

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

March 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/A6 AVP-Ralph Wenzinger-EX;
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-EX;
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;

Vice President-Rey Ruiz;
Treasurer-Leonard Phillips;
Chaplain-Roy Van Westbroek;
Historian-Fran del Santo;
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;
Area 3 VP-Paul LaPierre;
Area 4 VP-Joel Lopez;
Area 5 Asst VP-Ron Huff; EX
Area 5 Asst VP-vacant
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

Guests:

7. Additions to the Agenda –

None

8. Approval of Minutes – February 28, 2019

Motion to approve the February 28, 2019 minutes as electronically transmitted by Warren Halstead. 2nd by Milo Barclay. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips

*Outstanding-The \$2000 for Hollister. Leonard asked who to send it to. Was informed to send it to Chapter 69 at the Veterans Bldg.

*Has \$2500 in checks to deposit.

*Receiving payments through PayPal for the scholarship run.

*With the Scholarship run payments there is \$1760.99 in PayPal.

*\$69, 109.92 in the bank account.

*At the last meeting there was mentioned money for shirts for convention. Mick stated there is a \$1000 donation check coming. It will also be used for a Mexican dinner for Saturday evening.

*Warren asked about the check sent in January that had still not cleared the bank. Leonard will be making a deposit in a few days.

Mick asked about the new budget. Leonard stated that he would call a meeting of the finance committee. Mick asked that he and Rey be cc'd on the meeting.

*Motion to accept financial report pending audit by Leonard Phillips. 2nd by Milo Barclay. Passed by vote of DEC.

10. Presidents Report – Mick Sobczak

*Call to Convention and Operating Rules will be sent out to all members Monday.

*Convention is 5 weeks out.

*Need to put together rules for hosting convention. Hollywood is still a go for 2020. Mitch Lange from chapter 28 is interested in hosting for 2021 in conjunction with ch 111.

11. Vice President Report – Rey Ruiz

*Attended the District 19 and 20 meetings. Have some leads. Panorama City is one.

*Ch 289 Riverside. Where are they in the process.

*There are a few more posts that have an interest.

*Lost contact with post 61. Will contact again.

*When possible am attending District, post and chapter meetings.

*Rey is now retired.

12. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith

*Attended and graduated from the Legion College.

*Will be at the Area 6 President's meeting.

*Need 2 volunteers to act as Assistant Sergeant At Arms during convention. One each from the north and south.

13. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

- *Updates for bylaws, per capita, delegate fees and delegate reports were sent to the Area VPs.
- *End of year report forms were sent to the Area VPs.
- *On the website, under resources, under ALR DoC forms, under Online ALR DoC forms, I went in and cleaned up the page with Jim Oxley's help. In the startup packet, the Application/Renewal Waiver was swapped out for the correct one.
- *Will be setting up a call in for the Credentials committee on Monday, April 8 at 7pm.
- *Mick, when will the Official Call and Operating Rules come out?
- *Working on having everything ready for convention.

14. Area Reports – save questions until after report is complete

a. Area 1 VP – Fred Branson/Asst. VP Pete DePalma

- *Completed the President's meeting.
- *There are a bunch of events coming up.
- *Did a big escort for The Wall That Heals. Will be up through Sunday.
- *Sat in on the meeting with post 709 to establish a riders chapter. Should have paperwork within a week.

b. Area 2 VP – Warren Halstead

- *Working on a chapter at post 105 in Redwood City.
- *Lost Steve "Pops" Culver from chapter 31. He rode on the Epic Ride in 2017.

c. Area 3 VP – Paul LaPierre

- *Is there a resolution on the email problem? Almost all POC emails were rejected.
- *Vince Cole from Chapter 83 lost his wife, Avalina Cole.
- *Thanks to Rob for doing a safety training at chapter 509.
- *Ch 476 will have a chili cookoff this Saturday.
- *Ch 26 will have a poker run April 6.
- *Ch 476 will have a meet and greet April 27.
- *Ch 684 will have a poker run May 4.
- *Ch 20 will have a poker run May 11.
- *Looking forward to the Romp.
- *Ch 118 has closed the chapter. Wrote a check for their remaining monies to the post. Can't find the charter.
- *Ch 682-Had a conversation with Trinidad 1.5 months ago. Nothing since. Will recommend suspension if they don't catch up.

