

## **Grand Parlor, Native Sons of the Golden West**

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**From:** Mitch Laing <nsgw28mitch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2015 3:30 PM  
**To:** Native Sons of the Golden West  
**Subject:** Membership Committee Submission

Greeting Brothers

As Membership Committee Chairman for Grand Parlor, I plan to update you about the status of our Order a time or two throughout the year.

First I wish to thank Grand President Dean Zellers for this appointment, and equally thank PGP Dwight Dutschke for his year working to analyze and reorganize Membership Committee Goals and for creating a great report that we will strive to follow this year.

As usual when a brother brings in (or reinstates) two new members this years great Belt Buckle will be awarded. The buckle has the Bear Flag Monument plus the US and California Flags in Color. Additionally a 3rd new member rewards you with a limited edition Money Clip adorned with the Buckle Art, 4th a Belt for your Buckle and 5th new member a Special NSGW Bolo. We will also be awarding a personalized NSGW Carhartt Jacket from a name drawn at random from all Brothers who have brought in New Members between May 1 2015 - April 30 2016.

Brothers, what is the number one thing you hear at any Official Visit, Initiation or Gathering... The Drum Beat MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP.

While that is True, we do need to fill empty seats as our Brothers move on to Grand Parlor on-High or drop out due to health or other reasons, but realize new members need a reason to join and become an active part of your parlor.

Successful recruiting starts by talking up the order, inviting a prospective member to a dinner and asking them to volunteer at an event with other Native Sons. Talk about the Charitable Foundation, Historical Preservation Foundation, what Native Sons has done and continues to do to preserve, restore and maintain California History. The Golden State and our Order is a Big Playground. Not only do we have Lott's Lake, you should mention what is available thru our Calif Adventure Clubs (4x4, RVs, Camping and more) the new Mining Claim/Campsite off Hwy 4 near Ebbets Pass, the renovated Web Site [nsgw.org](http://nsgw.org) where you can see what is happening locally and at other Parlors. Then bring up all the Great and Wonderful things local Parlors do for the Community they live in. Mention the events that are unique to the Parlor: BBQs, Dinners, Picnics, Parades and Other Exciting Things.

But more importantly mention our credo: Friendship, Loyalty and Charity, and instill these on our prospective new members.

Offer a Reason to be a Brother and get Involved with the Parlor and Organization. Joining is just the start, becoming active, volunteering, helping and after they witness and participate in all the good, bring in their friends or step up to become a parlor officer if they have time.

Compared to many similar organizations Native Sons is inexpensive to join and maintain annual membership, and remember we are unique in that we are Born in our Great State of California and remain concerned about our State and Preserving our History for the Generations that will follow.

I thank you for allowing me to stand on my soapbox and bend your ear for a few minutes.

In Friendship, Loyalty and Charity



Mitch Laing  
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Membership Chairman, Grand Parlor