**The American Legion Riders**

**Department of California**

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15th Annual American Legion Riders

Department of California Convention

April 22-24, 2022, Victorville, California

**MINUTES**

**Saturday April 23, 2022**

**0900 hours**

• Called to Order & Advancement of the Colors –Presented by the Young Marines @ 9am

• National Anthem - Performed by Cameron King

• Pledge of Allegiance

• Chaplain Invocation- Fred Branson

• POW/MIA Ceremony- Mike Smith

• Recitation of Preamble to the Constitution-Mike Smith

• Roll Call of Officers-Debbie Proffitt

Yellow highlight indicates the officer or chapter is present.

**Director-** Mike Smith

**Vice Director** – Ralph Wenzinger Area 1 Alt VD – Fred Branson

**Sergeant-At-Arms** – Mark Lawrie Area 1 Alt VD – Bob Perryman

**Treasurer** - Leonard Phillips Area 1 Alt VD – Michael Johnson

**Secretary -** Debbie Proffitt

**Chaplain** – Fred Branson Area 2 Alt VD – Michael Picazo

**Judge Advocate** – Donny Brannon Area 2 Alt VD – Ignacio Alvarez

**Jr Past** – VACANT

**Safety Officer** - Mike Killion Area 3 Alt VD – Robert Stover

**Service Officer** - George Smith Area 3 Alt VD – Ken Sutton

**Webmaster/Public Relations** - Jim Oxley

**Quartermaster** - Mike Clement EX Area 4 Alt VD – Manuel Ibarra

**Membership/ Legacy Run** - Rochelle Billet-Smith

**Convention & Rally** – Mike Smith Area 5 Alt VD – John Smartt

**PPC** - Ken Sutton Area 5 Alt VD – Tracy Dalton

**Ways and Means** - Kathleen McClary Area 5 Alt VD – Marc Lawrie

**Historian** – John Smartt Area 5 Alt VD – Bobby Brown

**Parliamentarian-**James Adames Area 5 Alt VD – Sean Hale

**Area 1 VD** – Pete DePalma EX Area 6 Alt VD – Penni Brown

**Area 2 VD** – Robert Lopez Area 6 Alt VD – Stephanie Huff

**Area 3 VD** – Paul LaPierre

**Area 4 VD** – Joel Lopez

**Area 5 VD** – Edmund Arguello

**Area 6 VD** – Cris Molina

• Roll Call of Chapters

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Area 1 - Chapter 28 | Petaluma |
| Area 1 - Chapter 77 | Woodland |
| Area 1 - Chapter 84 | Auburn |
| Area 1 - Chapter 96 | Fort Bragg |
| Area 1 - Chapter 111 | Windsor |
| Area 1 - Chapter 119 | Placerville |
| Area 1 - Chapter 130 | Grass Valley |
| Area 1 - Chapter 163 | Alturas |
| Area 1 - Chapter 233 | Elk Grove |
| Area 1 - Chapter 383 | Fair Oaks |
| Area 1 - Chapter 437 | Clearlake |
| Area 1 - Chapter 521 | Rio Linda |
| Area 1 - Chapter 587 | Foresthill |
| Area 1 - Chapter 620 | Rocklin |
| Area 1 - Chapter 709 | Rancho Cordova |
| Area 2 - Chapter 31 | Salinas |
| Area 2 - Chapter 69 | Hollister |
| Area 2 - Chapter 82 | San Mateo |
| Area 2 - Chapter 105 | Redwood City |
| Area 2 - Chapter 202 | Brentwood |
| Area 2 - Chapter 694 | Marina |
| Area 2 - District 9 | Antioch |
| Area 2 - District 10 | San Leandro |
| Area 2 - District 13 | Santa Clara |
| Area 2 - District 28 | Salinas |
| Area 3 - Chapter 3 | Hanford |
| Area 3 - Chapter 11 | Madera |
| Area 3 - Chapter 16 | Stockton |
| Area 3 - Chapter 20 | Porterville |
| Area 3 - Chapter 23 | Sanger |
| Area 3 - Chapter 26 | Bakersfield |
| Area 3 - Chapter 83 | Merced |
| Area 3 - Chapter 88 | Turlock |
| Area 3 - Chapter 100 | Lemoore |
| Area 3 - Chapter 108 | Sutter Creek |
| Area 3 - Chapter 147 | Clovis |
| Area 3 - Chapter 221 | Tehachapi |
| Area 3 - Chapter 263 | Escalon |
