**The American Legion Riders**

**Department of California**

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*For God and Country*

**DEC Minutes**

May 28, 2020

1. **Called to Order** - President Rey Ruiz @ 7pm
2. **Invocation** – Dennis McClary
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; **Vice President**-Fred Branson;  **Sergeant-At-Arms**-Mike Smith; **Treasurer**-Leonard Phillips; **Secretary**-Debbie Proffitt; **Chaplain**-Monique Clemons; EX

**Judge Advocate**-Ralph Wenzinger; **Historian/Jr Past**-Mick Sobczak*;* **Safety Officer**-Mike Killian; **Service Officer**-George Smith; **Webmaster/Public Relations**-Jim Oxley; **Quartermaster**-Mike Clement;

**Membership/Legacy Run**-Rochelle Billet-Smith; **Convention & Rally**-Ken Sutton;  **Ways and Means-**Dennis McClary; **Area 1 VP**-Bob Perryman; **Area 2 VP**- Sean Ramsay; EX  **Area 3 VP**-Paul LaPierre; **Area 4 VP**-Joel Lopez; **Area 5 VP**-Gene Hobdy;

**Area 6 VP**-Lino Torres

Guests: Larry Brandt; John Smartt; Kathleen McClary; James Adames; Hy Libby; Tracy Dalton

1. **Additions to the Agenda** –

None

1. **Approval of Minutes** – April 23rd 2020

Motion to accept the April 23, 2020 minutes as electronically transmitted by Gene Hobdy.

2nd by Paul LaPierre. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Financial Report** – Leonard Phillips

\*Current balance = $79, 868.30

\*Added expansion to the current budget to get us to October.

\*Yearly liability insurance is paid.

\*Received 2 patch payments. There is currently $13, 150 in the Quartermaster account to pay for orders.

\*Motion to approve the Finance report as given pending audit by Leonard Phillips. 2ns by Gene Hobdy. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Presidents Report** – Rey Ruiz

\*May 9th attended a 100th birthday drive through celebration in Redondo Beach,

\*Attended calls with Department over finance.

\*Attended calls with the Convention Committee. Will go to one per month.

\*Attended calls with the Legacy Run Committee.

\*May 23rd attended in person meeting n Sanger to review ALR finances with the TAL Finance Commission. Had new charters signed while there.

\*May 25th attended a ride to Barstow Veterans Home. A community led rolling rally to raise awareness and help save our local Veterans home from closure.

1. **Vice President Report** – Fred Branson

\*We have been approved for opening of phase 2. Restaurants to open with reduced seating.

\*Looking for opportunities to ride.

1. **Sgt. At Arms Report** – Mike Smith

\*Attended the rise to Barstow to support the Barstow Veterans Home.

\*Looking forward to riding.

1. **Secretary Report** – Debbie Proffitt

\*Working on Area tracking updates. Will be putting together new tracking for 20/21.

1. **Area Reports** –
   1. Area 1 VP – Bob Perryman

\*On Memorial Day may posts did honor ceremonies.

\*The yearly Labor Day parade is canceled.

\*Waiting to see if the Car Show on 9/12 is a go.

\*Other chapters are doing what they can.

\*Have contacted all chapters.

\*Requested that paid delegate fees carry over to 2021 id convention is cancelled.

* 1. Area 2 VP – Sean Ramsey/Hy Libby

\*Chapters have been involved with funeral escorts.

\*Participated in the ABC video shoot.

\*Local members went to their cemeteries, cleaned up and placed flags.

\*Raised the flag on Memorial Day at the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery.

* 1. Area 3 VP – Paul LaPierre

\*Busy with the Barstow support ride.

\*Chapters did Memorial Day ceremonies.

* 1. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

e. Area 5 VP – Gene Hobdy

\*Posts are starting to open up serving food.

\*On May 23rd did a “22 mile” ride with Chapter 132 to the Long Beach VA.

\*Mama Dee has been working on the Area 5 passport run. It will be ready at convention.

\*Area 5 has 6 chapters that are struggling. Spoke to 4. Will be helping them work together to help each other with events.

* 1. Area 6 VP – Lino Torres

\*On May 25th did a veteran food giveaway with chapters 311 and 348 in Palmdale. Chapter 311 raised the flag at the Palmdale Cemetery.

