

**The American Legion Riders  
Department of California**



*For God and Country*

**DEC Minutes**

May 24, 2018

1. **Call to Order** - President Mick Sobczak @ 7pm
2. **Invocation** – Milo Barclay
3. **Pause for MIA** - President Mick Sobczak
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Mike Smith
5. **ALR Preamble** - President Mick Sobczak
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt **Yellow** denotes present at meeting.

**President**-Mick Sobczak;  
**Sergeant-At-Arms**-Mike Smith;  
**Secretary**-Debbie Proffitt;  
**Judge Advocate**-Mike Brownell;  
**Parliamentarian/Area 2 Asst VP**-Hy Libby;  
**Service Officer**-George Smith-EX;  
**Quartermaster**-Patrick Tafoya;  
**Membership**-Gary Teicher;  
**Area 1 VP**-Fred Branson;  
**Area 1 Asst VP**-Pete DePalma;  
**Area 2 Asst VP**- Ernie Henry;  
**Area 3 Asst VP**-Ken Sutton;  
**Area 4 VP**-Joel Lopez;  
**Area 5 Asst VP**-Ron Huff-EX;  
**Area 5 Asst VP**-Ray Ficek;  
**Area 6 VP**-Ronnie Womble;  
**Area 6 Asst VP**- Blake Shiver;  
**Area 1 Commissioner**-Bob Perryman;  
**Area 3 and Legion Commissioner**- Vince Cole;  
**Area 6 Commissioner**-Steve Weber

**Vice President**-Rey Ruiz;  
**Treasurer**-Leonard Phillips-EX;  
**Chaplain**-Roy Van Westbroek-EX;  
**Historian**-Vacant;  
**Safety Officer**-Rob Carrier;  
**Webmaster/Public Relations**-Jim Oxley;  
**JR Past President**-James Adames;  
**Convention & Rally**-Dee Pittenger-;  
**Area 1 Asst VP**-Rory Airheart;  
**Area 2 VP**-Warren Halstead;  
**Area 3 VP**-Paul LaPierre;  
**Area 3 Asst VP**- Ralph Wenzinger  
**Area 5 VP**-Gene Hobdy;  
**Area 5 Asst VP**-Larry Brandt;  
**Area 5 Asst VP**- David Saenz;  
**Area 6 Asst VP**-Milo Barclay;  
**Area 6 Asst VP**- Tim Schueller  
**Area 2 Commissioner**-Terry Baughman;  
**Area 5 Commissioner**-Paul Patricio;

Guests: None

**7. Additions to the Agenda –**

None

**8. Approval of Minutes – Convention and Post Convention DEC**

\*Motion to accept pre convention minutes by Fred Branson. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul LaPierre. Passed by vote of DEC.

\*Motion to accept convention minutes as electronically transmitted pending correction by Ronnie Womble. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred Branson. Passed by vote of DEC.

\*Motion to accept post DEC minutes as electronically transmitted by Rey Ruiz. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul LaPierre. Passed by vote of DEC.

**9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips**

\*Leonard is excused as his Mother In Law passed away.

**10. Presidents Report – Mick Sobczak**

\*This is my 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year.

\*My goal is to have 100 chapters by the end of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.

\*89 chapters currently. Area 4 working on 2 chapters. Area 5 working on 4 chapters. Area 6 working on 2 chapters. Makes it easier on Areas 1, 2 & 3.

**11. Vice President Report – Rey Ruiz**

\*Going well. Trying to get around.

\*Cup rules- sent out- lots of response.

\*Some rides may qualify while others don't. Area VPs will need to monitor to catch mistakes.

**12. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt**

\*COOs-updates once per week until 2 weeks out from June 30 deadline. Then will update as COOs come in. No snail mail. All online. If you get a COO make sure I've gotten a copy.

\*Roster member info-Will be going thru rosters chapter by chapter and emailing the President and Secretary of info needs.

\*Will be working on getting the 2017-18 paperwork together so it can be archived. Then will work on past years. Will archive each year by Area.

