

WEST COAST REGION WEBSITE PAGE



West Coast Region – Geographic Boundaries

California, north of the east-west line drawn between Monterey, Kings, Tulare and Inyo Counties to the north; San Luis Obispo, Kern and San Bernadino Counties to the South; Nevada, north of a line running east-west from the Arizona border, Utah; Colorado; and Wyoming.

Units: 8 Vallejo, 59 Wyoming, 137 Sierra/Tahoe, 185 Ogden, 197 Modesto, 261 Lemoore, 274 High Sierra, 275 Hangtown, 287 Livermore

REGIONAL OFFICERS 2025-2026

PRESIDENT

JOHN SOUZA
16 DARRYL DRIVE
CAMPBELL CA 95008
408-849-7115
Johnpsouza1988@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

TINA PEDERSON
PO BOX 95
VIRGINIA CITY NV 89440
775-781-2885
lafra.tina.pedersen@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN

DIANE MENDOZA
207 KELLOGG WAY
SANTA CLARA CA 95008
408-605-7915
dianevmendoza@att.net

2026 MID-YEAR

Date:

Location:

INFORMATION COMING SOON

2026 REGIONAL CONVENTION

Date:

Location:

INFORMATION COMING SOON



WEST COAST REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

Newsletter #1 - January 22, 2026

Regional Officers 2025-2025

REGIONAL PRESIDENT

John Souza
16 Darryl Dr
Campbell, CA 95008
(408) 846-7115
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REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

Tina Pedersen, PRPWC
PO BOX 95
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(775) 781-8814
tina.pedersen@outlook.com

REGIONAL SECRETARY

Collen Baer
886 Marion Way
Gardnerville, NV 89460
(775) 781-2885
theo1200@gmail.com

REGIONAL TREASURER

Shari Souza
16 Darryl Dr
Campbell, CA 95008
(408) 839-1878
sharisouza16@gmail.com

REGIONAL JR. PAST PRESIDENT

Mary Ann Frank, (PRPWC)
3411 Sunshine Way
Auburn, CA 95602
(530) 885-5809
efmaf1930@gmail.com

REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARIAN

Helen Courneya, PNP
PO BOX 20512
Carson City, NV 89721
(775) 882-9201
vpc-hac-patches@att.net

CHAPLAIN

Diane Mendoza
209 Kellogg Way
Santa Clara, CA 95051
(408) 605-7915
dianevmendoza@att.net

SGT @ ARMS

Henry Evangelista
4217 Riggines Ct
Modesto, CA 95356
(209) 238-5651

From the Desk of the Regional President

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I'm thrilled to have been elected as your West Coast Regional President for the 2025-2026 Association year! Thank you for your vote of confidence- I genuinely appreciate your support.

I am pleased to introduce your West Coast regional officers: I am John Souza, serving as the Regional President; PRP Tina Pedersen, our dedicated Regional Vice President; Colleen Baer, our diligent Secretary; and Shari Souza, our committed Regional Treasurer. Additionally, we are fortunate to have Helen Courneya as our appointed Parliamentarian and Diane Mendoza as our West Coast Regional Chaplain.

I eagerly anticipate collaborating with this exceptional team for the benefit of the Auxiliary. However, I must emphasize the urgent need for members to step forward and fill critical committee positions. We are actively seeking individuals to chair and serve on the Budget Committee, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, as well as a Credential and Registration Chairman and a Unit Report Committee.

I understand that many of us are balancing numerous responsibilities in our lives, but I urge you to consider taking on one of the vital roles. Your involvement is essential to our collective success. Together, let us strive to make the West Coast region thrive! If you are interested, please reach out to me.