\*Chapter 43 has been on the news providing food and PPE.

\*Did the Salute to Heroes with chapters 43, 507 and the VFW riders.

\*Chapter 43 rode to Barstow to support the Veterans Home.

\*There was a question asked about the attendance challenge. Rey stated to turn the information in to Mick. It stats again May 1.

\*Rey stated that the Pacific Palisades post wants to start a chapter.

1. **Committee Reports** –
   1. Quartermaster – Patch

\*Things have been slow since the virus.

‘\*Have been looking at the ordering system. Several people are working n the same order. Sometimes the person who ordered was no longer a member.

\*Two orders went out today. Three are in process. Three orders were invoiced and

sent to chapters 262, 100 and 112.

\*Was using USPS but went to Fed Ex to have tracking.

* 1. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

\*Getting lots of requests for changing the dates o their events.

* 1. Convention and Rally – Ken Sutton

\*Convention committee calls will go to once a month. Twice a month when we get closer.

* 1. Judge Advocate Report – Ralph Wenzinger

\*It was an honor to go to the Barstow Vets Home rally with chapters 20, 26 and 221. It was an awesome sight.

\*Have been attending the Legacy Run and Convention committee meetings.

\*There were no public events for Memorial Day though Rochelle and I went to the local VA cemetery to place flags.

\*On May 1st chapters 3,26, 100 and 509 rode to Hanford for a ride by parade for the parents of Spc. Juan Covarrubias who passed in Afghanistan on March 11. He will be brought back to the states on May 27.

* 1. Service Officer – George Smith

\*Chapter 105 did their first fundraiser on Sunday riding 22 miles for veteran’s suicide prevention. Had 24 bikes and raised $1,200.

* 1. Safety Committee – Mike (Monkey) Killon

\*Nothing to report yet.

\*Lino-Would like a safety class set up for his chapter. Just need to know what is needed.

* 1. Membership Officer – Rochelle Billet-Smith

\*There are 3 or 4 new members.

\*Post 26 had a drive by dinner on May 15th and sold over 300 dinners.

* 1. Historian – Currently Mick Sobczak

\*Got some good pics at Barstow.

* 1. California Legacy Run – Rochelle Billet-Smith

\*New dates…August 28-30, 2020

* 1. Jr. Past President – Mick Sobczak

\*Having fun riding around the state.

\*Noticing riders not wearing DOT helmets. Chapters members must wear them.

* 1. ALR Commissioner – Bob Perryman

\*No report = no problems.

* 1. Ways and Means – Dennis McClary

\*Received $760 for the Legacy Scholarship Fund. Area 2 has 100% participation from all chapters.

1. **Old Business**
   1. Update on 5 Rules –

* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will add the AL Department Adjutant to the existing bank account. The Adjutant will be on the account*
* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will utilize the AL Department of California Tax ID number OR maintain current number for current account. We will use the AL Tax ID #*
* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will maintain a Department Finance Officer. We will continue to have an ALR Treasurer, duties will be minimal but still necessary.*
* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will maintain their current bank account and monthly statements will be forwarded to the Adjutant. The ALR will not maintain the current bank account, we will be rolled into an account that is linked into the Legion account*
* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will be allowed to maintain a balance of $5,000.00 on a monthly basis in this account for operating purposes. No monthly balance in account since there will be no account*
* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will create a PO process for reimbursements, call ins, donations and general dis/reimbursements. This will be a voucher process. Details still being configured.*

1. *The State Treasurer will submit (upon receipt or within 3 days) via email to the State President (this is the 1st electronic approval).*
2. *The State President will review and submit (upon receipt or within 3 days) to the Department (this is the 2nd electronic approval).*
3. *If the reimbursement is for the State President, the State Vice President will be the 2nd approver.*
4. *Upon receipt at Department, the person appointed will issue the check. (Checks cannot be administered unless the Treasure and President are both on the email string.) OR the Vice President if the reimbursement is for the President. What is the expected timeline before check is issued?*

