

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

September 20, 2019 at the ALRDOC Rally, Escondido, CA

1. **Called to Order** - President Rey Ruiz @ 6:05pm
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; EX

Secretary-Debbie Proffitt;

Judge Advocate/Area 3 Alt VP-Ralph Wenzinger;

Safety Officer-Rob Carrier;

Webmaster/Public Relations-Jim Oxley; EX

JR Past President-Mick Sobczak;

Convention & Rally-Ken Sutton; EX

Ways & Means- Vacant;

Area 1 VP/Area 1 Commissioner-Bob Perryman;

Area 1 Alt VP-Bob Gault;

Area 2 VP/Area 2 Commissioner- 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; EX

Area 5 Alt VP-Mike Killion;

Area 6 VP-Lino Torres; EX

Area 6 Asst VP- Dave Corbin; EX

Area 3 Commissioner-Vince Cole;

Area 5 Commissioner/Chairperson-Paul Patricio;

Tech Advisor-James Adames

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;

Legacy Run-Rochelle Billet-Smith;

Area 1 Alt VP-Rory Airheart;

Area Alt VP-Larry Goekler; EX

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; EX

Area 4 Commissioner-Karl Wilvert;

Area 6 Commissioner-Steve Weber;

Guests: Cindy Gano- 521; Janet Wilson-D9: Dee Pittenger-848; John-595; Paul Brown-Department Adjutant

7. Additions to the Agenda –

None

8. Approval of Minutes – August 22nd Minutes

Motion to accept the August 22, 2019 minutes as electronically transmitted by Mike Killion. 2nd by Lino Torres. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips

*Debits \$51,988.08; Deposits \$41,006,76; Balance on track \$62,015.57; in bank \$70,000; Quartermaster \$424,000; PayPal \$2,500; Outstanding invoices for patches \$5,000.

*Motion to accept the Finance Report as given pending audit by Leonard Phillips. 2nd by Gene Hobby. Passed by vote of DEC.

10. Presidents Report – Rey Ruiz

*Participated in the California Legacy Run Committee meeting on August 26. If you, or others, would like to be part of the planning for the 2020 California Legacy Run, please email Rochelle Billet-Smith at harleysoftlady@aol.com to be added to the call. YOUR participation ensures our success.

*September 1 organized a ride for our chapter, 328 Norco, to chapter 416 Encinitas for breakfast. Great turnout of 13 bikes and 17 members.

*September 8 attended the San Diego Padres baseball game.

*September 14 attended Sarah's Ride at 507 Newhall.

*September 15 attended the Remembering Our Fallen escort.

*This weekend here at chapter 149 for Rally.

11. Vice President Report – Fred Branson

*No Report.

12. Sgt. At Arms Report – Mike Smith

13. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

*Spoke about a program that donates wheelchairs to each Harley Davidson dealer across the country. There are 50 in California. "Lieutenant Dan" is the head of getting them to each state. They could be dropped off in Barstow then delivered across the state. Debbie will give the information to Rey to contact Dan.

14. Area Reports –

a. Area 1 VP – Bob Perryman

*Will be in Dixon for the burial of 41 unclaimed remains from WW1, WW2, Korea and Vietnam.

*Post 77 is having issues that I'm helping with but it is Legion business.

*Area 1 President's meeting will be October 5 at chapter 77.

*Have contacted District 2 with no success.

*Owns a Lowkey- The only one running of all left. Puts it in parades and always wins 1st place. Uses it to promote the Legion and Riders.

b. Area 2 VP – Sean Ramsey/Mike Clement

*Delta Stand down will be at the Contra Costa County fairgrounds.

c. Area 3 VP – Paul La Pierre/JD Bennett

*Chapter 684 escorted the Remembering Our Fallen memorial from Santa Maria on August 21. Did a hand off to Area 5. Thanks Area 5.

*Ralph-East Bakersfield was suspended at convention. He has their charter. Will hold on to it until their charter is revoked.

*Many chapters are gearing up for Veteran's Day.

*Sanger will have a parade on November 2.

