

**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

July 25, 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

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-Ken Sutton; **EX**

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; **EX**

Vice President-Fred Branson;

Treasurer-Leonard Phillips;

Chaplain-Monique Clemons;

Historian-Vacant;

Service Officer-George Smith;

Quartermaster-Mike Clement;

Membership-Rochelle Billet-Smith;

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 Hobby;

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;

Area 4 Commissioner-Karl Wilvert;

Area 6 Commissioner-Steve Weber

GUESTS: Kelly Huff

7. Additions to the Agenda –

None

8. Approval of Minutes – June 20, 2019 minutes

Motion to accept the June 20, 2019 minutes as electronically transmitted by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by John Smartt. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips

*\$22,373 paid out. \$21,653.40 to deposit. Current balance \$72,277.35. Have paid the bills, the VA&R donation, emergency relief, Quartermaster payment and Safety officer payment.

*There are outstanding patch orders. They need to be paid before the Quartermaster makes them.

*Debbie asked about the convention reimbursement that was approved at the last DEC mtg. Leonard stated he would look then get it out.

*Motion to accept the finance report as given pending audit by Leonard Phillips. 2nd by Rory Airheart. Passed by vote of DEC.

10. Presidents Report – Rey Ruiz

*Tried to attach reports to the agenda. Didn't work. Will find a way.

*On July 7 went to Friend's service.

*Participated in the California Scholarship Run.

*Participated at the Legion Convention. Gave plaques to the Auxiliary, Sons and Legion. Made a report to the Legionnaires.

*Went to the LSR Horseshoe tournament.

*Spent family time in Pismo Beach.

*Won't be able to make it to the Area 3 meeting on August 17. Will be at a DEC meeting at Post 26 that day.

*Need Areas 1,2,4 and 6 to set up President meetings.

11. Vice President Report – Fred Branson

12. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith

*Attended the Legion convention.

*Attended the last day of the Scholarship Run.

*At convention, represented the Riders by wearing his vest while playing TAPS.

*Will be at the Area 5 and Area 3 meetings.

13. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

*Working on the Scholarship Run finances then will go ack to archiving.

14. Area Reports –

a. Area 1 VP – Bob Perryman

- *Ch 119 had a poker run with 135 bikes.
- *Yountville will be going on. Plan on being there. Won't be able to ride this summer. Will email Area 1 to plan n going.
- *President's meeting will be in October at post 383, Fair Oaks. Date to be determined.
- *August 9 and 10 will be the Sacramento Stand Down. Will be working night security at McClellan Park.
- *District 2 voted to dissolve. Would like to meet with the President to keep it going.
- *Attended the Legion convention. Noticed not many wearing red on Friday.
- *Working on a new chapter.
- *Rey asked Fred to represent the Department at Yountville.

b. Area 2 VP – Sean Ramsey

- *District 10 did a remembrance event that was great.
- *Ongoing Epic Ride for the Central Coast Veteran's Cemetery. They are in the middle of the ride.
- *Area 2 now has a Facebook page.
- *Will be doing a gear check in at the Laguna Seca Raceway. Warren put it together with chapters from Area 2.
- *District 28 and Post 593 are celebrating 20 years with a poker run out of Prunedale this Saturday. Sign in is 9-10am.
- *President's meeting was scheduled, then not. Looking for a date.

c. Area 3 VP – Paul La Pierre/Ralph Wenzinger

- *The Area 3 President's meeting will be August 17 at Chapter 3 in Hanford. 11am is social hour. Noon is lunch. 1pm is the meeting. There will be a breakfast fun run in the morning at 6am.
- *Working on the vet's suicide awareness run in February.

d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

c. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

- *Chula Vista veterans home visit had over 40 bikes and many chapters. Donated \$1,035 in \$5 Walmart gift cards to be used for Bingo prizes. Also had an ice cream social for the residents.
- *Went to the Legion convention. Rey gave a great talk. Got a reward from District 25.
- *July 27 will be the Area 5 President's meeting at chapter 716 at 10:30am.
- *Big Bear is having their 1st Annual Ride the Mountain on August 17 in honor of their 1st year.
- *Julian will be having a BBQ in the 24th.
- *Chapter 112 in Ontario will be starting up.
- *Ch 79 had a vest issue- Got name of person from Rey. The person is antagonistic.
- *The Area 5 raffle is going on.