d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

- *Took part in the rededication for the Obregon Park.
- *Attended the National Medal of Honor ceremony.
- *Fed homeless students at East LA College.
- *Attending the President's meeting in Santa Clarita.

c. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

- *Post 289 had a meet and greet. Very successful. Have enough riders to get a chapter started.
- *Chapters 229 and 328 had a joint poker run. Was very well attended.
- *Chapter 460 had a pig roast. Very well attended.
- *Today was the funeral for Donny Guthro from chapter 328, Norco.
- *Assistant VP Ray Ficek was transferred to Las Vegas for his job. Looking for a new assistant.
- *Kelly Huff will take over the Area 5 calendar.
- *Kelly and Gene will monitor the Facebook page.
- *Will be going to the Area 6 President's meeting.
- *Went to a 100th birthday party for the Legion in Helendale.
- *Pushing delegate fees.
- *Will be working Stage Coach and Coachella.

e. Area 6 VP – Ronnie Womble

- *On 3/30 Chapter 507 will hold a meet and greet at 10am. The President's meeting will then follow at noon.
- *Working on a chapter at post 817, Panorama City. Will be going to the post meeting on April 11 for their vote.
- *On April 13 Chapter 48 will host a poker run out of the Eagles.
- *There will be a Spring fling in Ventura County at My Garage on April 13. 10% off to all ALR riders.
- *Having trouble with Chapter 241. Haven't turned in bylaws. Debbie stated that Gail had emailed a week ago asking if anything other than bylaws were needed. Gail was told that bylaws, per capita, delegate fees and the delegate report were all due. Gail stated she would take care of it but nothing has been done. Will be suspended at the preconvention meeting is not caught up.
- *Thanks to Chapter 328 for hosting our going away party on April 27 at 2pm.
- *Have been doing escorts, PGR missions and been very busy.

15. Committee Reports – save questions until after report is complete

a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya

- *Things are winding down. Getting orders out.
- *Is the Quartermaster assisting in convention shirts? Warren stated that they are using a local vendor. Patrick stated they need to get permission from Emblem Sales.
- *Rey-Chapter 229 put in a patch order and have been waiting. Pat will check on it.
- *Gene-Chapter 200 was trying to order but got no response. Gene will follow up with them.
- *Milo-Palmdale sent an order in one month ago.
- *Patrick stated the order needs to go through the website. The chapter will be emailed a bill. Once the bill is paid the patches are made and sent.

b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

- *Working on the email problem.
- *Domains are tightening up their email process.

c. Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

- *Robert will be using a local vendor for the shirts. Will contact him to get approval.
- *Chapters 28 and 31 will help 69.
- *For Saturday night they are looking into having a DJ and/or karaoke.
- *They need the seed money.

d. Judge Advocate Report – Ralph Wenzinger

e. Service Officer – George Smith

- *VA has a new online claim filing system that is quicker. Any claim submitted online must be perfect. Therefore, a person must go through a VSO before online filing.
- *Connecticut is cracking down on people charging veterans to help them fill out their claims. This is illegal.

f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

- *Mileage stops 3/31. 4/1 starts a new year.
- *Last year riders logged around 1 million miles. This year is only 300 thousand.
- *Good news is that in July there were only 29 chapters recording miles. Now there are 51.
- *District 28 is leading with Chapter 684 second.
- *Recommends opening up out of state mileage for next year.
- *Looking at having a motorcycle safety course on June 1 in Oceanside. Still waiting for specifics.

g. Membership Officer – Gary Teicher

- *Progress
- *Area 1- no change; Area 2-Lost a Sal and an Aux, added a vet; Area 3- added 5; Area 4- no change; Area 5-added 4; Area 6 lost a Vet and a Sal.
- *Currently there are 2084 riders. 1416 Vets, 343 Sal; 328 Aux and 62 active duty.