\*Need a list of historical info online. Maybe a History tab in the resource drop down. 07-08 convention venue, officers, rally venue, go to next year.

\*Renewal forms were sent to all Area VPs.

\*Event logs- forms were sent out.

**13. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith**

\*Encourages the Area VPs to get their President meeting dates out ASAP. Would like to attend many.

\*Have been doing a self-tutorial about the American Legion history on the National website. Good info to know when visiting.

## 14. Area Reports

### a. Area 1 VP – Fred Branson

- \*Did 1 run. Looking to set up recruiting booths at different community runs.
- \*Missing In America program going well.(Similar to the Veterans Without Families program in Area 5)
- \*First President meeting will be in august or September.

### b. Area 2 VP – Warren Halstead

### c. Area 3 VP – Paul LaPierre

- \*Post 509 is no longer in suspension so Chapter 509 is good.
- \*Many chapters have had elections.
- \*Attended the District 27 meeting in Bishop.
- \*Lot of Post 1000 transfers to local posts. District is reaching out to them.
- \*Post 684 gained a dozen new post members. Some of them could be potential riders.
- \*Mick stated he would in town for a funeral and training on Saturday at Post 684.

### d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

### c. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

- \*President meeting will be at the Norco post July 21-22. Meeting will be Saturday morning at 11am.
- \*Each chapter will be sent raffle tickets for a Harley Sportster to be drawn at the Salute to Veterans run in October in Indio.
- \*Will be at West Coast Thunder to sell tickets.
- \*Passports are up and running.
- \*There was an incident in Big Bear involving chapters 555 and 716. Will need to get background of previous incidents.
- \*Chapter 281 having an issue with the post commander. Not allowing the chapter to have their own checking account.
- \*Bloomington- Chapter president had hip replacement surgery. Chapter numbers need rebuilding.
- \*Colton- remodeling the post. The commander wants the chapter money to do with as he sees fit.
- \*A rider from the Norco chapter went down. Broke some ribs. Out of hospital.

### d. Area 6 VP – Ronnie Womble

- \*In process of working with Santa Monica, Pacific Palisades and Santa Barbara for new chapters.
- \*Chapter 507 had a poker run. No other chapter showed up. Mick stated that if he'd known about it he would have been there. Chapters need to advertise.
- \*There is a vest issue with Chapter 741 Camarillo. They feel they have a right to wear the patches they earned.
- \*Will talk about chapter 241 later in the meeting.

\*Mick- Area VPs get your chapters to get their events on the website and Facebook page. Any events on these will go into the newsletter. It's a resource. There are 89 chapters and only 11 flyers were found.

## 15. Committee Reports

### a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya

\*Will be off of school for several months.

\*Sweatshirt will be available next week. Black, zip up hoodie. Please make an order as a chapter, not individually.

\*Area VPs- chapter rep should be only one buying patches. Individuals shouldn't be ordering. Patches should be presented to the new members from the chapter.

\*Coins will be coming out. Order in lots of 10. \$10 each coin.

\*Pat is available after 2:30pm.

\*Will have a table at the American Legion Department convention to sell ALR gear.

\*There have been inquiries about ball caps. If members want something send an email.

### b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

\*PR- have gone through the committee list and added them as contributors. Will send them instructions on how to do it for their area.

\*Website has been moved to a secure server. Safer. Adding sub menus, grouped into like sub menus.

\*It's a better security system for users.

\*Working on updating the store so only POCs are allowed to order.

\*Able to email to all members soon.

\*DEC- activities page for posting DEC mileage not going on the chapter activity page.

\*Rey-sent email out. Jim stated that soon would be able to send by individual, by chapter, by area.

### c. Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

### d. Judge Advocate Report –Mike Brownell

\*Introduced himself. From chapter 711. Joined the ALR 4 years ago. History in law enforcement and corrections.

\*Mick asked Mike to go through the department bylaws. Some parts are antiquated and may need to be removed or changed.

\*Paul- Thanked Mike for stepping up.

