

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

February 28, 2019

1. **Called to Order** - President Mick Sobczak @ 7pm
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Roy Van Westbroek
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

President-Mick Sobczak;
Sergeant-At-Arms-Mike Smith;
Secretary-Debbie Proffitt;
Judge Advocate-Mike Brownell;
Parliamentarian-Hy Libby;
Service Officer-George Smith;
Quartermaster-Patrick Tafoya;
JR Past President/Tech Advisor-James Adames;
Convention & Rally-Dee Pittenger;
Legacy Run- Mike Cash;
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; EX
Area 6 VP-Ronnie Womble;
Area 6 Asst VP- Blake Shiver;
Area 1 Commissioner-Bob Perryman;
Area 4 Commissioner-Karl Wilvert;
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;
Alt Quartermaster- Mike Clement;
Membership-Gary Teicher;
Awards/Certs-Rochelle Billet-Smith;
Ways & Means- Leif Meisinger;
Area 1 Asst VP-Rory Airheart;
Area 2 VP/ A2 Comm-Warren Halstead-EX
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 3 Commissioner-Ivan Frey;
Area 5 Commissioner-Paul Patricio;

Guests:

Albert Villa-Past President; Mitch Laing-Post 111; Terry Baughman-Past President

7. Additions to the Agenda –

None

8. Approval of Minutes – December 2018

Motion by Rey Ruiz to accept the January 24, 2019 minutes as electronically transmitted. 2nd by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips

*Current balance in the bank is \$65,126.98. There are a couple outstanding payments.

*Call or email me on what's needed for convention for merchandise.

*Past issues with PayPal. Talked to someone from PayPal who had answers about the money that went into a different account. Have to get ahold of Don Christolear. He must log in to transfer the money to our current account. There is about \$2,000 in there.

*Had a couple payments for Uber.

*Motion by Leonard Phillips to accept the finance report pending audit. 2nd by James Adames. Passed by vote of DEC.

10. Presidents Report – Mick Sobczak

*I have sold \$1,300 in decals. There are 200 helmet decals coming. They will be \$5 each. Chapter 111 has 25 decals and chapter 383 has 50 decals.

*Went to two President meetings. Because of the changes in the uniform manual Area Assistant Vice Presidents can no longer wear their white beret to President meetings or convention. Per the uniform manual they must wear the black beret or cover of their parent organization. At one of the President meetings there was an Assistant Vice President who refused to wear the black beret. We're not about the covers, we're about the mission.

11. Vice President Report – Rey Ruiz

*Went to the Area 3 and 5 President meetings. Both meetings were informational. Keep up the communication about the delegate fees and per capita.

*Went to the District 29 meeting. Will be going to the District 19 and 20 meetings. Trying to make as many as possible.

12. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith

*Went to the Area 3 President's meeting.

*Recommend all chapters have an inspection or pre-check before leaving for convention.

*Wore out his air shocks and am now getting them fixed to ride again.

13. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

*Have started the archiving process but will stop for now to get ready for convention. Have gotten most of the minutes from the Ad Hoc committee forward.

*Per capita is still owed by some chapters. Delegate fees are due no later than April 17.

*Delegate forms are due by email no later than April 23.

*There are still chapters that haven't turned in by laws. Their Area VP was notified.

14. Area Reports –

- a. Area 1 VP – Fred Branson/ Assistant VP Rory Airheart-

*Progress

- b. Area 2 VP – Warren Halstead

*Warren is in the hospital.

- c. Area 3 VP – Paul LaPierre

*Held the Area 3 Presidents meeting last weekend. The information was well received. Thanks to all who came and Mick and Rey.

*Trinidad from chapter 682 is still alive. Trying to keep the communication open.

- d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

- e. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

*Spoke with the first Vice of the Ontario post.

*Working with the Colton post.

*There will be a meet and greet at Riverside post 289 on March 16 at 10am. Trying out a new idea. Will have vendors, food, games, music, etc. Getting flyers out into the community.

*Events are getting double booked for some dates. The chapters come up with an event then wait until the flyers are ready to get it on the Area 5 calendar. By then another chapter has seen nothing on that date and booked an event. Get your event on the calendar asap.

*There are many websites that chapters can put their event on. Start using them.

*The CEO of the Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce spoke at the president's meeting. Get out into your community and join the Chambers.

*Spoke with the Assistant VP.

- f. Area 6 VP – Ronnie Womble

*Area 6 has been busy. PGR missions and other events.

*Lieutenant Colonel Bob Friend will be having his 99th birthday. One of the last 5 Tuskegee Airmen.

*The Area 6 President's meeting will be on March 30 at either Post 176 San Fernando or Post 43 Hollywood.

15. Committee Reports –

- a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya

*Have the new berets. Need a document on how to shape them. Mick stated that there is a YouTube video by a female Australian Army officer that is on point.

b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

*Has been fielding emails.

*Received an email from the Legacy Run Committee to not make the registration live yet. Hope to hear from them soon as the registration needs to be live asap.

c. Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

*Ch 108 will not be able to hold convention after all. Have received no emails from Ch 108 stating there were problems or help was needed.

d. Judge Advocate Report – Mike Brownell

*Mick stated that Mike had tendered his resignation because of health issues. Mick accepted the resignation.

e. Service Officer – George Smith

*Putting out emails

*Progress

f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

*Talked about reporting accidents when on a chapter outing. There is a form.

*Sent an inquiry out to the Safety Committee-

-All accidents need to be reported.

-Report members but not non-members.

-Ken- It's hard enough to get chapters to report.

*Committee recommendation. Leave the current policy in place.

-Notify the Area VP about non-members.

