

# Enjoying Member Privileges by LtCol Marie Shadden, USAF (Ret.)

## A REVIEW OF THE PACIFIC PALMS RESORT, CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA

Each time I venture out, I find more value in one of our best member benefits — the reciprocal clubs. I thoroughly enjoyed the two days I spent at the Pacific Palms Golf and Resort. I felt an honored guest from the Marine's Memorial Association.

Reservations Manager Wilver Barron was genuinely delighted to assist me. When asked for directions, he said I really couldn't miss the resort. Indeed, that would have been very difficult. Finding the resort is easy, like approaching the proverbial "city on the hill". It sits atop a steep knoll rising above the fog, smog or haze in the valley. That elevation accounts for "see forever" views from almost anywhere on the property.

The desk agents double as concierges and the guest is anticipated and valued. The guestroom prices are about average for the area and certainly less than the fine downtown hotels in Los Angeles. There is no additional resort fee. Wi-Fi in the comfortable rooms, lobby access to a computer and printer, the generous fitness center, and the lovely outdoor pool and spa are included. There are also several fine restaurants on the property.

The pool and spa has its own fairy tale view of the surrounding hills and the city below. Although well-maintained, it seems an older design. The deck heats up unbearably in the California sun (wear pool shoes) and there is neither restroom nor shower in the pool area. The closest restroom is a short walk up to the 10th hole on the adjacent golf course.

The 10th hole is also home to a

stylized Victorian-era train depot housing a snack bar and catering venue for special events. Nearby is a pavilion used for wedding ceremonies — a most memorable setting, with its grand vista.

Closer to the resort, there is a gorgeous patio for the restaurants.

This is a great place to relax in the shade and enjoy both city and golf course views.

If you are a golfer, this is an excellent choice. The Pacific Palms Resort is home to the Industry Hills Golf Club, comprised of two professional level courses, full clubhouse services, and a lighted driving range for night practice. Members of the Golf Club receive discounts at the golf shop, restaurant and resort outlets.

Leaving the property isn't easy unless one has a car or calls for a taxi. A habitual walker, I found the uphill return trek more difficult even than climbing our lovely San Francisco hills.

Tour groups are welcome but the hotel doesn't advertise local tours. If you do choose to explore, the Reagan Presidential Library, southern California beaches, Hollywood, Universal Studios, Santa Anita Park, and the Long Beach Aquarium are all within range. The Homestead Museum, a six acre site dating from the time California was part of Mexico, is also nearby. Do try to avoid the parking lot known as Highway 101.

✓ Photos, top to bottom:

*The hotel building as seen from the pool area*

*The lighted driving range with city view*

*Golf course views from the resort's restaurant patio*

