

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country
Minutes
July 21, 2012

1. **Called to Order** - President Albert Villa at 0900
2. **Invocation** - Chaplain Mary Estrada
3. **Additions to the Agenda** - none
4. **Roll Call by Secretary Rita Christolear** – President Albert Villa, Vice President James Adames, Secretary Rita Christolear, Treasurer Joe Love (excused), Sergeant-at-Arms Robert Stover (excused), Chaplain Mary Estrada, Judge Advocate John Bart, Service Officer Mike Schuster (absent), Assistant Service Officer Ken Cruickshank (absent), Quartermaster Bob Scudero, Junior Past President Luis Diaz, Commissioner Jim Banakas (excused), Area 1 VP Edgar Brown, Area 2 VP Mike Nettles (excused) Bill Roller sitting in, Area 3 VP Don Christolear, Area 5 VP Doyle Tolbert (excused) Assistant Steve Kawecky sitting in, Area 6 Christopher Coleman
5. **Approval of Minutes** - May 26, 2012 - Motion to approve the minutes by James Adames, second Edgar Brown, and motion carried.
6. **Financial Report** - Treasurer Joe Love is excused and President Albert Villa gave the financial report. Current balance is \$37,555.68. Christopher Coleman moved to accept the Financial Report, second by Don Christolear, motion carried.
7. **Committee Reports**
 - 7a. Quartermaster - Bob Scudero - Carry over from 2011 is \$4,897.32 that I will add in to the total as I go along with the report. The gross taken in for this year for orders is \$11,555.00 at a cost of \$5,680.00. Gross profit is \$2,352.48 with \$390.00 in shipping. Total percentage to the DOC is \$8,524.65. District 9 has a total of \$1,868.77. I will be having a check drawn up for Joe Love in the amount of \$5,500 to hold in reserve to buy more products.

7b. Convention and Rally - Terry Baughman (excused), Chaplain Mary Estrada says Terry's wife is not feeling well. Discussion about the date for the 2013 Convention, date is not finalized. Discussion was made about changing the Rally date for 2013.

7c. Constitution and Bylaws - John Bart – Area Vice Presidents, Please when you have a Chapter start-up, have them use the template on the website.

7d. Uniform Committee - Bob Scudero, petition was made to Emblem sales to give us the license to make our own emblems with the vendor of our choice. We want to be positive that our emblems are made in the United States.

7e. Service Officer - Mike Shuster (absent)

7f. Safety Committee - Marc Mathes, I have a person for Areas 1, 3 & 6 designated as a safety helper. I am still looking for helpers in Areas 2 & 6. The weather is extremely warm, take in mind when riding to stay hydrated. The Military just came out with a new Traffic Safety Instruction. Civilians are no longer required to have a safety course before they come on base. I strongly urge you all to get the free course while it is available, it could change at any time.

7g. Past Jr. President - Luis Diaz - At our 1st DEC meeting we discussed trying to reach out to the National Level. I had a conversation with John Moffett, who is the equivalent of our President Villa. He has regional representatives in Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Washington State and Arizona. We have 19 contacts in the Western Region and what we are going to try to do is set up a phone conference call. I will mediate and President Villa will represent our area. President Villa also has heard from Mr. Moffett and will respond to him and feels it is important that we build a partnership. Doc Luis asked for a motion to allow the use of the DOC Conference Line in order to have a meeting with the Western Regional ALR representatives. A motion to approve the conference call by Bob Scudero, second the motion by Marc Mathis, motion carried.

8. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 - Edgar Brown - We are continuing to visit all the Chapters in our area.
- b. Area 2 - Mike Nettles - Assistant VP Bill Roller sitting in for Mike. The Stand Down that was conducted in District 28 is completed. Dist 9, 10, and Post 161 will be sponsoring the East Bay Stand Down. If anyone has a Chase Bank account and are a Veteran they will give you a checking account free of charge, including money orders.

- c. Area 3 - Don Christolear - Doc Bart and I went to Chapter 11 to help them work through some problems. Convention went well and was very productive. Chapter 20 & Chapter 509 raised a good amount of funds at their Poker Runs. I sent all my POCs an email urging them to update their points of contact on the website. I updated all Chapter Presidents in Area 3 and gave to Secretary Rita Christolear. President Villa encouraged everyone to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in POCs or Presidents.
- d. Area4 - Vacant
- e. Area 5 - Doyle Tolbert - Mr. Tolbert will be stepping down as Area 5 VP and Assistant VP Steve Kawecki will be the new Area 5 VP. We all thank Doyle for his dedication to the DOC.
- f. Area 6 - Christopher Coleman - I have the privilege of going to Chapter 75 and installing their new Officers. I have all of the Presidents' names for the Secretary. I am putting together a website that all of Area 6 can access. The Air National Guard is doing a Safety Stand Down and we have been invited to attend as American Legion Riders to promote our Safety program. We have a Seabee Battalion coming back and they have their own MC, they are requesting that we do a safety orientation for them. We had 8 riders go to the USS Iowa opening on July 7th and met some interesting men that had served on the ship. Ride for the Flags is on Sept. 16th and the Sara Adames Memorial Ride on Sept. 15th. Nov. 2nd is the Homeless Veterans Stand Down. President Villa thanked all the VPs for their hard work.

9. Old Business - none

10. New Business

- a. New Chapter Applications
 - a. Chapter 56-Dist.16-Area 2-Santa Maria, CA -- Motion was moved to accept Chapter 56-Dist.16-Area 2 pending paper work to be submitted. Motioned by James Adames and 2nd by Luis Diaz. 1 opposed, Motion carried. Discussion by President Villa, "I want to make sure that all paper work is done correctly before accepting Chapter 56 or any other Chapter to avoid any problems later on".
 - b. Chapter 456-Dist.8-Area 2-San Francisco, CA -- Motion was moved to accept Chapter 456-Dist.8-Area 2 by Steve Kawecki and second by Don Christolear. Motion carried.

- c. Chapters 720,746-Dist. 2-Area 1-Shasta Lake, CA – President Villa, “We have a motion accepting Chapter 720 & 746 and are now nonexistent and will be under District 2 with a recommendation and a \$25 waiver”. Motioned by James Adames and 2nd by Edgar Brown. Motion carried.

President Villa, “To make this clear, 720 & 746 will no longer have any patches on their back stating that they are from Chapter 720 or Chapter 746 and are henceforth called District 2”.

- b. **American Legion Legacy Scholarship** - President Villa - I don't think we, as a department, need to put any more money into the American Legion Legacy Scholarship.

11. **Sick / Memorial** - Chaplain Mary Estrada - Please keep me informed of all that are sick or in the hospitals so that I may send flowers or cards. If you know a person that is not an ALR Rider and is serving their Country that is ill or in the hospital, let me know so that I may send a card to show our support. Please include names and addresses.

The Homeless Stand Down that we had here in Monterey County went very smoothly. Chapter 28 provided security, labor, tear down and presented the Colors each day. It was a very rewarding. President Villa thanked everyone for the thoughts and prayers given to his family during the loss of his father-in-law.

12. **Good of the Order** - President Albert Villa - It's important for the VPs to let the Riders know that it is the Legion first and Riders second. Without the Legion we wouldn't be here. We are not a club, we are not a gang and we need to respect the Legion.

The next DEC meeting will be September 8, 2012 at 0900.

13. **Benediction** - Chaplain Mary Estrada

14. **Adjournment** - President Albert Villa at 10:42