Our recent National Convention in Springfield, Missouri was very successful. We accomplished a great deal of business and enjoyed our time together. I would like to thank the North Central Region committee for organizing such a wonderful event. Our newly elected National Officers for 2025-2026 are: National President Kelly Pena, National Vice President Laurie Starkey, National Executive Secretary PNP Doris Fri, National Financial Secretary Pat Suckow, National Treasurer Sharon Lippitt, National Parliamentarian Helen Courneya, National Chaplain Emilie Jordan, and National Sergeant-at-Arms Diane Mendoza. With such a robust and dedicated leadership team, I am confident that we will accomplish remarkable achievements this year.

In other positive news, the Auxiliary is back in good standing with the IRS, and our non-profit status is restored. All tax returns have been corrected and filed. A special thank you to National Treasurer Sharon Lippitt for the many hours of hard work required to resolve this.

I would also like to share that our name was officially amended on January 14, 2026, to the Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association. Please communicate this change to your units and use the amended name moving forward. For more information, please refer to the memorandum from the National President included in this newsletter.

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I would like to remind all unit treasurers of the importance of ensuring that all Form 990's are filed in a timely manner. Unit chaplains, please remember to complete and submit death notices to the regional chaplain. Additionally, I urge the unit secretaries to take a moment during your monthly meetings to read the National President's article from the *Triangle*.

I am planning official visits to the West Coast units soon, so please keep an eye out for emails regarding my schedule. An important upcoming event is the Pilgrimage. We have successfully collaborated with the FRA for both the Pilgrimage and their mid-year business meeting. We have been invited to accompany them on Capitol Hill. The events are scheduled for April 21-25, 2026, with the Capitol Hill visit taking place on Thursday, April 23 and our Pilgrimage occurring on Friday, April 24. I strongly encourage everyone to attend, especially if you have never participated before; it is truly an honorable event.

During the West Coast Regional Convention in Modesto, California, the shipmates voted to combine the mid-year business meeting with the regional convention. I will share dates and details as they are finalized.

Please feel free to reach out to me via cell phone, email, or text. Communication is vital to our success, and I welcome your inquiries through any of these methods.

In Loyalty, Protection, and Service,
John Phillip Souza, RPWC
Johnpsouza1988@gmail.com
408-849-7115

National President's Project 2025-2026

The National President's Project for 2025-2026 is "Stop Soldier Suicide". Stop Soldier Suicide is the only national nonprofit focused solely on solving the issue of suicide among U.S. veterans and service members. Their aggressive goal is to reduce the military suicide rate by 40% no later than 2030. All services are 100% free to veterans and service members, regardless of branch, discharge status or era served. For more information visit their website at StopSoldierSuicide.org

If you wish to donate, checks should be made payable to the LA FRA and note on the memo line Nat. Pres. Project 2025-2026.

In Loyalty, Protection, & Service,
Kelly M. Pena
National President

Message from the Regional Chaplain

I am truly honored to serve as the Chaplain for the Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association West Coast Region for the term of 2025-2026. Attached, you will find the updated death notification form for reporting the passing of a unit member.

Additionally, if you know a member who is facing illness, has experienced the loss of a loved one, or simply could use a bit of encouragement, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can contact me via email or phone. My contact details are as follows: Diane Mendoza, (408) 605-7915, or you can email me at dianevmendoza@att.net. May God bless you all.

Mid-Year Business Meeting

During the West Coast Regional Convention which took place in Modesto, California, on September 13, 2025, the shipmates of the Fleet Reserve Association made a significant decision to merge the mid-year with the Regional Convention. While the specifics of this arrangement are still being finalized, I will ensure that all pertinent information is communicated promptly once it becomes available.

West Coast Regional Convention

At present, details regarding the West Coast Regional Convention are unavailable. I will share further information as soon as it is finalized and communicated to me. Thank you for your patience.

National Convention

The 98th Annual FRA Convention and the 93rd Auxiliary of the FRA National Convention will take place at The Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada from September 29- October 3, 2026. Additional details will be shared as soon as the inaugural convention newsletter is released. Be sure to mark your calendars and reserve the date!

“We don’t know them all, but we owe them all.”

