



It is with a very sad heart that I am writing this article for the newsletter. Our country has experienced several devastating disasters in the past few weeks, and for those of us in northern California, the devastation is still rolling through as I write this.

We have members in states that have experienced impacts from the record setting hurricanes, some may have been in Las Vegas during the shootings, and now so much of California is on fire. We have at least one member reported so far that has lost their home due to the fires, and we're in the process of checking on members to be sure they are all safe following these disasters.

What we need from you, is to please email me if you have information on a member that has suffered from one of these disasters so that we can provide a bit of relief.

This all came so suddenly, and we're working out the details of how this will be managed, but what we do know is that we (National) will establish a fund for disaster relief for our members. Monetary contributions may be made by individuals or lodges, and can be in memory or honor of someone. You can also make donations that are designated to a particular person if that's your desire. We have not established a matching funds policy yet as far as percent of contribution, but that will be resolved soon. It would be very difficult for us to know what exactly would be the help needed for our members, so we will be providing Visa gift cards so the recipients may purchase whatever is needed to help them in their time of need.

If you were to read our history, the foundation of our organization was to aid members in need. We are going to be there for our members!

These donations are one form of help. However, we encourage our members to reach out to those in need, providing clothing, help cleaning up, food/meals, etc. Giving from our hearts is what we do best.

Send information about member loss to myself or our National Treasurer, Carol Faruolo. Monetary donations should be sent to National Treasurer Carol Faruolo as well, with designation for "Disaster Relief".

Wishing you all safety!

Sindy Mikkelsen  
National President  
Danish Sisterhood of America