

**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

August 23, 2018

1. **Call to Order** - President Mick Sobczak @ 7 PM
2. **Invocation** – Mick Sobczak
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 in attendance**

President-Mick Sobczak;
Sergeant-At-Arms-Mike Smith; EX
Secretary-Debbie Proffitt;
Judge Advocate-Mike Brownell;
Parliamentarian/Area 2 Asst VP-Hy Libby;
Service Officer-George Smith;
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 Vince Cole;
Area 6 Commissioner-Steve Weber

Vice President-Rey Ruiz;
Treasurer-Leonard Phillips;
Chaplain-Roy Van Westbroek;
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:

Mike Cash ch 684; Tim Madura Area 1; Jim Haren ch 741

7. Additions to the Agenda –

*Missing In America Project- Tim Madura

8. Approval of Minutes – June 28, 2018

Motion to accept the July 26, 2018 minutes as electronically transmitted by Fred Branson.
2nd by Rey Ruiz. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips

10. Presidents Report – Mick Sobczak

*Will be sending an email when he gets home from convention to all those appointed officers who don't attend the DEC meetings. Will change people.

*Newsletter articles are due no later than September 10.

*Mike Cash will be speaking later about a California Legacy Run.

11. Vice President Report – Rey Ruiz

*Attended the Area 1 President's meeting. Great meeting with Fred and Rory.

*Attending chapter meetings. Went to Ch 229 and Ch 43.

*Printed out a list of all the chapters and when they have their meetings so he can attend.

12. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

*COO update. Areas 1, 2 and 4 are complete. Area 3- ch 23, ch 118, ch 355 and ch 682 are delinquent. Area 5- Ch 574 is delinquent. Area 6- ch 66 and ch 241 are delinquent.

*Will be asking Jim Oxley to take the following documents off the resources page on the website... Certification of Officers, Delegate Certification and Roster Certification. We are 100% on line and no one except start up chapters should be using these forms.

13. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith

14. Area Reports

a. Area 1 VP – Fred Branson

*Had the Area 1 President's meeting and all chapters but 2 showed up. Membership is the talking point. Helping to get membership representation from each chapter.

*111 having a memorial ride and bbq on September 15.

*Tim Madura- Missing in America Project

*Collecting the unclaimed remains of veterans sitting on shelves, etc in America.

*Sonoma County has final honors for veteran remains collected every 3 months at Dixon. There is a Congress person authorized to claim these remains so they can be given final honors.

*CHP and CalTrans has issued permits to close off ramps and intersections for the escort of these veterans.

*Each escort includes flag line as the flag covered remains are transferred to the vehicles. They are processed at Dixon and given full military honors for each veteran.

*It's a matter of getting them off the shelf and buried. One veteran had been sitting on a shelf for 62 years.

*Working with the Neptune Society to process veterans sitting there.

*For more information you can go through Fred or Tim.

*Tim Madura cell 707-815-6983. Tmadura@sbcglobal.net

*www.miap.us

*Bob Perryman- Ch 521 and other Posts are working together to get a bridge at Yountville repaired. Have the materials, need labor.

b. Area 2 VP – Warren Halstead

c. Area 3 VP – Paul LaPierre

*Post 16n in Stockton is starting the paperwork to start a chapter.

*Thanks to Areas 5 and 6 for supporting the Remembering Our Fallen escort.

*Will be attending the Rally in September.

*Still waiting on the definition of an outlaw MC.

d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

*No report at this time.

c. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

*Had an operation so have been down the last few weeks. Should be able to ride this coming week.

*Spirit ride is Saturday to bring awareness to 1st responders and tow drivers killed in the line of duty. Move over, slow down.

*All VPs please push the Sportster tickets.

*Gearing up for the October Salute to Veterans Run. New venue.

*Chapter 838 has dissolved.

*Questions about missing COO from ch 574. Mick stated that this is habitual.

d. Area 6 VP – Ronnie Womble

*Working on a Passport run for Area 6. Should be good to go at Convention.

*9/4 ch 484 having movie night.

*Ch 43 is having a Bob's Big Boy fundraiser.

*9/9 Ch 50 is having a poker run.

*9/8 White Heart Foundation Run to the Flags.

*Have been doing PGR missions and joint chapter rides and events.