--- unknown

Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association



January 15, 2026

**SUBJECT: Important Announcement
Name Amendment of the Auxiliary**

Auxiliary Members and Shipmates:

The amendment has become essential following our decision to welcome male members into our organization. Although we previously operated under a (DBA) Doing Business As, we faced potential fines and penalties for persistently referring as Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association. With this action we have prevented the Auxiliary from further potential harm to the Association.

I am pleased to inform you that the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association has officially undergone a name amendment, registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State Bureau of Corporations and Charitable Organizations. Our new designation will be "Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association," effective January 14, 2026. Please note that federal EIN number will remain unchanged.

The National Board is actively collaborating to ensure that all auxiliary business names and our website are updated to reflect this change. We appreciate your patience during this transition and encourage you to work closely with your Units to disseminate this information effectively.

In the coming weeks, we will send detailed correspondence to all Regional and Unit Officers outlining the necessary steps to ensure smooth and accurate implementation of this change. Your cooperation is essential in making this transition successful.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. It is imperative that all Unit and Regional Officers remain attentive to detail and thoroughly review communications from National Board officers, as there will be several important tasks that need to be addressed. Thank you in advance for your support and collaboration in facilitating this significant change.

In Loyalty, Protection, and Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kelly M. Pena'.

Kelly M Pena
Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association
National President

2025- 2026 OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS, WEST COAST REGION

Regional Officers	Name	Address	City, State, Zip Code	Phone	E-Mail
President	John Souza	16 Darryl Drive	Campbell, CA 95008	(408) 849-7115	johnpsouza1988@gmail.com
Vice President	Tina Pedersen, PRPWC	PO BOX 95	Virginia City, NV, 89440	(775) 781-8814	lafra.tina.pedersen@gmail.com
Secretary	Colleen Baer	886 Marion Way	Gardnerville, NV 89460	(775) 781-2885	Theo1200@gmail.com
Treasurer	Shari Souza	16 Darryl Drive	Campbell, CA 95008	(408) 839-1878	sharisouza16@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Helen Coumeya, PNP	PO BOX 20512	Carson City, NV 89721	(775) 882-9201	vpc-hac-patches@att.net
Chaplain	Diane Mendoza	207 Kellogg Way	Santa Clara, CA 95051	(408) 605-7915	dianevmendoza@att.net
Sergeant of Arms	Henry Evangelista	4217 Riggins Court	Modesto, CA 95351	(209) 238-5651	
Marshal	Jonathan Souza	1620 Castro Drive	Campbell, CA 95008	(669) 234-0053	N/A
JR. PWCR President	Mary Ann Frank, PRPWC	3411 Sunshine Way	Auburn, CA 95602-9234	(530) 885-5809	efmaf1930@gmail.com
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REGIONAL CONVENTION	COMMITTEE				
Advisory Board	ALL PRPWC & WCR OFFICERS				
Budget -(Chair)					
Budget					
Budget					
Constitution & BL- (Chair)					
Constitution & BL					
Constitution & BL					
Credentials					
Registration					
Finance/Audit- (Chair)	Trilija Laird	637 Stallion Ct.	Gardnerville, NV 89410	(775) 790-0258	hairpins@charter.net
Finance/Audit	Janice Solberg	1373 Job's Peak Drive	Gardnerville, NV 89460-8942	(775) 781-6460	janandleif@aol.com
Finance/Audit	Nancy Ocampo	2575 Patricia Drive	Santa Clara, CA 95050	(408) 406-9488	Nancymoc6@gmail.com

Liaison-Welfare	Patricia Snider	1847 Topoka Court	Sparks, NV 89434-8873	(775) 356-6534	N/A
Regional Reports - (Chair)	Rosalee Desjarlais	568 E. Hazelwood Drive	Lemoore, CA 93245-2435	(559) 816-0078	djandrd@hotmail.com
Regional Reports					
Regional Reports					
Historian	Loraine Meese, PNC	PO BOX 704	Sutter Creek, CA 95685	(925) 677-8914	lmeese13@yahoo.com