* *The American Legion Riders DOC, will submit monthly (or as determined by Department) transmittals from its current Bank Account to the AL DOC Bank Account. NO transmittals since we won’t be keeping our current bank account*
* *Quarterly or as designated The American Legion Riders Treasurer & The Department Adjutant or his/her designee will review balances and transactions for accuracy. This will be one of the responsibilities of the treasurer.*
* *Chapters will continue to pay Per-Capita, Delegate Fees, Quartermaster patch orders and other day-to-day dues and fees to ~~the ALRDOC State Treasurer via~~ PayPal account, Checks or Money Orders ~~as they do now~~. Will be mailed to the ALRDOC State Treasurer and will record account receivables and ~~deposit funds into current bank account.~~ will record the checks in a ledger and mail a copy of the ledger and checks to Department*
* *The ALRDOC State Treasurer will also record account payables in order to maintain accurate records as is being recorded now. Stays the same*
* *The ALRDOC State Treasurer will maintain a line item budget for the American Legion Riders and send a copy to the American Legion Department Adjutant when a copy is sent to the DEC for its monthly call. This is a dual role, the AL Department (Crystal) and ALR Treasurer will both maintain a line item budget validate and send out monthly to the DEC,*
* Multiple calls have taken place; we have taken major steps in bringing this to about 80% completion.
* WE will have two people with Debit cards in the Department. The State Secretary & the State Treasurer. There will be a monthly limit, currently looking at $1,200.00 per Month and up to $5,000.00 a month during major events like Rally, Convention & Legacy Run.
* Have not turned anything over yet. Currently looking at Mid-October to finalize and release funds.
  1. President’s Club – There has been NO INTEREST or response from the group to be the chairperson.

\*Today received 2 responses for a possible chairperson.

1. **New Business**
   1. Area 5 wishes to replace 1 Assistant VP. DEC will need to ratify since convention is 4 ½ months away and will leave vacancies. Dee Pittenger for Mike (Monkey) Killion, Mike was ratified as the State Safety Officer last month.

\*Motion to accept the resignation from Mike Killion as an Area 5 Alternate VP by Gene Hobdy. 2nd by John Smartt. Unanimous roll call vote to accept the resignation.

\*Motion to accept Dee Pittenger as an Area 5 Alternat VP by Gene Hobdy. 2nd by Mike Killion. After discussion a roll call vote was taken. Yes-7, No-1.

* 1. Compliance Dead-lines – ALL remaining Documents & Certification of Officers

\*There was much discussion. It was concluded that all past due chapter obligations and fees would now be due no later than May 15th. Rey will put out a letter stating this. On May 16th a suspension letter will go out to the chapters still out of compliance. Chapters not in compliance before the DEC meeting on June 25, 2020 may be suspended.

\*Certification of Officers reports are due no later than July 31, 2020. Suspension letters will go out to chapter not in compliance on August 1st. Those chapters not in compliance by the DEC meeting on August 27 may be suspended.

* 1. Charge sheet-

\*A charge sheet was brought by the Area 5 VP against an Area 5 Chapter President. The ALDOC Judge Advocate stated that to have the trial by the Area 5 Trial board would be a conflict of interest and explained the area in the Trial Manual that pertained to moving the trial. Rey asked Area 6 VP Lino Torres if he was ok with the trial being moved to his Area Trial Board. He stated that would be ok/

\*Motion to assign the charge sheet to the Trial Board in Area 6 by Ralph Wenzinger. 2nd by Mike Smith. A roll call vote was taken. Yes-5, No-0, abstain-3. The charge sheet will be assigned to the Area 6 Trial Board.

1. **Sick / Memorial**

\*Ch 149- Patrick McDowell is on the list for a liver transplant.

\*Ch 852- Leonard Phillips is on the list for a liver transplant.

\*Ch 684- John Capazzi had a second heart surgery.

\*Ch 852- Rose Bragg is having cancer surgery.

1. **Good of the Riders**

\*John Smartt- Rode to Sacramento with Mick, Frank Pightlinger and Rob Carrier. Geni and Frank from Chapter 3 in Hanford provided a meal and lodging on the way back.

\*Mick- John Smartt is the new President of Chapter 149.

\*Dennis McClary- Made a motion to accept Kathleen McClary as Ways and Means Co-Chair due to possible travel with work. 2nd by Lino Torres. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Next Meeting Date** – 25 June 2020 1900 or 7:00 PM
2. **Benediction** – Fred Branson
3. **President’s Charge** – President Rey Ruiz
4. **Adjournment** – President Rey Ruiz @ 9:02pm