

# **The American Legion Riders Department of California**



*For God and Country*  
Minutes February 26, 2011

1. Call to Order – President Luis Diaz At 0905
2. Invocation by Chaplain Mary Estrada, Mary wanted to thank all those represented the riders at the Four Chaplains Ceremony.
3. Additions to the Agenda – Changes – Under new Business Hughson is in Area 3. Chapter 848 in San Jacinto is Area 5. Add under Old Business b. Special Awards.
4. Roll Call – Secretary Anita Bart. Present – President Luis Diaz, Vice President Jake Jacobsen, Secretary Anita Bart, Treasurer Joe Love, Sgt.-at-Arms Jeff Gallagher, Chaplain Mary Estrada, JAG John Bart, Jr. Past President Steve Weber, Commissioner Jim Banakus, Area 2 VP Gene Blakeman, Area 3 VP Roger Marshall, Area 5 VP Doyle Tolbert, Area 6 VP James Adames. Absent – Service Officer Mike Shuster, Quartermaster Bob Scudero , Area 1 VP Patrick Geronimi, Area 4 VP Gerald Kirby.
5. Approval of Minutes –January 8, 2011- – Steve Weber moved to approve, Jeff Gallagher 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed.
6. Financial Report – Treasure Joe Love, 21 thousand , 22 Thou. The Pay-pal account is up. President Diaz is working on it to work out bugs. When finished we will be able to pay convention and dues.
7. Committee Reports
  - 7a. Quartermaster – Bob Scudero – no report – no known problems
  - 7b. Convention and Rally – Terry Baughman - Everything is a go for convention. The hotel is adding a few room, they are getting

full, there are still some others in the area.

There are rooms available, the rooms will be released back to the hotels on March 20. The Web site is linked to the convention, also to DOC Bart's Blog. There will be money available to help out with convention. Jeff Gallagher moved to make \$2,000 avail to host post for convention, Gene Blakeman 2<sup>nd</sup>, the motion passed with one abstention.

7c. Constitution and Bylaws – John Bart – He will be cleaning up the language for the convention. He will be putting out the trial manual.

7d. Uniform Committee – No report

7e. Service Officer – Mike Shuster – No Report

#### 8. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 – Patrick Geronimi – No Report
- b. Area 2 – Gene Blakeman – The president's meeting covered convention forms etc. Redwood Chapter 105 is interested in starting up. Gene is working with them to get their paper work in.
- c. Area 3 – Roger Marshall – Chapter 23 Blood run will change to run and Hamburgers. April fools no rule in Turlock chili cook-off. The SIDS run same as Easter Basket run. Memorial Day will be Central Valley Rendezvous. Most of the flag stolen from Post 11 Madera have been returned. The women at Chowchilla Prison will be making more and embroidering the names on them. Anita Bart reported that riders from Area 3 attended the memorial in Bakersfield for Budd Ray.
- d. Area 4 – Jerry Kirby – No Report
- e. Area 5 – Doyle Tolbert – Veteran without families is going strong. There are a lot of requests for poker runs, just not at the same time. There are some problems with one chapter he has had discussions with DOC and he is trying to get contact.
- f. Area 6 – James Adames – has put convention information on face book. Area 6 members attended Bakersfield Memorial. Poker run coming up soon. March 27 welcome home vets day. April 30 special operations memorial fund. They are trying to set a record for the most riders at an event.

## 9. Old Business

- a. Using PayPal as an alternative payment method. –Has already been discussed
- b. Special Awards – Steve Weber – Because of the possible problem with the coin by the national, many emails came saying no because more chapters may feel slighted. When we have chapter functions all chapters come together to make the function a success how can you choose one chapter. It was suggested that we hold a meeting during convention and see about interest. We may need to proceed with caution. Gene Blakeman stated his understanding was that it was the responsibility of Area VP's to get a collection of all events and send to Pres. Diaz to have determination of possible awards. Steve Weber stated the purpose was to collect all activities from the areas to log it. Pres Dias Suggested what we could do is have the patch person make 50 red stars with the year and have a red star rider of the year for each chapter. JAG Bart stated we need to keep the DOC out of the decision making process. Possible red, silver, bronze, not complicated keep it simple. Doc. Bart stated the Bylaws have department recognition already. The chapters would not fall under that. This would be a chapter or area, but would not be a DOC award, but the DOC would help out with the funding of the award. Continue with the committee based on feedback from today's meeting. Tabled to bring back next meeting.

## 10. New Business

- a. New Chapters – Chapter 100 Area 3 Lemoore, Chapter 872 Hughson Area 3. Roger Moved to accept 100 & 872 provisional approval based on checks being received. Steve Weber 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed. Doyle Tolbert moved to pass 848 provision with changes to bylaws and checks, Jeff Gallagher 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed
- b. 2011 Convention – This was discussed previous. Registration will be at the convention site.

11. Sick / Memorial – Chaplain Mary Estrada thanked everyone for participation in Four Chaplains Ceremony/ She represented riders at the Department service. Post everlasting memorial for Budd Ray Chapter 26. Steve Weber wished to add Glenn Mare from the beginning ad hoc committee from the riders.

12. Good of the Order – President Luis Diaz – next meeting date – March 26 @ 0900

13. Benediction by Chaplain Mary Estrada

14. Adjournment by President Diaz @ 10:58