-Non-members who ride with a chapter should be signing guest waivers.

-Safety should be covered at all meetings and before rides.

g. Membership Officer – Gary Teicher

*Progress

h. Historian – Fran Del Santo

*Mick will appoint a committee to investigate why the Historian hasn't been on any calls.

*The committee will be James Adames, Gene Hobdy and Ronnie Womble.

i. California Legacy Run – Mike Cash

*Leadership roles are being established. Some roles won't be filled until closer to the Run.

*Registration-Some changes need to be made. Needed questions to ask for more info. Information about the type of bike, etc. were necessary to be able to determine the make-up of the platoons.

*Day 2- had logistic issues with the start and end times. Reviewing and making changes to make the day more rider friendly.

*Next meeting is March 7 at 6:30pm. All are welcome.

j. Jr. Past President – James Adames

*As Tech Advisor I've received no inquiries from any Commissioners.

*Progress.

k. ALR Commissioner – Bob Perryman

*Had a meeting with Post/Chapter 130 in Grass Valley. Worked out the miscommunications. Post has had problems that affected the Riders and vice versa.

16. Old Business

a. Second reading of bylaws (Administrative changes)

*Debbie Proffitt made a motion to table the 2nd reading until the March meeting. 2nd by Gene Hobdy. Passed by vote of DEC.

b. Ratify changes to Uniform Manual

*Motion by Rey Ruiz to accept the changes to the Uniform Manual as submitted. 2nd by Rory Airheart. Passed by vote of DEC.

17. New Business

a. Create 501(c)3 for California Legacy Run

*Mick-Provides protection and more companies will donate to a 501(c)3 vs a 501(c)19.

*The Legacy Run is a subsidiary corporation of the ALRDOC.

*Motion to start the process for creating a 501©3 for the California Legacy Run by Rey Ruiz. 2nd by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.

b. Use account to receive donations from Fundly

*It was stated that Fundly doesn't take a percentage like GoFundMe does.

*Motion for the bank account to receive donations from Fundly by Rey Ruiz. 2nd by Paul LaPierre. Much discussion was held. Motion to table the current motion by Gene Hobdy. 2nd by Pete DePalma. Passed by vote of DEC.

c. Convention 2019 location

*Chapter 108 will not be able to hold the 2019 convention.

*Bob Perryman looked into the McClellan center. It wasn't available. Hotels were also too expensive because of short notice.

*Warren Halstead gave 2 places that might work. Chapter 31-The post is being remodeled due to asbestos issues. Ch 69- Veterans bldg. is available May 3-5.

*Poncho-Talked to JD Bennet about the Clovis Veterans Center. The Clovis Veterans Center wasn't available. Checked on using the conference center at the DoubleTree Hotel in Fresno. It wasn't available.

*Mick wanted to give a big thank you to Bob Perryman and Albert Villa who had stepped up to try to help in the last 36 hours. It let Mick concentrate in other areas.

- *Ken-\$2,000 check hasn't been deposited. Will be returned. Mick asked him to write void on the check. He will email Leonard. He will call all who registered at his hotel.
- *All who had already registered for convention will be getting refunds.
- *Mick- It will take ALL hands on deck to pull this together.
- *Motion by James Adames to award Chapter 69, Hollister, as host of the 2019 ALRDOC convention because of last minute changes. 2nd by Ronnie Womble. A voice vote of all present elected officers was taken minus Mick Sobczak. Elected officers present were Rey Ruiz, Mike Smith, Rory Airheart(for Fred Branson), Paul LaPierre, Gene Hobdy, Ronnie Womble and James Adames. All votes were in the affirmative. Motion passed by vote of DEC.
- *Will need to get working on registration and hotels asap.
- *The DEC will pay for t shirt, pins and patches. Leonard will send a check.
- *Mama Dee- Because it is Cinco De Mayo weekend there will be many other patch holder MCs in attendance in the city.
- *Mike Cash-Will make a personal donation of \$1,000 to go toward convention.
- *Pete DePalma asked about getting group rates on the holiday weekend.
- *Debbie stated that the new deadline for Delegate fees will be April 3 and the new deadline for the emailed Delegate form will be April 8.
- *Ken, along with District 28, Chapters 31 and 694 will help Hollister out.
- *Mick will send out an email to all members stating the change in venue and change in dates. Area VPs and other officers will follow up on the email.

d. Ratify Ralph Wenzinger as Judge Advocate.

- *Motion by Debbie Proffitt to ratify Ralph Wenzinger as Judge Advocate until after convention. 2nd by Rey Ruiz. Passed by vote of DEC.

18. Sick / Memorial

- *A1-none
- *A3-Lisa Stuart-in the hospital.
- *A5-none
- *A6-none
- Warren Halstead
- Mike Brownell
- Dee Pittenger

- *Roy Westbroek said a prayer.

19. Good of the Riders

- *Mike Smith- In October/November there will be a new Auxiliary or Sons member.
- *A1- none
- *A3- none
- *A5- none
- *A6- none

- *Leif Meisinger- Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Has a sponsor that will pay for 200 each of the shirts, pins, hats, wristbands and patches for the Legacy Run. Waiting for the logo.

*Ralph- Thanks for ratifying me as the Judge Advocate. Some were asking about the District meetings and when and where they were. Go to Ca.legion.org. Go to the calendar then go to the bottom. Will be listed there.

*It was stated that Fundly uses Stripe and their charge per donation is 2.9% plus .30 cents.

20. **Next Meeting Date** – 28 March 2019 at 7 PM.
21. **Benediction** - Chaplain Roy Van Westbroek
22. **Adjournment** – President Mick Sobczak @ 8:35 pm