| Area 3 - Chapter 476 | California City |
| Area 3 - Chapter 509 | Fresno |
| Area 3 - Chapter 684 | Ridgecrest |
| Area 3 - Chapter 711 | Lake Isabella |
| Area 3 - Chapter 872 | Hughson |
| Area 4 - Chapter 184 | Redondo Beach |
| Area 4 - Chapter 309 | Whittier |
| Area 4 - Chapter 359 | Norwalk |
| Area 4 - Chapter 804 | Los Angeles |
| Area 5 - Chapter 53 | Hemet |
| Area 5 - Chapter 60 | Brawley |
| Area 5 - Chapter 79 | Riverside |
| Area 5 - Chapter 112 | Ontario |
| Area 5 - Chapter 132 | Orange |
| Area 5 - Chapter 133 | Huntington Beach |
| Area 5 - Chapter 146 | Oceanside |
| Area 5 - Chapter 149 | Escondido |
| Area 5 - Chapter 200 | Lake Elsinore |
| Area 5 - Chapter 229 | Adelanto |
| Area 5 - Chapter 255 | National City |
| Area 5 - Chapter 262 | Fontana |
| Area 5 - Chapter 281 | Irvine |
| Area 5 - Chapter 289 | Riverside |
| Area 5 - Chapter 299 | Chino |
| Area 5 - Chapter 328 | Norco |
| Area 5 - Chapter 354 | Buena Park |
| Area 5 - Chapter 364 | Santee |
| Area 5 - Chapter 365 | Vista |
| Area 5 - Chapter 416 | Encinitas |
| Area 5 - Chapter 421 | Highland |
| Area 5 - Chapter 428 | Banning |
| Area 5 - Chapter 460 | San Diego |
| Area 5 - Chapter 468 | Julian |
| Area 5 - Chapter 519 | Palm Springs |
| Area 5 - Chapter 555 | Midway City |
| Area 5 - Chapter 574 | Moreno Valley |
| Area 5 - Chapter 584 | Big Bear Lake |
| Area 5 - Chapter 595 | Perris |
| Area 5 - Chapter 716 | Los Alamitos |
| Area 5 - Chapter 739 | Indio |
| Area 5 - Chapter 742 | Corona |
| Area 5 - Chapter 835 | Rancho Cucamonga |
| Area 5 - Chapter 848 | San Jacinto |
| Area 5 - Chapter 852 | Murrieta |
| Area 5 - Chapter 853 | Borrego Springs |
| Area 6 - Chapter 30 | Pomona |
| Area 6 - Chapter 43 | Hollywood |
| Area 6 - Chapter 48 | Oxnard |
| Area 6 - Chapter 50 | Paso Robles |
| Area 6 - Chapter 66 | San Luis Obispo |
| Area 6 - Chapter 136 | Arroyo Grande |
| Area 6 - Chapter 176 | San Fernando |
| Area 6 - Chapter 180 | Azusa |
| Area 6 - Chapter 211 | Lompoc |
| Area 6 - Chapter 241 | Baldwin Park |
| Area 6 - Chapter 311 | Lancaster |
| Area 6 - Chapter 348 | Palmdale |
| Area 6 - Chapter 507 | Newhall |
| Area 6 - Chapter 534 | Orcutt |
| Area 6 - Chapter 741 | Camarillo |
| Area 6 - Chapter 790 | West Covina |

51 chapters were needed to have a quorum. 54 Chapters are present.

• Convene Convention

Recognition of those at convention who served-Ralph Wenzinger

WW2 -none

Korea -none

Vietnam -many

Grenada -dozen

Boznia -dozen

1st gulf war -many

Iraq -many

Afghanistan -many

Current active duty -none

Blue star -3

Gold star -2

Pow -none

• **Welcome / Introduction by Steve Weber / Remarks of Guests and Dignitaries**

* **Ida Ruiz / Gabriel Ruiz (wife and son of Past President Rey Ruiz)**

Remarks by Brittany, a family friend.

The support Rey was given showed that Rey was loved by all. He led through understanding others. He was mentored by mick. He was the first rollover President because of the pandemic. He had a Road Wife, Rochelle Billet-Smith who kept in supply of his favorite snack, peanut butter crackers. James Adames was his advocate while Rey was ill. Fred Branson was wonderful with the many prayers and positivity. Thanks to all in the American Legion and the American Legion Riders. Ida’s goal is to become a rider and ride Rey’s bike. Message from Gabriel- Rey is now your guardian angel.