*Went to ch 741 on 8/14. Was asked to leave. Told it's a closed meeting. Didn't feel they had the right to kick him out. The chapter Treasurer is the Post Commander. Kept him waiting 30 minutes before letting him come in and told him he had the floor. No introduction. There were 12 members and only 1 was wearing a vest. They said their chapter was very active and asked that chapter 741 be left alone. They stated other posts needed help, not them. As far as the vests, the chapter is writing a resolution the the Legion Department and by passing the ALRDOC. As far as they are concerned, vests are optional except for convention. They feel the vote in 2015 was unfair and they will wear vests at convention only. The chapter feels since they pay for their vests and

they will do what they please with them. Tim Schueller is Area Asst VP and wasn't wearing a vest.

*Tim Schueller- Sometimes he comes from work and doesn't have time to get the vest. He thinks there are issues on both sides and that both sides need to sit down and talk it out to resolve the problems. Need to evaluate and go from there.

*Jim Haren- Treasurer and post Commander- we do not and have never run open meetings. We may need to look at this and reevaluate.

*Mick- Rey, Ronnie, Jim Haren will sit down and talk. Mick will send an email out to work on the date of the meeting.

15. Committee Reports

a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya

*Only 2 people per chapter are authorized to order from the Quartermaster.

*If you need to contact me email is good. I can check it during the day and get back to you.

*There are delays on the 2nd order of the rider coins. The delay is on the manufacturing end.

*Not depositing checks for coins until they are sent out.

*Sweat shirts are still available. Please make a chapter order.

*Starting school next week. Has a job from 6am – 2:30 pm then school.

*Mike Clement- President of District 9, will be sitting in for Patrick when Pat is at school.

b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

*Has been a challenging month.

*Updating the forms for startups.

*Will be adding PayPal to the store.

c. Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

d. Judge Advocate Report – Mike Brownell

*Asked about the email put out by Debbie about looking at the bylaws and highlighting concerns, changes, etc. Was reminded that it was spoken about last month and that bylaws can be printed out, concerns highlighted and gotten to Mike, or brought to Rally. Will look at them before Rally.

e. Service Officer – George Smith

f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

*Attended the Area 1 President's meeting.

*Chapter 69, Hollister, will have a rider's training course on Sunday, August 26th. It is free. Will have 4 people from Merced going. Must RSVP to Bart Schaffer to attend.

*Reviewing the Safety Handbooks. The Committee will see if and changes need to be made.

*Thanks to all Area VPs for help getting chapters to record mileage. 40 of 91 chapters now recording.

g. Membership Officer – Gary Teicher

h. Historian – Vacant

i. Jr. Past President – James Adames

*It's been an honor meeting other riders during my travels.

*They have many questions about our vest and other things we do. Tells them California does their own thing and that each state is different.

*9/15 is Sarah's Ride at Ch 43. Advertising on KLOS. Bands will be there. Never know who will show up.

j. Dept. Commissioner –

16. Old Business-

17. New Business

a. Motion to ratify Mike Clements to take the Quartermaster's place when he cannot attend meetings by Rey Ruiz. 2nd by Rory Airheart. Passed by vote of DEC.

b. Fran has asked for more direction on what to do with the pictures she takes. Mick stated that she needs to take pictures at convention, rally and any other ALR event. Then she can send them to the webmaster.

18. Sick / Memorial

Area 1- 0; Area 2-0; Area 3-0; Area 4- Steve Avila, ch 88, Turlock recovering.;

Area 5- Ch 716- Ellengrace had surgery and will be a while recovering. Area 6- 0.

19. Good of the Riders

*Michael Cash, Ch 684, spoke on starting a California Legacy Run. Passionate about supporting the children getting scholarships. He met 2 kids who had received scholarships through the fund. The fund is impacting and changing lives. It will help raise awareness and explore other areas of the state.

*Mick stated that he would like a 4 corners of the state run, farthest chapter in the NW, SW, NE and SE over 5 days into Monterey by July 4th. Would work with California companies to get donations.

*Debbie will put out an email to ask for volunteers. These volunteers need to be able to stay active in the planning process to the end.

20. Next Meeting Date – 21 September at 7 PM at Rally in Salinas.

21. Benediction - Rey Ruiz

22. Adjournment – President Mick Sobczak @ 8:13 PM