

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Department of California

Minutes – June 6, 2009

1. Call to Order – by President Steve Weber

2. Invocation - Given by Chaplain Estrada

3. Roll Call – by Secretary – Anita Bart

Present – President Steve Weber, Vice President Larry Miller, Secretary Anita Bart, Treasurer Joe Love, Sergeant-at-Arms Kenney Cummings, Chaplain Mary Estrada, JAG John Bart, Junior Past President Luis Dias, Area Vice Presidents – Area 2 Gene Blakeman, Area 4 John Leonard, Area 6 Ken Simpson:

Absent- Service Officer Mike Shuster, Quartermaster Bob Scudero (excused), Area Vice Presidents – Area 1 Dan Jordan, Area 3 Jerry Scott, Area 5 Reggie Jacobson.

President Weber reminded all to get substitutes if they cannot attend the meetings.

4. Changes/Additions to Agenda – President Weber added Ways and Means under #7.

5. Approval of Minutes – Tabled until the next meeting.

6. Financial Report – Joe Love – He does not have latest report and will look up Quick Books. He needs minutes of convention to open the account. He asked about the articles of incorporation. John (Doc) Bart stated both documents are on website under forms. He will check them out. He received the check from Tony to close out his account and will put in new account as soon as forms get together. He is on the road, but there is approx \$9,700.

Gene Blakeman made motion to allow Quick Book purchase – 159.95 , It was 2nd by John Leonard. Motion passed. It will be registered under ALR so it can be passed on. As soon as he has all minutes and papers he will get it together.

Gene Blakeman made the motion to go with union bank of CA. It was 2nd by Ken Simpson, The Motion Passed

7. Committee Reports

a. Ratify Appointments – Pres. Weber - Read names to the Bylaws Committee, Uniform Committee, Community Service & Safety Committee, Finance Committee, Rally and Convention Committee, Terry will chair the Convention Committee, Membership Committee, and Public Relations Committee.

Pres. Weber will forward names to me from list.

Gene Blakeman moved to approve the membership. Joe Love 2nd – Motion passed
Not listed are members from Ways and Means. President Weber stated we need a Ways and Means Committee and get a raffle going for a motorcycle. President Weber asked for one name from one area for the Ways and Means committee during the next 30 days if possible.

b. Quartermaster report – No report Excused absence

- c. **2009 Convention Report** - Report by Doc Luis – All went well they made a profit and hope all had a good time. The rider that went down in completing a series of surgeries. He issued the last certificate on behalf of the ALR to the post and sent letters to area mayors etc. thanking for support.
- d. **Future Conventions/ Rally Committee Report/Dates** – Terry reported on 2 rallies –The first on Labor Day in San Diego. The north rally is on 9/11 weekend at the 28th Dist. Prunedale. The Convention for next year will be at Midway City and suggested the last weekend in April - The following year 211 at Post 211 in Lompoc. The rally next year will be at Amador Post Center Creek. There may be conflicts with other activities such as boy's state the last weekend of April. It was suggested to be possibly earlier such as the 24th and 25th. President Weber stated if we set a specific weekend for each year listed so future posts will be able to plan. Gene Blakeman stated that for 2010 the first weekend in May is already locked in. April 17 & 18 were also suggested. It was asked that we check with areas to find out which weekends would be best. It was also asked to pencil in April 17 & 18 for 2010 and check at the American Legion Convention to make sure there are no conflicts. Terry Check with 555 to make sure it is OK. before we make a motion. We will try to target the 3rd weekend in April for future conventions.
The West Coast Romp information will be in the web sight Monday. The Honor run and Southern rally are all together. Part of the rally will be to participate in the Honor run then come back to the post for dinner. The Honor Run folks will be invited to the dinner. It was suggested that Post military requirements for base riding be placed on web site. Keep checking the web site for updates on activities and hotels. Terry stated the year after Amador will be approaching 10th year to host a rally in Lompoc or that area, central area.
- e. **Pony Express Report** – John Bart , The Legacy Run is coming together. Larry Miller will be the CA coordinator. John will send out Larry's contact info. John has the roster and is getting used to system. There is a lot of interest. John is now the National Coordinator which only means he is a clearing house. We can send information to him so he can help get the information out to riders about routes etc.

8. Old Business

- a. **IRS Tax Status** – We have our letter IRS exempt status. Gene Blakeman asked about individual chapter IRS status. John Bart stated that each chapter needs to have there own non profit chapter. John will post a handbook to help each chapter get tax exempt status. The state will not notify posts about status. Contact DOC off line to help. It was stated that Bill Sloan stated that there is no need to get incorporated. Point of order by John Bart – ALR National is only an activity, but in California the ALR are a program and should be listed. They can be under the post if the post approves it, but there should be separate books. There could be problems if you are under the post and not separated. Each post does not have to be tax exempt, but if trouble occurs it would be on the post.
New Chapters must go through California Dept. of California, not through National. California is incorporated. Try going to CaliforniaCorporation.com, you can go through it will have a fee.
- b. **Honor Run Status** - Was discussed during rally discussion
Gene Blakeman thanked everyone for the Livermoore Rally Participation.

9. New Business

- a. **New Chapters – There will be some new Area 5 Chapters. We have been allowing chapters to get approved before all the paper work has been in and approved. We need to wait until all the information has been submitted and approved before voting on new chapters.**

Gene Blakeman moved to sell top rocker 50 to Amadore at cost Ken Simpson 2nd - Motion passed

All sales from national have to go through CA quartermaster sales.

There needs to be a clear process to get New Chapters , need to slow process down. Make a checklist that has to be checked off before granting a chapter.

Chapter 4 wants to move back to 509 from post 4. John Bart stated that he would put it on the agenda only after he received a letter from the post 509 stating that they will accept the rider and follow all rules and guidelines of the American Legion Riders.

- b. **Legion Convention Info – President Weber will be at the convention, speaking at the Auxiliary opening ceremony. He will also speak at the American Legion Convention. If at convention a member is on ALR business the berets may be worn. If on Legion business members must be proper cap. No ALR meeting planned so far. There will be Hospitality rooms.**

- c. **Liability questions – Chapter liabilities will go onto the post first, except with convention and state level activities, then the State ALR can be held liable.**

Past presidents wearing white caps?

Mary Estrada stated questions about caps etc. should go to uniform committee and documented as a standard. Any decisions should come as recommendation from the uniform committee.

John Bart – Titles – discussion about titles what are the discussion was about assistant area VP's or not.

Caps could be addendums, the assistant VP's my take bylaw change. John Bart stated the best answer about caps should be in officer's manual being worked on by John Bart.

There are no assistance Vice Presidents as of now. There was a recommendation that each area VP have a person who can step in case the area VP cannot be at meeting etc. It is up to the area to get one. It could be optional for area assistant VP. John Bart's recommendation is to let it stand with future recommendation that any cap or uniform issues goes through the uniform committee. Right now it is a suggestion or recommendation to have an area assistant VP. but it is not required. So it does not need to be in the bylaws. If it is required to have an assistant VP then it would have to go through bylaws.

The go to meeting was working pretty well and interesting.

- d. **Sick/Memorial – Mary Estrada – Sgt. David Thornhill's Parents are asking for Birthday Cards. Mary sent a Birthday card from CA Dpt. ALR. Gene Blakeman – Wayne Clooky doing much better and using a walker. The rider that went down at the Convention was from Chapter 50 San Leandro 117 someone has seen him everyday.**

10. Good of the Order – next DEC meeting – July 11, 9:00

11. Benediction – Mary Estrada

12. Adjournment - Meeting was Adjourned by President Weber at 1122