**Sheriff Gerar Lozano-**

Welcomed the riders to Victorville. He is a huge supporter of the military as he has family that has served. Be careful of the traffic. Have a great convention.

* **James A. Eubanks (Dept. SAL Detachment Commander)**

Thank you for inviting me. I’m 4th generation Navy. I have a special place in my heart for the escorts of our fallen that you do. Squadrons are threatened to be shut down because of lack of participation of their members. If a Squadron is shut down then those members who are riders lose their riders qualification. Commander Eubanks gifted Director Smith with a 4 Chaplain’s coin. Thanks to the riders for all you do.

* **Michael Hjelmstad (Candidate for T.A.L. Commander)**
* **Jere Romano (Candidate for T.A.L. Commander)**

Good morning. I’ve been up and down the state since August to set the tone for the future.

Unification of the families to work together as a family. We have to evolve. We must support each other directly. We must demonstrate that we are one. Lead, follow or get out of the way.

We need to move together as one.

Donated $100 to the California Legacy Run.

* **Nicholas ‘Nick’ Rosa (Area 4 Vice Commander)**

It’s an honor standing before you at this 15th annual Department ALR convention.

This is an environment where legion family members could come together, to share a common love for motorcycles.

Riders in all states have escorted military units returning from combat tours overseas, conducted mass cross country fundraising events for wounded warriors from all services, and raise millions of dollars for countless local, state and national charities.

You conduct annual statewide Legacy runs in direct support of Legion scholarship programs, Operation Comfort Warriors and supporting our wounded service members across the nation.

Reflecting on our foundation, mission, loyalty to our Nation and our members and our fiduciary duties to our newly elected officers.

God bless and may we have a productive and successful convention.

At this convention I’m notifying this delegation of my intent to run for American Legion Department of California Commander in the year of 2024/2025.

The California Legacy Run in 2022 will be in memory of Rey Ruiz.

* **Barbara Lombrano (T.A.L. Adjutant)**

Good morning, On behalf of the Department in Sanger, it’s been a pleasure working with the ALR. Have a wonderful convention. The Riders had received a coin in the mail from National for their contribution to the Legacy Scholarship Fund. Barbara read the notification and presented the coin to Director Smith to add to the plaque from 2019.

* **Autrey James (Dept. T.A.L. Commander)**

Good morning. Thanks for the invitation. I’m honored to be amongst the Riders. The Riders are the tip of the spear of the American Legion. The tip is the part that pierces the enemy and is just as important as the rest of the spear. The spear operates as one unit. We work together. We were founded to serve veterans and our communities. We can lose the way. We must refocus and we can find our way again. I appreciate those who have stepped up. Thank you. When one part fails, all parts fail. We need to work together to survive. As you go forward remember, it’s not about the title or the nickname, it’s all about the back of the vest. Commander James made a $100 donation to the California Legacy Run.

* **James T. Higuera (National Western Region Vice Commander)**

Thank you for being here. Greetings from National Commander Paul Dillard. He loved, and was impressed by, the entourage and escorts when he visited here. The Riders have done so much to improve the lives of our vets and families of the deceased. All of us are caregivers.

The American Legion national words this year are “No vet left behind”.

I wish for a successful convention.

Paul LaPierre’s phone went off. Gave $50 for fine for the Legacy Run.

* **Jeff Freeman (Helmets-4-Heros)**

I was sent to talk about the Freedom Raffle for Helmets for Heroes. There are stands at every District and the Battleship Iowa since March. Hoping to have the helmets to Heroes project fay fully for the entire VSO staff. The Freedom Raffle is $5 per ticket. Tickets sold here will have $2 goes to department, $2 goes to ALR and $1 goes toward the prize. If all tickets are sold there would be $32,500. If your chapter wants tickets to sell contact Barbara Lombrano. The raffle ends July 1.

* **Judy Leonardi (American Legion Baseball)**

The state tournament is growing. Kids get life lessons through playing sports and they learn patriotism. Kids from 13-19 can play. Legion baseball has been around since 1925. Many Major League players were Legion ball players. The word veteran is not known to kids now.

The state tournament costs $70,000. There are 6-8 teams. If each post donated $100 the tournament could be paid for. There is a competition to get posts to donate. The VFW is the largest sponsor of Legion Baseball. I’m challenging the Legion to become the major sponsor.

