

**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country

Minutes

June 15, 2013

1. **Called to Order** – President Albert Villa at 0900
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Mary Estrada
3. **Roll Call** by Secretary Rita Christolear – President Albert Villa, Secretary Rita Christolear, Vice President James Adames (excused), Jr. Past President Luis Diaz, Judge Advocate John Bart, Treasurer Don Christolear, Sgt. at Arms Larry Miller, Quartermaster Patrick Tafoya, Chaplain Mary Estrada, Service Officer Mike Schuster (excused), Area 1 VP Edgar Brown (excused), Area 2 VP Bill Roller, Area 3 VP Stephanie Early, Area 5 VP Kenneth Derr, Area 6 VP Christopher Coleman, Commissioner Jim Banakus (absent)
4. **Additions to the Agenda**
 - a. Grandfathered Patches & District 16 – Grandfathered Patches are to be worn by the Original Members only and Patches will not to be made for anyone but the Original Members after a name change has been made to a District or Chapter. Area 6 VP was asked to compile a list of all those that were original District 16 Members before they changed to Chapter 534 and have it available for our next DEC Meeting in July. All Area VP's are to have a list of Grandfathered Chapters in their Area and how many Original Members that there are. Have statistics available for our next DEC Meeting in July.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – April 14, 2012 & April 12 & 14, 2013 – Don Christolear made a motion to accept the Minutes for April 14, 2012 & April 12 & 14, 2013. A second was made by Luis Diaz. Motion carried.
6. **Financial Report** – Don Christolear – Net income is \$9,402.91, Cash at beginning of period was \$61,183.49, Cash at the end of period is \$51,780.58.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tofoya – Received \$16,670.00, Profit \$7,391.00, DOC received \$4, 878.06 and Dist. 9 received \$2,512.94.
- b. Convention and Rally – Terry Baughman – Discussion was made about where Conventions should be held, the protocol for asking to have a Convention in a Chapter's town and the proper procedure when a Chapter is chosen to be a Convention site. There was also discussion about renting a central facility because the ALR is growing and it would allow both North and South to attend without hardship.
- c. Judge Advocate Report – JAG John Bart – I will be updating the By-laws. Area VP's need to take a closer look at new Chapter's By-laws before submitting them to the Judge Advocate. Retired Status is for those members that are in good standing and cannot ride due to illness or age. Dues are still paid and they are to be kept on the Roster as long as they are Members of a Chapter. When filling out paper work for the Secretary Chapter should make a note by the person that has Retired Status.
- d. Service Officer – Mike Shuster – Absent
- e. Safety Committee – Marc Mathes – Absent
- f. Jr. Past President – Luis Diaz – Rally information is posted on the website.

8. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 – Edgar Brown – Absent – Assistant VP Bill Hawkins reported that Representatives from Area 1 have attended numerous KIA's, Missing in Action, American Project burials, Welcome Homes, Escorts and funerals.
- b. Area 2 – Bill Roller – Multiple missions and PGR escorts. President's meeting is coming up.
- c. Area 3 – Stephanie Early – There will be an opening for a VA Home in Fresno and many Riders are requested to attend.
- d. Area 4 – Vacant
- e. Area 5 – Kenneth Derr – Continuing to be involved with Welcome Home, Escort Rides and Veterans without Families.
- f. Area 6 – Christopher Coleman – Helping a Chapter that is disbanding. Area 4 may be starting a Post. Chapters 56 and 534 are having a Poker Run July 20th.

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business

a. Charter Requests:

- a. Chapter 31, District 28, Area 2, Salinas, CA – By-laws were not approved and will be tabled until the next DEC Meeting in July.
- b. Chapter 281, District 29, Area 5, Laguna Niguel, CA – Tabled until our next DEC Meeting in July.

b. Endorsement

- a. Chaplain Mary Estrada is requesting that the American Legion Riders endorse the placement of a Veterans Cemetery on the Ft. Ord property in Monterey County – The Secretary will send an email from Chaplain Mary Estrada to all DEC informing them of the Ft. Ord property. A decision will be made at the next DEC meeting.

c. Standard Operational Procedures – The Judge Advocate will help the Area VP's put together the Operating Rules.

d. Disbandment

- a. Chapter 777, District 25, Area 5, San Bernardino – Judge Advocate, A record of notification should be sent to every Member on the Roster from the President of Chapter 777. All funds need to go to the Post Commander and Treasurer. The Area VP is to report to the Judge Advocate when this is done.

11. **Sick / Memorial** – Chaplain Mary Estrada – The Chaplain read the Riders Everlasting for George Campos, a Member of Chapter 852. A discussion was brought up about adding a section on the website to Post information when a Member passes away.

12. **Good of the Order** – President Albert Villa – Thank you everyone for all the hard work you have done. Our next DEC Meeting will be July 27, 2013

13. **Benediction** – Chaplain Mary Estrada

14. **Adjournment** – President Albert Villa – Meeting was adjourned at 11:56.