d. Area 6 VP – Lino Torres

- *Chapter 534, Orcutt, is having a poker run.
- *Getting out and starting to meet people.
- *Chapter 211 will have a poker run in August for a member's son who was in an accident.
- *August 10th chapter 311 will do a BBQ at the Vet's home in Lancaster.
- *Chapter 241 will be doing a Taco Tuesday every Tuesday from 5:30-8pm.
- *Working on the suicide ride in Lancaster. Dave will be working out the details. Will invite the green Knights from the base. Mick stated that the ride is February 22 for all Areas. He asked that they send him a flyer.

15. **Committee Reports** –

a. Quartermaster – Mike (Patch) Clement

- *Moving son into college.
- *The last 3 months have been running smooth. Any delay in ord4rs is the POC not paying. Once payment is verified then there is a 5-day production run then the order is mailed.
- *Currently 3 orders waiting for payment. Chapters 111, 28 and 229.
- *George- received a duplicate order. Mike stated the mistake is on the Quartermaster. George stated that when the patches are bought by a member, they will send payment.

b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

- *Having new problems with emails because of spammers. The companies are tightening down. Problems with forwarding.
- *the website is fine.

c. Convention and Rally – Ken Sutton (Cris Molina / Mick Sobczak)

- * Convention-Rey saw the minutes. Not a lot of movement. Working on registration. Still nothing solid.
- *Rally-On track. Using the Quartermaster for shirts and pins. There will be a band. Use the Eventbrite link for registration.
- *There will be 2 rides. One to Pine Valley and one to the Mount Soledad Cross. There will be a points of interest list.
- *There will be a shuttle between the post and the hotels.
- *Can't use the dirt area next to the Armory for RVs because of security. Working with the city to be able to use the lot next to the post.

d. Judge Advocate Report – Ralph Wenzinger

- *Conducted ALR installations at chapters 20 and 221.
 - *Attended the Legion convention so was unable to participate in the Scholarship Run.
 - *Was there to welcome the Scholarship Run into the convention.
 - *Convention impacts to us...
- The report from Commissioner Bob Perryman was accepted and passed. The resolutions from the ALR convention go into effect.

- *19-001-Adding a passenger to retired status.
- *19-002-Establishing a Past President's Club.
- *19-005-Posting of resolutions at Area meetings then on the website.
- *Resolution 2019-13 passed. Any ALR officer can now be Post Commander.
- *Will be working to bring the Department bylaws up to date.

e. Service Officer – George Smith

- *Navy-Blue Water passed. File a claim regardless. Ships took ocean water and used it for cooking, drinking, washing, etc. This water was tainted with runoff. Claims start January 1.
- *Disabled vets will be able to utilize Commissaries and PX's with any percentage of disability.
- *Bob mentioned that the President will be signing the Legion Act.

f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

- *88k mikes reported so far from 39 of 95 chapters.
- *Will be at the Area 5 meeting.
- *Enjoyed the Legacy Run.
- *Enjoyed convention.
- *Will be discussing the cup rules with members.

g. Membership Officer – Rochelle Billet-Smith

- *Have access to the spreadsheet.
- *Will meet with Gary.
- *Need access from Jim Oxley.

h. Historian – Currently Open Position

i. California Legacy Run – Mike Cash/Rochelle Smith

- *Was a great run. No medical or mechanical issues.
- *Had some dignitaries and some media.
- *Next meeting will be August 12 at 6:30pm.
- *Rey-The committee did a great job. It was flawless. All had a great time.

j. Jr. Past President – Mick Sobczak

- *Suicide Ride will be February 22 in all Areas. Will get fliers to Areas. Area VPs will be working on this in their Areas. Each Area will pick the charity for suicide awareness or TBI. Charity Navigator is a good place to look.
- *Stated to Leonard that he will deposit \$13,382.52 for the Scholarship Run. Will need a heck to take to National. Will be leaving with Marten Borg on the morning of August 13. Marten found out his prostate cancer has returned.

k. ALR Commissioner – Bob Perryman

*The Commissioners are to help intervene when there is a problem between the post and the riders.