**Kevin Stonestreet (25th District representative)**

We are a family. Have been on road trips with the Riders. Have a great convention.

**Jesse Salcedo (Area 5 Vice Commander)**

It’s an honor to have all of you here. Wherever there’s a Legion, there’s a home. The Riders have covered and saved my butt many times and I appreciate it. We raised $10,000 for Ronald McDonald House and Post and Chapter 229 matched it.

At times we run into bumps but we surpass them.

Welcome and have a great convention.

• **Convention Announcements**

* Charters to New Chapters

Ch 149 Clovis

Ch 184 Redondo Beach

* Rider Safety Awards

Area 1-Chapter 96 1,596 miles

Area 2-Chapter 105 11,303 miles

Area 3-Chapter 221 18,728 miles

Area 4-Chapter 184 120 miles

Area 5-Chapter 328 30,194 miles

Area 6-Chapter 790 26,271 miles

* Award to Area with most new Chapters

Area 3- 1 chapter-11/18/2021 Chapter 147 Clovis

Area 4- 1 chapter-10/28/2021 Chapter 184 Redondo Beach

* Award to Chapter with most new members

Chapter 149- to be awarded at a later date.

* Mileage Award-most miles-Rider Cup

Chapter 328

• Riders Everlasting Observance (11 a.m.)

District 13 Maryann Harmon

Chapter 20 Benny Alva

Chapter 50 Ashley White

Chapter 53 Twila Mason

Chapter 66 Randy Earl

Chapter 83 Jack Perry

Chapter 84 Loren Frye

Chapter 119 Bill Pittman

Chapter 146 Michael Thayer

Chapter 211 Richard Theis

Chapter 221 Earl Seiler

Chapter 328 Rey Ruiz

Chapter 460 Robert Callaway

Chapter 460 Amber Ashford

Chapter 460 Craig Short

Chapter 509 Bill Payne

Chapter 509 James Leyser

Chapter 521 John O’Brien

Chapter 716 John Scoby

Chapter 739 David Gonzales

Chapter 741 Richard Walters

Chapter 853 Ralph Knight

Chapter 872 Phillip Stuart

• Recess for Group Photo

**1200 hours**

Lunch

**1300 hours**

• Reconvene

• Area Reports

Area 1-Pete DePalma/Fred Branson

The Fallen Heroes Cart leaves SEA/TAC airport May 11. Fred will be picking it up in Oregon. If you want information contact Fred at alrdocchaplain@gmail.com.

Area 2-Robert Lopez

Helping to create a new chapter in Santa Cruz.

Area 3-Paul LaPierre

Area 3 is working on a new chapter.

Area 3 Rider(s) Everlasting…

Chapter 20 - Benny Alva

Chapter 83 – Jack Perry

Chapter 221 - Earl Sieler

Chapter 509 - Bill (Billy Bob) Payne

Chapter 509 - James (Flash) Leyser

Chapter 872 Phillip Stuart

Area 3 raised $27,058 for charities.

Area 3 donated $24,131 to charities.

Area 3 donated 4,425 volunteer hours.

Roundtrip miles ridden are 75,608.

375 events in Area 3 supported this year.

Area 3 supported the following charities…

Adopt a Veteran Family, Salvation Army, American Legion Legacy Scholarship, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Bristol Hospice, Budd Ray Memorial Scholarship Fund, Kern County Officer Down Ride, Sikh Riders of America, Bakersfield Toy Run and Food Drive, Kern County WWII Veterans Memorial, Merced County Blue Star Moms, Helmets for Hero’s, Tunnel to Towers, Horses of Warriors, Lemoore Police Department Presents on Patrol, Hanford Special Olympics Suicide Awareness, Gold Star Family/Fallen Hero’s, Honor Flight Breakfast, LEO appreciation Christmas baskets, Thanksgiving/Christmas gift cards for active duty, Sikh Riders Memorial, Ride-Service to help Veterans, Blue Jacket Awards, Toys for Tots, 999 Foundation Ride Officer Down, Wreaths across America, Children’s Halloween/Christmas parties, Children and Youth programs, Christmas basket and money for two veteran families, Civil Air Patrol, Bristol Hospice,

