

As we enter this season of giving, I am so grateful for each and every one of you! Contributions from Units across our beautiful state have been coming in at a faster pace than this time last year! This means that the Department will have more funds to disperse from Unit contributions at the end of this calendar year. I can't wait for our veteran's programs to receive the checks that are made possible as we pool our funds together to give back to our veterans. This is our stated purpose – we are a Veterans Service Organization. I know that your generous contributions make a difference to these programs and those they serve. Thank you to each and every Unit – you are all a blessing!

As we go into the New Year, let's do our best to keep up the good work of 'Service not Self.' It can be hard to keep a cheery attitude through the dark, dreary days of winter. My hope is that Units continue to reach out – perhaps making a monthly or quarterly calendar of one thing the Unit can do each month or quarter to keep those generous vibes going. Maybe it's sending birthday cards to Unit members and veterans in the local nursing home. Another favorite is sharing a meal with your American Legion Post. Everyone loves a potluck, and the combination of foods always seems to come together just right.

Enjoy the season – then keep it going. One moment at a time. Thank you for your generosity.

Susan Degner, CPA