16. Old Business

a. Historians (1 per area) ADHOC

**Rey has not received any response from the Areas for any Area volunteers.*

*Area VPs- Send out inquiries.

b. Financial Review from Hollister on convention

c. Old Convention & Rally Merchandise (Monique)

*No one showed interest.

*Will do a conference call this week.

*We do give seed money to the chapters.

*Leonard-The seed money is to help with set up. Receipts are required. Any money not used comes back.

*Initial money comes from the ALRDOC. The leftover merchandise can be given back to raise money for VA&R. Maybe going forward.

*What about splitting the proceeds between the chapter and the ALRDOC? Too much paperwork.

*Mick stated his chapter will be donating the excess 2015 shirts to the veteran stand down.

*Rey stated that their shirts were taken to vets.

*Maybe leftover pins could be sold for VA&R.

d. Uniform – ALR Officer Badges (Mike)

*Wearing of the Legion patch in the ALR area. Will have wording by next meeting.

e. Add 2nd State VP or Asst. VP (1 North, 1 South) Fred

*Withdrawing his idea for a north and south VP.

f. Outreach work with big 6 VFW, Combat Vets, Am Vets, Viet Nam Vets, ALR form ADHOC Committee (Fred) Chairperson

*Big 6 outreach- Need Randy Brenneman's information for contacts.

g. California Scholarship Run follow-up

*See committee report.

h. Veteran Suicide Awareness California Run TBI (Mick) Chairperson ADHOC Committee

*All areas on February 22.

- i. Rally Hotels, T-shirts & flyers ready next week.

*See committee report.

17. New Business

- a. Update on Chapters for failure to submit COO's by the dead-line
 - Area 1 District 2 Cottonwood- motion to suspend District 2 by Bob Perryman. 2nd by Rory Airheart. Passed by vote of DEC.
 - Area 6 Chapter 176 San Fernando-Motion to suspend Chapter 176 by Lino Torres. 2nd by Dave Corbin. Passed by vote of DEC.

- b. Newsletter

*Articles are due August 5.

- c. Voting on proposed Chapter 620 Rocklin, Ca.

*Need to update the bylaws and use the bylaw template.

*Leonard-Check not received yet. Bab has the check and will mail it.

*Motion to accept Chapter 620, Rocklin, pending receipt of check and bylaws update by Bob Perryman. 2nd by Rory Airheart. Passed by vote of DEC.

- d. Removal of Robert (Smokey) Stover from the Executive Trial Committee

*Robert Stover was appointed chairman of the Department Board of Review. He didn't show up on a call.

*Motion to remove Robert Stover from the Department Board of Review by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by Fred Branson. Passed by vote of DEC.

- e. Ratification of Pete DePalma to the Department Board of Review.

*Motion to ratify Pete DePalma to the Department Board of Review by Fred Branson. No 2nd.

- f. Ratification of Ignacio Alvarez as Chairperson for the Department Board of Review.

*No motion.

- g. Ratification of Rochelle Smith as Chair for the Legacy Run Committee

*Motion to ratify Rochelle Smith as the Chair for the California Legacy Run Committee by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by Rory Airheart. Passed by vote of DEC.

- h. Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for the California Legacy Run

*Motion to create an Ad Hoc committee for the California Legacy Run with at least 2 members from each Area by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by John Smartt. Passed by vote of DEC.

- i. Creation of a California Legacy Run website

*Motion to spend \$218 year to create a website for the California Legacy Run by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by John Smartt. Passed by vote of DEC.

18. Sick / Memorial

- a. John Hopper 07/13/2019 deceased Chapter 509 Fresno
Had services last week on July 19.
- b. Rory Airheart was ok from an accident.
- c. Mike Cash is still recovering from his accident and still in a lot of pain.

19. Good of the Riders

*Rory Airheart stated he'd had an accident on the Fallen Soldiers Run and that he was ok.

20. Next Meeting Date – 22 August 2019 1900 or 7:00 PM

21. Benediction - Monique Clemons

22. Adjournment – President Rey Ruiz @ 8:54pm