Area 3 supported the following special events…

ALR Legacy Run, Memorial Day and Veterans Day Parades and Ceremony support, Christmas Day parades, Back the Blue Police Olympics, Rey Ruiz's funeral, Honor Guard/Flag Lines at more than 42 funerals including 3 World War II Veterans and various Korean/Vietnam/Gulf War Veterans as well as several Active-Duty deaths Escorts/Funerals, Thanksgiving Dinner for families, Weekly Escorts of New Recruits, 9/11 Memorial Ceremonies, Escort of Tribute to Fallen Soldiers Memorial Torch Motorcycle Ride, Kern County Honor Flight # 43 Welcome Home, Auxiliary Unit 26 “filling 100 bags with Toys”, Bakersfield National Cemetery Wreath Laying, Hosted Area 3 meetings, Salute to Veterans Ride to Santa Nella National Cemetery, Wreaths Across America at various cemeteries, Modesto Harley Davidson Run For The Veterans, Turlock VFW Ride For the Heroes (Mission 22), Hanford’s Special Olympics Torch Run, Suicide Awareness Cross Country Escort. Cerebral Palsy Awareness Event in Tulare, Fallen Hero Cart escort, 9-11 memorial in Clovis down memorial lane, putting up and taking down American flags for parades, frozen bun run in memory of post everlastings last ride, Four Chaplains in Sanger, Chili cookoffs, Boys State, 9/11 Community Memorial, Parade of 1000 Flags, Remembering Our Fallen, Toys for Tots, Honor Flight Kern County, Dixie and French Fire victims, Whiskey Flat days in Kernville, USS Arizona memorial flags and maintenance, Kern River Valley Veterans Honor Guard, ROF Mobil Wall Escort, Birth Day Drive Bye.

Area 4-Joel Lopez

Area 4 brought in a new chapter…Chapter 184 Redondo Beach.

Escorted the National Commander.

Will be working on a chapter at the Battleship Iowa.

Area 5-Edmund Arguello

Area 5 supported 702 charities.

Area 5 rode 135,000 miles.

Events/ Meetings Attended

-Hosted the Area 5 Director’s Meeting

-Attended the ALR DOC Convention 2022

-Attended Fundraiser Poker Run for the Barstow Soldier’s Home

Area Chapter Activities

-30 APR-Chapter 262, Fontana-7th Annual Motorcycle Rodeo

-Chapter 365, Vista-8th Annual Poker Run

Other

-ALR Area 5 Passports are being sold for 2022-2023

-American Legion Department Convention is in June in Visalia, CA

-American Legion National Convention is in August in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sick/Memorial

Larry Brandt

Good of the Riders

Carpe Diem, Seize the day. This is why we are here at convention, to make the decisions that will affect the next year of our organization and perhaps even further. Participation is what makes the American Legion Riders the top earning program of the American Legion. Get involved, stay involved, continue to get better.

Ride safe, Live free.

Area 6-Cris Molina

TOGETHER… you will hear that word a lot as I give the Area 6 Report. The last 2 years have done unspeakable harm to our mental well-being, to our sense of belonging, and purpose, but TOGETHER over this last year, we got some things done. So rather than call out Chapters individually, I believe the right thing to do is to share what we have done TOGETHER as an Area.

TOGETHER, we raised $23,275. for charities

TOGETHER, we donated $23,915. to charities

TOGETHER, we volunteered 1,387 hours

TOGETHER, we rode 83,324 miles

TOGETHER, we supported 348 events (that’s almost 1 event per day on average)

TOGETHER, we supported over 39 Charities

TOGETHER, we attended and supported over 18 Special Events.

Most important, many of us supported EACH OTHER… We attended Chapter Meet & Greets, Rodeos, supported Chapters in OTHER areas as well as in our own. And perhaps our most difficult and most important mission this past year was escorting our ALR Brother, Jr. Past President, Rey Ruiz, to his final resting place. And we did this TOGETHER, not just as an Area, but as a State.

As we look forward to the coming year, regardless of who sits in this position, whether it’s me or someone else, we MUST focus on building camaraderie OUTSIDE OF OUR AREAS. This is NOT Area versus AREA. We are ALL here for the same mission and therefore we should all support one another. We need to work TOGETHER, to share events and extend invites to ALL of our ALR Brothers and Sisters. And MOST IMPORTANT, we SHOULD go out and support Chapters all around the State, and not just within our bubble. It’s time to pop the bubbles and think about the big picture with one word: TOGETHER.

TOGETHER we are bigger, better, and stronger, and TOGETHER we can accomplish our mission of supporting our Parent Organizations and the Four Pillars.

Thank you for your time.

