

**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

May 23, 2019

1. **Called to Order** - President Rey Ruiz @ 7pm
2. **Invocation** - Chaplain Monique Clemons
3. **Pause for MIA** - President Rey Ruiz
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Mike Smith
5. **ALR Preamble** - President Rey Ruiz
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt **yellow** = in attendance

President-Rey Ruiz;

Sergeant-At-Arms-Mike Smith;

Secretary-Debbie Proffitt;

Judge Advocate/Area 3 Alt VP-Ralph Wenzinger;

Safety Officer-Rob Carrier;

Webmaster/Public Relations-Jim Oxley;

JR Past President-Mick Sobczak;

Convention & Rally-Vacant;

Legacy Run- Mike Cash; **EX**

Area 1 VP-Bob Perryman;

Area 1 Alt VP-Bob Gault;

Area 2 VP- Sean Ramsay;

Area 2 Alt VP-Ignacio Alvarez;

Area 3 Alt VP-Matt Dolezal;

Area 4 VP-Joel Lopez;

Area 5 Alt VP-Ron Huff;

Area 5 Alt VP-Mike Killion;

Area 6 VP-Lino Torres;

Area 6 Asst VP- Dave Corbin;

Area 1 Commissioner-Vacant;

Area 3 Commissioner-Ivan Frey;

Area 5 Commissioner-Paul Patricio;

Vice President-Fred Branson; **EX**

Treasurer-Leonard Phillips;

Chaplain-Monique Clemons;

Historian-Vacant;

Service Officer-George Smith;

Quartermaster-Mike Clement;

Membership-Vacant;

Awards/Certs-Rochelle Billet-Smith;

Ways & Means- Vacant;

Area 1 Alt VP-Rory Airheart;

Area Alt VP-Larry Goekler;

Area 2 Alt VP- Hy Libby;

Area 3 VP-Paul LaPierre; **EX**

Area 3 Alt VP-JD Bennett;

Area 5 VP-Gene Hobdy;

Area 5 Alt VP-Larry Brandt;

Area 5 Alt VP- John Smartt;

Area 6 Alt VP-Cristina Molina;

Area 6 Asst VP-Nancy Weatherman;

Area 2 Commissioner-Warren Halstead; **EX**

Area 4 Commissioner-Karl Wilvert;

Area 6 Commissioner-Steve Weber

Guests: Ken Sutton-Ch 108

7. Additions to the Agenda –

None

8. Approval of Minutes – Post Convention May 5, 2019

Motion to accept the post-convention minutes as electronically transmitted by Mike Smith. 2nd by Mick Sobczak. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips – Read by Rey

*Paid \$990 for insurance and \$10 for the Uber conference paid in May.

*Received \$10 for per capita, \$5,810.64 from Quartermaster and \$3,028 for VA&R. Total received \$8848.64.

*\$1,671 received for Scholarship run.

*Sent out report. Total debit \$11,695.80; total deposits \$13,707.47; current balance \$73,643.29; current statement balance as of 2/7/2019 \$71,631.62.

*Motion to accept the Finance report as read pending audit by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by Gene Hobdy. Passed by vote of DEC.

10. Presidents Report – Rey Ruiz

*Became sick right after convention. Spent 4 days in bed.

*Met with Mick to get information.

11. Vice President Report – Fred Branson-EX

12. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith

*Area VPs- Reach out to your chapter Presidents and make sure they are making sure their chapter member's vests are in compliance.

13. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

*Asked about whether the new chapters that came in this past year need to do Certification of Officers. It was clarified that all new chapters except the ones voted in in April will need to do new COOs.

*COOs (Certification of Officers) are due June 30.

*Working on the convention minutes.

*Will put information online about the resolutions.

*Rosters- Many members who have been members for years don't have their 9-digit family number in their profile.

*POCs- Once COOs are completed, I will contact the new presidents and confirm POCs for their chapters.

*I will not be at Rally. I asked Christina Molina if she would be my assistant for then. She will let me know.