*Area 3 will have their next President's meeting on February 29 at Chapter 83 in Merced.

d. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

*No report.

e. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

*Picked up the escort for the Remembering Our Fallen memorial from Area 3.

*The Passport Run is regrouping for next year with Mama Dee running it.

*Area 5 President's meeting will be October 13 in Colton at 10:30am.

*Will have a new chapter tonight- 742 Highland.

*Chapter 289 is regrouping.

*Area 5 raffle is ongoing.

f. Area 6 VP – Lino Torres

*Have a Booze Sled raffle. \$10 per ticket. Will benefit the Pete Knight Veterans Home.

*Thanks to Paul for letting Area 6 lead them.

*Area 6 President's meeting will be at Chapter 43, Hollywood, at 10am. Breakfast available before the meeting.

15. Committee Reports –

a. Quartermaster – Mike (Patch) Clement

*There is a process for ordering patches. The order comes in. An invoice is sent to the chapter. The chapter pays the Treasurer. The Treasurer notifies the Quartermaster of payment. Patches go into production and are sent to the Chapter.

*There has been an issue with the address to send the patches to. Some are coming back. Make sure the address is correct.

*Deleted all orders that were sent in prior to Convention.

*Will be swimming from Alcatraz to the Aquatic Park. Trying for 48 minutes or less.

*Will be training to swim from the Golden Gate bridge to the Bay bridge.

b. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

c. Convention and Rally – Ken Sutton/Cris Molina

*Karl Risinger is setting up the website for next week.

*Logo has been ok'd.

*Registration amount will be close to last year's amount.

d. Judge Advocate Report – Ralph Wenzinger

*Bylaws will be updated by the next DEC meeting. Added the 3 resolutions from convention and the resolution from the Department convention. Changed some wording to align with the Department bylaws.

*Next will be working on the bylaw template for new chapters.

e. Service Officer – George Smith

f. Safety Committee – Rob Carrier

*There have been some accidents.

*The accident report forms need to go out to membership.

*There are 45 chapters that have reported miles.

*Working on Safety Training for Areas 3 and 5.

g. Membership Officer – Rochelle Billet-Smith

*Have Office 365 now. Will be able to do reports.

*Have had 2 people ask for applications for the Riders.

h. Historian – Currently Open Position

i. California Legacy Run – Rochelle Billet-Smith

*2020 California Legacy Run will be June 19-20. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

*Should have info on website in November.

j. Jr. Past President – Mick Sobczak

*Logging miles and making progress.

k. ALR Commissioner – Paul Patricio

*Big Legion is watching the Facebook posts. Watch what your allowing to be posted on your pages. There was a picture of riders with unauthorized patches. The riders were contacted and removed the patches but the picture was still up.

l. Alt. ALR Commissioner – Bob Perryman

*Chapter 77- Commander and President not getting along. Waiting to have a meeting with them.

*Last year the Riders took over the parade the Monday before Memorial Day as the VFW stepped back. No help from the Legion or VFW.

*Shout out to Cindy Gano for helping in Area 1.

m. ALR Advisor – James Adames

*Progress

16. Old Business

a. Uniform – When will the Uniform Manual be updated & distributed (Mike)

*Per Rey- Mike was having trouble converting the file. Will send out before the next DEC meeting.

b. Outreach work with big 6 VFW, Combat Vets, Am Vets, Vietnam Vets, ALR form ADHOC Committee (Fred) Chairperson

*Fred needs to call Randy Brenneman.

*Fred is the Foreperson for the Mendocino County Grand Jury and has been busy.

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

*Talked with the Area VPs. Will have a flyer out.

d. Padres Baseball Game

*See President's report.

e. Results of Department Review Board & Recommendations (CLOSED SESSION) immediately following the DEC meeting for Elected Officers of the DEC 6 Area VP's Sgt. At Arms, Vice President & President.

17. New Business

a. Update on Chapters suspensions-

✓ Area 1 District 2 Cottonwood

*Motion to revoke the charter of District 2, Cottonwood, by Bob Perryman. 2nd by John Smartt. Passed by vote of DEC.

✓ Area 6 Chapter 176 San Fernando

*Waiting until after the District meeting to talk to the Commander.