• Recess to Area Caucuses/Elections

1430 hours Reconvene

• Report of Area Elections

Area 1

Vice Director- Mark Rice

Alt Vice-Tim Madura

Alt Vice-Sam Fergason

Alt Vice-Michael Johnson

Area 2

Vice Director- Robert Lopez

Alt Vice-Peter Torrecillas

Alt Vice-Ignacio Alvarez

Area 3

Vice Director- Paul LaPierre

Alt Vice-Ken Sutton

Alt Vice-Mike Phillips

Alt Vice-Cory Wattenbarger

Area 4

Vice Director- Brian Toal

Alt Vice-Joel Lopez

Area 5

Vice Director- Edmund Arguello

Alt Vice-Bill Blackstone

Alt Vice-Robert Partlow

Alt Vice-Tracy Dalton

Alt Vice-John Staltz

Alt Vice-Dave Reed

Area 6

Vice Director-Cris Molina

Alt Vice-Stephanie Huff

Alt Vice-Pernell Rush

Alt Vice-Teddy Jackson

• **Committee Reports**

Director-Mike Smith

Progress

Vice Director-Ralph Wenzinger

I would like to make amends. I left out a few conflicts earlier.

Panama-dozen

Lebanon-dozen.

Thank you for being here face to face. I applaud every chapter for what you are doing and what you have been doing through the pandemic.

Secretary-Debbie Proffitt

There are still 6 chapters with outstanding obligations.

If a POC, officer or chapter needs help navigating the online roster or website send me a text message or email.

I’d like to recognize our past Department Secretaries…

Jeff Gallagher

Anita Bart

Rita Christolear

Steve Weber

Monique Clemons

Credentials-Debbie Proffitt

Thank you to those who have stepped up and are helping with the delegate check in process. It couldn’t be done without you.

Resolutions-

Convention and Rally-Mike Smith

There were many obstacles to overcome but we were able t get them taken care of. Thank you to chapter 229 for hanging in and continuing to make this convention a success.

Public Relations-Jim Oxley

Have been maintaining the website. We’re doing well.

Constitution & By Laws

Ad Hoc bylaw committee has been working on what the Legion asked us to change. Have a few things to consider and get switched.

Membership-Rochelle Billet-Smith

There are currently 99 chapters. Area 1 has15, Area 2 has 10, Area 3 has 18, Area 4 has 4, Area 5 has 36 and Area 6 has 16.

There are currently 1,985 riders on rosters. TAL = 1303, SAL = 307, AUX = 312 and there are 43 on active duty.

I keep an envelope on the bike with a membership application for all families.

California Legacy Scholarship Run-Rochelle Billet-Smith

Registration is live. The run will be June 10-12, 2022 and there will be 2 routes. The southern route will start in Tehachapi and the northern route will start in Fort Bragg. The 2 routes will meet midway through the 2nd day and will ride together on day 3 which ends in Sacramento.

The registration fee is $50 and the run will be in memory of Rey.

Please donate if you won’t be able to ride.

It’s a great way to meet other riders and honor fallen veterans.

Safety-Mike Killion

There were 7 accidents reported this past year.

Reports need to be turned in whether the accident is from a group ride or a solo ride. We learn from what happened.

Two accidents were due to road conditions, 2 to other cars and 3 to rider error.

Be visible.

Uniform / Quartermaster-Mike Clement

Service Officer-George Smith

1. Every veteran should be signed up with a VSO.
2. All post 911 vets should sign up for the burn pit registration. This will be important down the road.

Ways and means-Kathleen McClary

Quilt ticket sales are going fairly well. Many chapters haven’t turned in tickets or money. Will be selling tickets through tomorrow morning.

• Old Business

None

• **New Business**

-Vote on 2023 Convention location (Areas 1, 2 & 3)

Chapter 20- Michael Philips-Director from Porterville. Said they have the chapter and post ok to hold the 2023 ALRDOC convention. It would be at the Tulare Veteran’s Hall.

Chapter 69- Pete Torrecillas-Director from Hollister.

A hand vote was taken.

Chapter 20 = 80 votes

Chapter 69 = 49 votes

Congratulations to Chapter 20 Porterville.

-Vote on 2022 Rally location (Areas 1, 2, & 3)

Chapter 20-Bob Atchley-Porterville. The Rally would be at the post.

As chapter 20 was the only chapter to offer to hold the 2022 Rally they were awarded the Rally.

Congratulations to Chapter 20 Porterville.