*Website pages- Will have Jim add event tracking forms and renewal forms to the resources page.

14. Area Reports –

a. Area 1 VP – Bob Perryman/Rory Airheart

*No information from Area 1.

b. Area 2 VP – Sean Ramsey/Hy Libby

*Sean's mother passed away last night.

*The final stages for the Livermore VA hospital days are in play. It will be June 1.

*Chapter 31 will be doing the 2nd Epic Ride. Trying to put together an evening event at the Camarillo post. Need a contact. Lino Torres stated he'd been trying to contact them but has had no response.

c. Area 3 VP – Paul LaPierre/Ralph Wenzinger

*Paul is out of town on business.

*Working to divide the Area up between the Alternate VPs.

*Very involved in the route planning for the Inaugural Scholarship Run.

d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

e. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

*Went to the District 25 meeting for the Legion. Former chapter 421 would like to start up again.

*Have sent raffle tickets out to all the Area 5 chapters to sell for \$1 apiece. The chapters will keep the money from the tickets. Tickets will be pulled at the Salute to Veterans Run.

*Went to the Julian meeting. They are excited.

*Will be going to the 1st meeting at Riverside chapter 289.

*SAA- Had an issue with a son of a member wearing a squadron patch when they didn't qualify. This was taken care of.

*Will be getting the charter back from the Bloomington chapter.

f. Area 6 VP – Lino Torres

*I'm new to this position.

*Divided the Area up between the Alt. VPs.

*Will put Area 6 back on the map again.

*Working on a new Chapter in Culver City.

*The Panorama City chapter is on hold.

*2 posts in San Luis Obispo area want chapters.

15. Committee Reports –

a. Quartermaster – Mike “Patch” Clement

- *Thanks for the warm welcome.
- *Patrick did an excellent job.
- *Am learning more.
- *Every month during the DEC meeting I will go over production, etc.
- *Processing 6 order right now for chapters 468, 83, 364, 739, 163 and 2nd order for 739.
- *Treasurer received payment and the orders went into production. One week later the orders go out.

b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

- *Spent the month updating the website.
- *Please email me if there are any problems.
- *There are no pics in the Quartermaster Store.

c. Convention and Rally – Currently Open Position

- *Rey-Mick is the chairman working with the Rally chapter in Escondido.
- *Convention-Will be going to the June 2nd meeting at Chapter 43 to let them know they have to have a date for convention or it will be given to another chapter. Cristina Molina from Chapter 43 stated that the convention dates will be May 1-3, 2020.

d. Judge Advocate Report – Ralph Wenzinger

- *Took care of the son of a member wearing a patch who didn't qualify.
- *The bylaw template is on the website. All chapter bylaws should follow it.
- *Working on wording for resolution for bylaws.
- *Answering questions on bylaws.

e. Service Officer – George Smith

- *Had 5 calls from members asking for information for their cases. Gave them contact information for the Veteran Service Officer in their area.
- *Will be putting a monthly email out. Will also have an article for the newsletter.

f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

g. Membership Officer – Rochelle Billet-Smith pending ratification by DEC

h. Historian – Currently Open Position

i. California Legacy Run – Mike Cash/Rochelle Billet-Smith

- *Have been updating the website as the routes are completed.
- *Two florists are donating wreaths.
- *All lunch and dinner stops are good.
- *George stated that he signed up but wouldn't be riding as he had to be in Ontario.

*Approximately 46 are registered at this time.

j. Jr. Past President – Mick Sobczak

*Doing really good. Progress.

*Doctor had cleared me to ride by July 4th. Until then I can drive.

*Received a message from NEC Van Kuran for the National Commander's visit. They asked for the week after December 7th or the week after New Years. Asked them to consider the week between Christmas and New Years as there are more riders able to participate then.

k. ALR Commissioner– Currently Open Position

g. Old Business

*Four chapters were suspended at the pre-convention meeting.

*Chapters 118 and 497 have folded.

*Matt Dolezal stated there may be interest in getting Chapter 118 going again.