✓ Area 6 Chapter 432 Cambria

*Already talked to the Commander. Giving them a cool down period.

b. Paul Brown-State Adjutant

*Brought the “Five Rules of Subsidiary Corporations or SAL and Riders Semi Independent Programs” to talk about. There is a new Judge Advocate for National and he interprets things differently than prior Judge Advocates.

*Theoretically, these will try to be incorporated prior to the next Department Convention in June 2020. Since the Riders operate differently than the SAL at the Department level, Mr. Brown wasn't sure how this would happen. There would need to be multiple meetings to try to figure all aspects out.

For Departments...

1. All officers, directors, trustees, etc. must be named by the Department (usually nominated by the Department Commander and confirmed by the Department Executive Committee).
*This does not apply in California.
2. All vacancies in the subsidiary corporation must be filled by the Department.
*This does not apply in California.
3. The subsidiary corporation must report to the Department, no less frequently than monthly. These reports must include financial reports.
*Chapters should be doing this with their post monthly or quarterly.
4. The Department Treasurer or Finance Officer or Department fiscal officer must be a signatory on all accounts.
*Chapters should be doing this with their Post finance officer.
5. All amendments to articles of incorporation or by-laws must be approved by the Department. (If the current text has not been approved by Department, it too must be approved.)
*Already in place in California.

Mr. Brown talked about best practices at Posts. Issues at the Post level effects the Department. When Posts allow 1%ers to rent the Post it makes issues all around.

Paul Patricio talked about who the Posts are allowing to rent their Halls.

c. Use of ALRDOC Membership email list to promote events

d. Asst. State Vice President proposal

*The 6 Area VPs are the Assistants to the State VP. Area Commissioners should be working with the State VP.

*After discussion it was noted that there wasn't a need for an Assistant State Vice President.

e. Historian Ratification

*Motion to ratify Mick Sobczak as ALRDOC Historian by Rey Ruiz. 2nd by Larry Brandt. Passed by vote of DEC.

f. Motion by Mick Sobczak to research other options for an ALRDOC website. 2nd by JD Bennett. Passed by vote of DEC.

g. Newsletter articles- Need at least a small paragraph from Area VPs and all Officers. Deadline is October 15. Chapters can send articles.

h. Chapter 742-Highland

*All paperwork was turned in on time and issues taken care of. The start up payment was received by the Treasurer.

*Motion to accept Chapter 742, Highland, as the 99th ALRDOC chapter by Gene Hobby. 2nd by Larry Brandt. Passed by vote of DEC.

i. Chapter 682, East Bakersfield

*Motion to revoke the charter of Chapter 682, East Bakersfield, by Ralph Wenzinger. 2nd by John smart. Passed by vote of DEC.

18. Sick / Memorial

*Gerald Kirby from Chapter 716 has Lymphoma.

*Dan, Ch 852, mending.

*Leonard will have surgery October 4.

*Fred Hurst has cancer.

*Nick Deitz, Ch 281, was hit on his bike. Has many issues.

*Mike Yirka, Ch 574, is on the mend.

*Hurly Holcombe is in a wheelchair recuperating from his accident and his wife is mending.

*Sheryl Johnson is on hospice.

*Jack Perry, Ch 83, founder, has serious medical issues.

*Sonny Feran, District 22 VSO isn't doing well.

There was a moment of silence.

19. Good of the Riders

*There is a Quilt Raffle to benefit the California Legacy Run. Buy tickets and pick up flyers.

*John Smartt- there was a Chapter President posting derogatory stuff on the Area 5 Facebook page.

*Leonard-If you haven't given him your address you won't get a per diem check.

*Debbie-Area VPs-When bringing in new chapter, let them know they do not need to make per capita or delegate fee payments until AFTER the next convention.

*Ralph-The 3rd Friday in September is National POW/MIA Day. Remember the 82,000 plus who have yet to be found.

20. Next Meeting Date – 24 October 2019 1900 or 7:00 PM

21. **Benediction** - Monique Clemons
22. **Adjournment** – President Rey Ruiz @ 8:22pm