

Grand President's Message

August/September 2018

Hit the ground running! I have been to Chapel of the Chimes, figured out what it's like not to have your Marshall with you. Then on to Donner Monument where I ended up with three Marshalls. That was fun. Thanks go to the Historic Preservation Foundation for setting up a Cornerstone Dedication. This is the first time I have seen that and what a turnout the Parks had for a great 100-year celebration of the Donner Pioneer Monument. Thanks to this year's Native Sons for their work as well as the hard work that was done by Dr. Chester W. Chapman as the Committee chair, who took Charles McGlashen's idea and followed up until the monument was erected.

I did not slow down from there. Sunday it was down to Sonoma for their wonderful Bear Flag Celebration then on to Fairfax to help them celebrate their weekend at the Beer Booth. In between the Memorial and Donner events I got to attend a local event that is one of the older traditions in the State, La Merienda which celebrates Monterey's Birthday. If you get a chance and a ticket this is an-other can't miss event where all of the local celebrities and top chefs gather to celebrate the city. The following weekend Santa Lucia Parlor #97 had their Second Annual Fishing Trip. Following in San Miguel Parlor 150's foot-steps this is becoming a hot ticket for any fisherman worth his salt. Everyone catching their limits on the Central Coast.

If you have not visited a Native Daughters of the Golden West Convention, then give it a try soon. This year you missed a good one in Sacramento. Grand President Cynthia Connelly handed over the reins to incoming Grand President Karen Fini. Pomp and circumstance were the order of the evening for her installation. Food and company were a delight considering this was my first-time spending more than one day in attendance. I look for-ward to working with the Native Daughters in many more events throughout this year. Please try to support them as you support us. They have many events throughout the state and their calendar is also on the web at www.ndgw.org

June ended with the Santa Lucia #97 Rodeo Feed and then July started with a BANG! That's right Fourth of July, on which our Grand Historian Kathi and I attended the Grand Opening of the Historic Cooper Molera Adobe which is owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This is another new venue for those coming to Monterey to see that the old and the new can co-exist by taking modern ideas and still appealing to our historic taste as well. Staying in Monterey for the Sloat Landing we hosted a Board meeting after this 172nd Anniversary of Commodore Sloat raising the US Flag over the Customs House in Monterey. After the reception at the Casa Serrano Adobe, we hightailed it over to the Santa Lucia Parlor #97 for some afternoon meetings. This was immediately followed by the Santa Lucia volunteers serving us a wonderful a BBQ New York Steak dinner with all the fixings.

The Board meeting was well attended, and some good things came out of this gathering. Namely we are heading towards getting the Junior Native Sons back in action. This is being led by one of the young guns, Jedidiah Watson from Grass Valley. The young guns were out and showing their new colors. Working with the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary as well as surrounding parlors the Junior Native Sons should be instituted sometime in the Fall. The board voted unanimously to throw their support and resources to getting this off the ground with one and possibly more pilot programs in the Foothills.

After our upcoming Colmo del Rodeo Night Parade where both the California and the United States Flags are being carried along with our Firetruck, I will venture to Yountville to express our gratitude to the Veterans that helped make it possible for us to continue our service to this state. I planned on attending Konocti Parlor #159's Annual BBQ in Clear Lake. Unfortunately, I will not be attending that as I must entertain Native Son dignitaries at our California Rodeo that weekend.

I appreciate the help I have received from our Grand Office as well as my Vice-Presidents and the Junior Past President. I also am still listening to the PGP's as there are still somethings to be gleaned from most of them, others not so much.

Remember those e-mails as we have the grand officers out their trying to help us move forward. Also have YOU visited a parlor other than your own yet this year? It would make us all a little better if you made that effort! Thanks for listening and I hope to see you out on the road.

I look forward to things slowing down in the next three months. Each month will be a trip to Southern California where I am told things are always looking up. I believe we will start to see some growth soon down there. I know they could use some help. Santa Barbara don't be surprised if I see you soon!

In friendship, loyalty and Charity,
Carey D. Pearce
Grand President
Native Sons of the Golden West