

# Grand President's Message

December '18 / January '19

## **Are we insured?**

In the wake of the most recent fires in California, it reminds me that you never know how long it is going to be before it finally hits you and you lose every-thing. Sometimes you see it coming and can prepare a little. Other times it is grab your keys and get out the grim reaper is here.

The prepared situation is you have your ducks in order and you have insurance just in case either situation hits. You have a backup plan in case things are not going right. You have insurance for that unexpected or expected tragic event.

The unprepared situation is you sit back and sing Que Sera, Que Sera? Whatever happens will be. No insurance, no backup plan, nowhere to go. Are you hanging on the precipice waiting for life to pass you by? That is not my choice!

Which scenario is going to hit the Native Sons of the Golden West? Will we be prepared? Will we be insured with our future moving forward or will we stay in our little Que Sera, Que Sera world letting our numbers dwindle? We just lost a valuable part of our future this last week up in the Magalia / Paradise area. We had some Brothers and future Brothers working on starting a new parlor in that area. This is a huge loss we could not afford nor could they.

I am sad for all of them and I will do what I can to help. Will you? I am not stopping at just helping them, though. I have been working with others to start other parlors within our boundaries, with the resources and confines of what we must work with in our Native Son world today. As I mentioned in my last letter, we were working on that Parlor up in that area where tragedy struck. Were we prepared? Yes and no, nobody was prepared for the quick reality of let's grab our keys and run for our lives. But we are working on having our ducks in order and having insurance, so we are a little bit prepared for such tragedy.

This was not the only place where we are planning on starting a new parlor in our state. In this vein, I am asking for your help throughout the state. If you can help the people in the Magalia / Paradise area, please do by all means and I know plenty of us have reached out and are lending assistance in many ways. The brothers who were stepping up to help get that parlor rolling are now the brothers who are helping that area bounce back and survive the everyday tragedy that is their reality in that area. Besides that, particular location in our state we currently have at least three other places that are in the works. They are gathering names, finding places to meet, choosing their leadership and trying to get a Parlor started.

Brothers, three places of high interest in getting a Parlor started that I am currently aware of are San Juan Capistrano in Southern California, Truckee to the North, and the Clovis / Fresno area in the heart of California.

Brothers, this may be some insurance if we can pull it off. If you know of friends or family or just an acquaintance you have just met recently who lives in these areas, please contact us with these names so we can forward them to the leaders of these efforts. Contact leads are: for the pro-posed Truckee Parlor will be Jeff Schmidt from Georgetown Parlor #91 (530)333-3210 & jschmidt.p91@gmail.com , for the San Juan Capistrano Parlor will be Byron Flint from Santa Ana Parlor #74 (714)994-0518 & maymbyron@yahoo.com , and for the Fresno / Clovis Area Parlor it will be Carey Pearce from Santa Lucia Parlor #97 (831)524-1712 & nsgwgp142@gmail.com or Dan Coffield (562)900-4543 & dansac3@aol.com .

I say this is insurance, but it is not the only insurance we are working on. Again, I am looking for each of you to make a contribution as always. This is an invitation that may or may not cost you a lot of money, but it will cost the Native Sons of the Golden West if you do not make this contribution. This contribution is our future. I do not know how many times we can stress that we need new members. We are dying! Do we want to kick back and sing Que Sera, Que Sera whatever will be, will be! I don't think so! A lot of you members have a lot invested in our order. Look at all of the 50-year members we have, the twenty-five year members. They have put in a lot of time to this order and they deserve better. They deserve more. We do not want to let them down on their watch. Please help us insure our future. Accept my challenge if your worth your salt, bring in a new member this year! Do it now! If you are more than worthy, I will be presenting you with a buckle this year for bringing in a couple of new members.

And yes, again I am asking for more! We need help with our Museum, we need help with our Archives please give me a call or e-mail with your questions on HOW CAN I HELP?

I look forward to seeing you soon!

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