h. Historian – Fran Del Santo

i. California Legacy Run – Mike Cash/Debbie Proffitt

- *Mike-Registration is live.
- *Have put out documents. Area 1/3 and 5 VPs, encourage contact with the posts that are supposed to be stopped at for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Need to know if they can do meals or not. We need logistics for the route cards.
- *It's important to fill in the roles for leadership. Number of platoons x 20 riders. Each platoon should have a platoon leader, assistant platoon leader and a tail gunner. We need to know how many vehicles are 2, 3 or 4 wheels. Mick will make the selections.
- *Area VPs, please check to see which politicians, Leos, fire departments, schools, newspapers, social media, etc. will want to take part.
- *The next Scholarship Committee call in will be April 4 at 6:30pm.

*Debbie- As of 3pm today there is a donation of \$5000; So far there are 16 people registered. All have registered online for a total of \$1047.38. Of this, Fees are \$560; Merchandise is \$407 and charges are \$80.38. PayPal is taking a percentage up front.
*George Smith stated that there should have been a \$50 donation showing from him. Debbie will check.

j. Jr. Past President – James Adames

*Progress

k. ALR Commissioner – Bob Perryman

16. Old Business

a. Second reading of bylaws (Administrative changes)

*Motion to accept the revised ALRDOC bylaws with administrative changes made by Mike Brownell by Rey Ruiz. 2nd by Gene Hobdy. Passed by vote of DEC.

*Mick will get the revised version out to all and to be put on the website.

b. Historian – Committee Report

*James Adames- Contacted Fran Del Santo. Was told that she didn't have the number to call in, didn't know the days, what to do, etc.

*Recommendation is to let Fran serve out the rest of this year to convention and not reappoint her for next year.

*There was a question of who owns the pictures she took. Mick stated that the ALRDOC own them.

*Question asked of when they will be available. Mick will give her a call.

*Jim Oxley stated he had received in the vicinity of 2000 pictures from Fran. Too many to post on the website.

*Question was asked about uploading into a cloud such as Google Drive. Jim will look into it.

c. Convention

*Friday, May 3 there will be a pre convention meeting at 6pm. It's red Friday. Saturday and Sunday wear navy blue. The meeting room is to the left of the stage.

*Mick has invited the Department Commander, the Department SAL Commander. The Department Auxiliary President, the Area 2 Vice Commander, the Post Commander, Ed Grimsley, etc. They will be limited to 3-5 minutes each.

*Ken Sutton should be bringing the banners for the stage.

*Gene-At the last meeting we talked about possibly having the future conventions at convention centers. Has there been any follow through? Mick stated that would take a resolution.

17. New Business

*Rob Carrier- Motion to count any mileage from Chapters or Members who ride for any Veteran related rides outside the state of California to count under the American Legion Riders Cup rules. Any disputes will be settled by the Safety Officer or the President of the ALR DOC by Rob Carrier. 2nd by Warren Halstead. Passed by vote of DEC after discussion.

18. Sick / Memorial

- *Chapter 328- Rider Everlasting-Donny Guthro and Post 328 rider liaison Jim Blake.
- *Chapter 83-Rider Everlasting-Avalina Cole.
- *Chapter 31-Rider Everlasting-Steve Culver
- *Chapter 804-Rider Everlasting-John Chavez
- *Prayer was said by Milo Barclay.

19. Good of the Riders

- *Tomorrow is Welcome Home Vietnam Vets Day
- *Mick-Need a resolution that moves the resolution process more to the Area VPs. An individual who writes a resolution must get it approved by their chapter. Once approved, it will go to the Area to be looked at. Once ok'd it would go to the resolutions committee for approval before going to convention. There was much discussion. James Adames and Debbie stated there didn't need to be a resolution. It would fall under the duties of the Area VPs under other duties assigned by the President.
- *George-The Area VPs must know how the resolution writing process works. Mick stated he can write that up.
- Mike Smith-Encourages all to attend the Legion College. Trying to recruit daily.

20. Next Meeting Date – 25 April 2019 at 7 PM.

21. Benediction - Milo Barclay

22. Adjournment – President Mick Sobczak