely meet for dinner at 5:00pm (PST).

The election of officers as well as the delegate and alternate to convention will be held during the physical meeting on 4/1/06. Nominations will be accepted during the electronic meeting scheduled to begin at 12:00pm on March 2, 2006.

The meeting was adjourned in regular fashion at 12pm on Friday February 3, 2006.