*Lino-Didn't know chapter 432 was suspended.

*Chapters 682 and 432 only have 4 members. There was lack of documentation turned in.

h. New Business

a. Historians (1 per area) and why

*Rey stated that it is hard for 1 historian to get around the whole state. He had an idea to put 1 in each area. They would take pics and submit them to Jim. A Department Historian would be picked from the 6.

*Mick made a motion that the President appoint an Ad Hoc Committee of historians with one from each area and one as a chair. 2nd by Gene Hobby. Passed by vote of DEC.

b. Area VP's documents in a timely manner

*Rey-Will be holding Area VPs accountable for getting the chapters to get paperwork in on time.

*Will be strict on deadlines.

*Push, visit, etc. to get the paperwork.

c. Update on Suspensions of non-compliant chapters

See old business

d. Ratify Rochelle Billet-Smith as Membership Officer

*Motion to ratify Rochelle Billet-Smith as the Membership Officer for the ALRDOC by Ralph Wenzinger. 2nd by Debbie Proffitt. Passed by vote of DEC.

e. Ratify Ken Sutton as Convention & Rally Chairperson

*Motion to ratify Ken Sutton as the Convention and rally Chairperson for the ALRDOC by Debbie Proffitt. 2nd by Mike Killion. Passed by vote of DEC.

f. Area 5-

*Gene requested that since Area 5 has 34 chapters and 4 active assistants that he be able to appoint an Area 5 Secretary. Kelly Huff has been helping out with the Area 5 calendar, Facebook page, etc. Ralph didn't see an issue. Mick stated that Area Secretaries were brought up under Poncho Villa and not allowed.

*Gene asked that there be funds so that Areas could have their own canopies (that would have "Area 5 ALR" on them), banners, etc. These would be used at meet and greets, community involvement, etc. but at the moment there was no funding for them. He asked that there be an Area 5 bank account. Ralph stated that there are no provisions in the Bylaws for an Area to have finances. Rey stated that there are other ways of doing it. As in borrowing a chapter canopy when needed. Monique stated that an Area is used for guidance. That an Area doesn't own anything including bank accounts.

g. Review/Ratify Convention & Rally conditions

*Change the requirement for having merchandise ordered from 11 months to 3 months before convention. At 11 months the requirement would be that the merchandise had been designed and vendors located.

Monique asked about where Hollywood will jump into the timeline so we don't have a problem. Rey will be going to their next meeting.

*Cris Molina stated that she had already contacted the Best Western next door to the post. The Best Western will hold all 82 rooms for convention if asked. Rooms will be \$169 per night. Debbie asked if there is a code needed to book at that price. Cris said she would ask.

*Motion by Mick Sobczak to ratify the Conditions for holding Convention as amended. 2nd by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.

*Rally- Motion that a chapter must be in attendance at Rally to be able to host the next Rally by Mike Smith. 2nd by Mick Sobczak. Passed by vote of DEC.

*Rally- Motion that Rally attendees vote on the Rally venue for the following year by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.

h. **Sick / Memorial**

*Sean Ramsay's mother passed away last night.

*Monique requested that if anyone knows of anyone being sick or who passed to please send her an email with their information so she can send a card or go visit.

*John Archuleta, former Area 6 VP, has been ill for a while and has recently returned home after an extensive hospital stay.

i. **Good of the Riders**

*Cris Molina stated that after their June 2nd meeting they would be riding to post 46 to support them coming into District 24.

*Cris-8 riders went to Las Vegas to escort the ashes of Legionnaire George Jolly home.
*Monique-Had a request from Post 283 for support for the internment of SSGT Vincent Rogers on June 5 at 11:45am then to the Air Museum. NBC Today show had a story on him.
*Rochelle-Thanks to all. I have big shoes to fill.

- j. **Next Meeting Date** – 20 June 2019 @ 1900 or 7:00 PM
- k. **Benediction** - Monique Clemons
- l. **Adjournment** – President Rey Ruiz @ 8:53pm