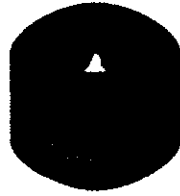


**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country
Minutes
November 16, 2013

1. **Called to Order** – President Albert Villa
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Mary Estrada (absent) – Jr. Past President Luis Diaz gave the Invocation.
3. **Roll Call by Secretary Rita Christolear** – President Albert Villa, Vice President James Adames, Secretary Rita Christolear, Treasurer Don Christolear, Sergeant-at-Arms Larry Miller, Chaplain Mary Estrada (absent), Judge Advocate John Bart, Service Officer Mike Shuster (absent), Quartermaster Patrick Tafoya, Junior Past President Luis Diaz, Historian Jake Jacobsen, Commissioner Jim Banakus, Area 1 VP Edgar Brown, Area 2 VP Bill Roller, Area 3 VP Stephanie Early, Area 5 VP Kenneth Derr, Area 6 VP Christopher Coleman (Absent) Assistant Area 6 VP Dan Dale, Convention & Rally Terry Baughman, Safety Committee Marc Mathes.
4. **Additions to the Agenda** – President Albert Villa – All Visitors are welcome to sit in on the DEC Conference Calls. However, they do not have Voice or Vote.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – October 5, 2013 – Area 1 VP Edgar Brown motioned to accept the Minutes for October 5, 2013. Safety Officer Marc Mathes second the motion. Motion carried.
6. **Financial Report** – Don Christolear – Beginning October 6, 2013 the balance was \$51,323.68 and Ending November 15, 2013 the balance was \$52,580.23. Vice President James Adames motioned to accept the Financial Report subject to audit. Marc Mathes second the motion. Motion carried. The books are in the process of being audited and the results will be sent to the DEC Officers. Treasurer Don Christolear requested that the funds for the Convention Hall, which will not be needed, be moved to the Donations Fund. Jr. Past President Luis Diaz motioned to move \$4,250.00 from the Convention Hall Fund to the Donation Fund for this fiscal year only. Safety Officer Marc Mathes second the motion. Motion carried.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tofoya – Report for November - Processed 113 orders this year. 495 Patch sets, 568 Top Rockers, 303 Veteran, 97 Auxiliary and 93 Squadron. Received \$33,490.00, Cost \$17,361.00, Shipping \$1,356.00 and the total Profit was \$14,773.00. First and Second Quarter payments have been made to the DEC and District 9. Our Center Patch will look a little different moving forward. The Eagle Head is the main difference. It is now in line with the ALR Patch that is shown on our website.
- b. Convention and Rally – Terry Baughman – The 8th Annual Convention is April 11-13, 2014 at Chapter 208 in Dixon, CA. The Rally is set for September 12-14, 2014 at Chapter 69 in Hollister.
- c. Judge Advocate Report – JAG John Bart – Anyone that has any proposed amendments to the By-laws to the Convention please get them in.
- d. Service Officer – Mike Shuster – Absent
- e. Safety Committee – Marc Mathes – Thank you to Stephanie Early for doing a great job as Area 3 VP. The Rider Program at the Military Bases is about to end as of May. They have moved it to strictly Active Duty and if there is an open seat they will fill it with Dependents and Veterans.
- f. Jr. Past President – Luis Diaz – I am working on the 25th Anniversary of the California Vietnam Memorial event. There will be a link for a survey on the website for Veterans to submit information.
- g. Historian – Jake Jacobsen – Nothing at this time.

8. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 – Edgar Brown – We had a Rider go down in Chico. Thank you to District 2 President Richard Raker for visiting him in the Hospital. I sent an email to Area 1 Chapters asking for a report and didn't get any responses.
- b. Area 2 – Bill Roller – District 13 is holding a Texas Holdem event December 14th at Post 419, this is their first event.
- c. Area 3 – Stephanie Early – Everything is going great. They had the Grand opening for the Veteran's Home and it was well attended. The Veterans Day Parade was a success. Chapter 88 needs their Charter.
- d. Area 4 – Vacant

- c. Area 5 – Kenneth Derr – Chapter 149 has submitted a request to hold the 2015 Convention in Escondido. Chapter 262 is having a Thanksgiving dinner at their Post. Chapter 146 is hosting the Toys for Tots in Oceanside. My Chapter will be participating in Wreaths across America. Chapter 852 out of Temecula had a fundraiser for a double amputee and raised over \$1,800.00 for him. Chapter 574 had some concerns regarding support patches they thought a Chapter was giving out. After investigating, I found out that they were Legion Patches. I plan on visiting Chapter 574 to discuss any concerns they might have.
- d. Area 6 – Christopher Coleman (absent)– Assistant VP Dan Dale - Chapter 311 is having a Poker Run to raise money for the Joshua Memorial Cemetery on November 17th. Area 6 VP Christopher Coleman is requesting \$250.00 to give to the Joshua Memorial Cemetery. Vice President James Adames motioned to give \$250.00 to the Joshua Memorial Cemetery and Chapter 311 for the POW MIA Monument from the Donation Fund. Jr. Past President Luis Diaz second the motion. Motion carried.

9. Old Business

- a. Discussion for the suspension of Chapter 383, District 6, Area 1, Fairfield, CA
Area 1 Edgar Brown tried to contact the Officers from Chapter 383 and didn't get a response from them. They insist on being called Post and not Chapter. President Villa did not get any response from them either. Judge Advocate John Bart - The By-laws are very clear and state that we are to be called Chapters and only those that were grandfathered in before 2006 can wear Post, any new members after that cannot wear Post. It would be appropriate to notify them of our intent to put them on suspension and then we would need to comply with the procedures. If anyone of them is wearing Posts and they are not grandfathered in they are in violation of the By-laws and their Charter is in jeopardy, they need to be notified of that. President Villa asked the Judge Advocate to inform Chapter 383 that they are in jeopardy of Suspension. Judge Advocate John Bart – I will notify Chapter 383, their Post Commander and the District Commander and let them know that Chapter 383 is not in compliance with our By-laws. They also failed to communicate with their Area VP about why they continue to wear Post on their Top Rocker.

10. New Business

- a. Jr. Past President Luis Diaz – I have put a link on the Home page of the DOC website for the 25th Anniversary of the California Vietnam Memorial. If the Area VP's know of anyone attending, please direct them to this link.
- b. Judge Advocate John Bart was appointed by the National Commander to the National Constitution and By-laws Commission and will be serving National in that capacity for 2014.

11. **Sick / Memorial** – Chaplain Mary Estrada (Absent) – Riders Everlasting, Daryl Malone.
12. **Good of the Order** – President Albert Villa – There has been some talk among the Riders that it's O.K. to join the Confederation of Clubs. In our By-laws it notes that we are not a motorcycle club. It's two different families that we have, one is the motorcycle Club and the other is the American Legion. Even though we wear a patch on our back, we are not a motorcycle club. I would like all of my Area VP's to pass that on to all of your Chapter Presidents. Let your Chapters know that if you're not going to follow the By-laws, then don't become an American Legion Rider. Trying to change the Rider into a motorcycle club is not a good thing, we represent the American Legion. American Legion first, Riders next. While I am President I will fight hard to keep that and I hope the future Presidents will do the same because we represent the Legion. We do not want to claim territory.
13. **Benediction** – Chaplain Mary Estrada (absent)– Jr. Past President Luis Diaz gave the Benediction.
14. **Adjournment** – President Albert Villa – Meeting adjourned at 11:30. The next DEC meeting will be January 11, 2014.