### e. Service Officer – George Smith

\*Mother In Law passed away on Monday.

\*Trying to keep everyone up to date.

\*Things are in the pipeline.

### f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

\*Introduced himself. From chapter 83 in Merced.

- \*Number one priority is safety training for motorcycles in the field.
- \*Has been an instructor for 2 years.
- \*Would like to expand the training to be at 1 chapter in each area. Has 2 other people that help him. Can come and train.
- \*Similar to the Ride Like A Pro.
- \*Will try to attend the Area President's meetings.

g. Membership Officer – Gary Teicher

- \*Wasn't able to get the report out today. It will be out tomorrow.

h. Historian – vacant

i. Jr. Past President – James Adames

- \*Shout out to Chapter 43 for the great videos. They knocked it out of the park.
- \*Progress.

j. Dept. Commissioner – Vince Cole

## 16. Old Business

\*Suspension of Chapter 241-Buena Park-

- \*Some members showed up at convention wearing out of compliance vests and tried to register. On Sunday, April 22, convention delegates voted to suspend the chapter for 30 days, then start proceedings to revoke their charter if still in noncompliance.
- \*Ronnie- The chapter sent an email to John Archuleta asking him to delay/derail the suspension. He didn't. Talked to Gail, the secretary/treasurer, and she stated they wanted to be riders but were "too busy right now". Contacted them again. "Too busy". The chapter president contradicted all of this in an email.
- \*Motion to proceed with revocation of charter by Ronnie Womble. 2<sup>nd</sup> by James Adames. Passed by vote of DEC.
- \*James- They knew what they were doing when they came to convention in uncompliant vests. They've known about changes. Their charter should be revoked.
- \*Judge advocate- Outlined the procedures that would need to take place.

## 17. New Business

a. Ratify Judge Advocate, Safety Officer, and Historian positions

- \*Motion to ratify Mike Brunell as Judge Advocate and Robert Carrier as Safety Officer by Rey Ruiz. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.
- \*Mike Brunell and Robert Carrier took the oath of office.

b. Distribution of new department coins-

- \*These are metal coins to look like a poker chip. Ordered 500 and they should be in on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Department President, Vice President will get 24 each. Sergeant At Arms and Area VPs will get 12 each to give to other departments and community people. Not to be given to the rider chapters. To be sold in lots of 10.

\*Motion to give the coins in the amounts stated to the Department Officers and to sell to the chapters in lots of 10 by Rey Ruiz. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.

\*Will go public tomorrow so the chapters can pre order. It costs \$3 per coin to make them. Department will make \$7 from each coin. Next month we will decide where that coin money goes.

c. Rider Cup info-

\*Rey- need to clarify the rules as to what qualifies and what doesn't.

\*Area VPs will monitor their Areas input monthly. Will ask for clarifications from the chapters when needed. Will delete miles when they don't qualify.

\*Motion to adopt new cup rules. Motion removed.

D. Mick let the membership, quartermaster and safety officers know they had their own page on the website.

**18. Sick / Memorial**

\*Chapter 509 lost a rider.

\*Chapter 711 lost a rider.

\*Hanford lost a rider.

\*George lost his Mother In Law.

\*Leonard lost his Mother In Law.

\*Milo said a prayer.

**19. Good of the Riders**

\*There will be a call in amount for Rally(per diem) and mileage.

\*There will be a DEC meeting on Friday at 7pm at Rally.

\*DEC log in their mileage throughout the year on the DEC activity report.

\*Rider of the Year doesn't have to be one of the Riders of the Quarter.

\*Rider of the Quarter to be submitted by each Area. Committee will pick the winner.

\*Ken Sutton- Motion to make the paper military branch posters used at a convention into plastic banners that can be reused. 3' x 3'. Estimated cost would be \$375 plus tax. It was decided to get price quotes and bring them back to the June DEC to be voted on.

**20. Next Meeting Date** – 28 June 2018 at 7 PM.

**21. Benediction** - Milo Barclay

**22. Adjournment** – President Mick Sobczak @ 8:51PM