• **Introduction of Resolutions**

Vote on Resolutions

1 Take away past secretary vote at convention.

Motion to suspend the resolution until tomorrow by Greg Nichols D13. 2nd by Ch 255. Passed by vote of delegates.

$50 fine for Ralph Wenzinger due to his phone going off. $10 fine for Robert Lopez.

Ralph Wenzinger- The Young Marines pay for their own uniforms and equipment. I move to donate $200 to the Young Marines. 2nd by Greg Nichols D13. Passed by vote of delegates.

Vote on by laws amendments

None

• **Nomination of Candidates for Executive Office**

Director

Mike Smith Chapter 20 nominated by Mike Philips- accepted

Vice Director

Ralph Wenzinger Chapter 26 nominated by Stan Tehee- accepted

Sergeant-at-Arms

Marc Lawrie Chapter 328 nominated by Ralph Wenzinger- accepted

• **Announcements**

Director mike Smith stated that he would like to raise money for the California Legacy Run. He stated that the highest bidder would have the privilege to shave his head.

There was much bidding going on. The highest bidder was mike Cash at $2,000. Cory Wattenbarger had bid $1,200 and said he would donate it also. $3,200 for the California Legacy Run. Mike and Cory took turns shaving Director Mike Smith’s head. A great time was had by all.

• **Benediction- Chaplain Fred Branson @ 4:24pm**

• **Recess to Sunday Morning 0900 hours**

**Sunday April 24, 2022**

**0900**

• Reconvene

• **Chaplain Invocation- Fred Branson**

• **Announcements**

Larry Leonardo-

I am a Past Department Commander. Thank you for serving and being a part of the American Legion family and giving us exposure.

I will be running for Alternate NEC.

We have a proud heritage. There is lots to do for the Legion family and vets. You have caught the attention of many.

Have a good convention.

Be careful getting home.

Resolution-

1. Rescinding the vote for all Past Secretaries at convention.

The resolution was read.

There was much discussion for and against.

A hand vote was taken. 84 yes. 52 no. 3 abstained.

It was brought to our attention that a resolution must pass by 67% per the bylaws.

The resolution failed as 91 yes votes were needed.

* Finance Report

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Debits | 23,847.46 |
| Total Deposits | 59,730.18 |
|  |  |
| Current Balance | 98,989.49 |
| State Bank Account | 86,852.78 |
| Union Bank Account | 12,094.71 |
| PayPal account (State) | 2,000.00 |
| Total in all accounts | 100,947.49 |

There is a lot of fundraising opportunities that can be done at the chapter level.

Our chapter has put on a golf tournament and made $8,000 to $100,000.

Get the fundraising ideas and put them in place.

This will be my last year as Treasurer.

Motion to accept the Finance Report by Adardis, Chapter 149. 2nd by Warren Halstead, District 28. Passed by unanimous voice vote with one abstention.

* Vote on FY2022-23 Budget

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 2022-2023 Budget |
| Telephone Conferencing 3381 | $ 120.00 |
| Zoom 3382 | $ 1,999.00 |
| Director Fund 3357 | $ 2,000.00 |
| Vice Director 3358 | $ 1,500.00 |
| JAG 3359 | $ 500.00 |
| Secretary 3360 | $ 500.00 |
| Treasurer 3361 | $ 500.00 |
| Jr Past 3362 | $ 500.00 |
| Chaplain 3363 | $ 500.00 |
| Parliamentarian 3382 | $ 500.00 |
| Historian 3398 | $ 500.00 |
| Area 1 VD 3390 | $ 500.00 |
| Area 2 VD 3391 | $ 500.00 |
| Area 3 VD 3392 | $ 500.00 |
| Area 4 VD 3393 | $ 500.00 |
| Area 5 VD 3394 | $ 500.00 |
| Area 6 VD 3395 | $ 500.00 |
| Sgt. At Arms 3365 | $ 1,000.00 |
| Membership Officer 3366 | $ 500.00 |
| Safety Officer 3383 | $ 500.00 |
| Service Officer 3385 | $ 500.00 |
| Quartermaster 3367 | $ 500.00 |
| QM Merchandise Payments 3368 | $ 250.00 |
| Convention Chair 3369 | $ 500.00 |
| Convention Seed 3370 | $ 4,000.00 |
| Rally Seed 3371 | $ 2,000.00 |
| Office Supplies 3372 | $ 1,000.00 |
| Rally Call-In 3373 | $ 6,000.00 |
| Web Site 3374 | $ 380.00 |
| Legacy Run 3375 | $ 8,600.00 |
| Award, Plaques & Flags and Poles 3376 | $ 250.00 |
| Returned checks 3377 | $ 25.00 |
| ALR DOC Insurance 3378 | $ 1,000.00 |
| Emergency Relief Fund 3379 | $ 2,500.00 |
| Donations VA & R 3380 | $ 2,500.00 |
| Legacy Run Donation 3384 | $ 2,500.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 46,624.00** |
| **Management Reserve** | **$ 41,638.97** |

The budget was presented. There were a few questions.

Motion to accept the budget by Steve Weber, Chapter 48. 2nd by Greg Nichols, District 13. Voice vote was taken. Passed by unanimous vote with 1 abstention.

* 2nd Nomination of Candidates for Executive Office

Director

No new nominations.

Vice Director

No new nominations.

Sergeant-at-Arms

No new nominations.

• **Candidates address to delegates**

• **Election of Officers**

Director

Mike Smith, Chapter 20.

Vice Director

Ralph Wenzinger, Chapter 26.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Marc Lawrie, Chapter 328.

Motion to accept the 3 candidates for a white glove vote by Mick Sobczak, Chapter 53. 2n by Ignacio Alvarez, Chapter 31. Passed by unanimous vote of delegates.

• Installation of new Officers by Mick Sobczak

• New Officers take positions

• Remarks from new Officers

Director

Mike Smith- I will be going out to the smaller chapters and visiting as many as I can and helping to take care of any issues. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Vice Director

Ralph Wenzinger- Thanks for the opportunity to move forward together.

SAA

Marc Lawrie- I appreciate your confidence in me. I will do my best.

**Rally 2023-Area 4, 5 or 6**

Presentation from Sally Imel, Chapter 53 Hemet

Motion to accept Chapter 53 Hemet as the 2023 Rally host by Charlie Tinguely. Motion was 2nded. Passed by vote of delegates.

Congratulations Chapter 53.

**Convention 2024-Area 4, 5 or 6**

Presentation from Chapter 421, Highland. The convention would be at the Yamava Casino in Highland.

Motion and 2nd to accept Chapter 421 Highland as host of the 2024 convention. Passed by vote of delegates.

Congratulations Chapter 421.

• Good of the Riders

Leonard-$4112 in fines and haircut to go to the California Legacy Run.

Cris Molina was given a new road name- “2gether”.

Quilt drawing-

Quilt- Fabian Benevente

$500 Cycle Gear gift card- Jason Sanders

Basket- Japana- District 28

Blanket-Eugene Bega

Special drawing-

Small sign- ticket number 4749946

Alr coin- ticket number 4749940

Pin- ticket number 4749943

-Saturday dinner- thanks to chapter and unit 229 Adelanto.

-Area 5 passport proceeds to go to the legacy Run- $746.25

-Ralph- 1st convention run by Mike Smith. Great job. Mike was presented with a comb to comb his nonexistent hair.

-Ignacio Alvarez-8 to 9 months ago top and bottom rockers made from reflective thread were given to 2 members to wear to see how they held up to the elements when riding. A flashlight was shown on one of the vests to show how reflective it is when light hits it. The DEC will discuss having them available to membership for those who want them.

-Lillian Moss- Pics will be pup up on the Legion Facebook page.

-Ch 521-Annual High 5 run June 18.

-Ch 119- Poker run June 4.

-Ch 20- Cannonball run May 7.

-Ch 460- Poker run June 18, Breakfast May 29, Pig Roast September 17.

-Ch 299- Scavenger hunt May 21. Eight different chapters through Areas 5 and 6. Gun raffle.

-Ch 221- Has raised $6,000 so far for the California Legacy Run. Challenging other chapters to meet the challenge.

-Ch 555- Poker run June 25

-Ch 30- Chapter 180 has a meet and greet June 4.

-Ch 88- Sold all quilt tickets. Presented a check for $300.

-George Smith- Ch 105 will be hosting a dinner/dance on June 11.

- Ch 716- Blessing of the Bikes May 14

-James Adames- thanks for all you’ve done supporting the many Sarah’s Ride to raise money for cancer. Over $60,000 has been raised for the American Cancer Society. Thanks to Chapters 211, 48, 43 and 507 for hosting the rides. I will be stepping back from the DEC after 10 years.

• Benediction

• Adjournment @ 11:02am

• DEC Meeting ½ hour after closing ceremony