

**MINUTES OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Compiled By: Jeff Gallagher

Date: 04/19/2008

Time

Approved By:

Convened 0915

Quorum Yes

Adjourned 1025
04/20/2008

The Second Annual Convention of the American Legion Riders was convened by President Terry Baughman at ALR Chapter 88, Turlock, California on April 20, 2008.

Introduction of Host Commander

President Baughman introduced Hosting Post 88 Commander, Bob Russel, who welcomed the American Legion Riders from throughout the state and asked everyone to enjoy the hospitality of the Post for the next few days.

Call to Order

President Baughman called the meeting to order at 0915 hours and directed the Sgt.-at-Arms to secure the meeting hall.

Advancement of the Colors

The Color Guard advance and posted the colors.

Invocation

Chaplain Mary Estrada offered the invocation and offered a moment of silence for riders who have gone down. She advised that no riders have been reported down since our last convention.

POW/MIA Missing Rider Ceremony

The POW/MIA Missing Bike Ceremony was conducted.

Recitation of Preamble to the Constitution

Secretary Jeff Gallagher led the group in reciting the American Legion Preamble and the ALR Preamble

Introduction of Guests

President Terry Baughman relinquished the floor to Secretary Jeff Gallagher. Jeff then introduced Mr. Kurt Vander Weide, Veterans Outreach Specialist for Congressman George Radanovich. Mr. Vander Wiede spoke briefly to the group about efforts to help veterans returning from the War in Iraq.

Jeff then asked "Brother" Wayne Reeves and his wife, Sherry, to come forward. The floor was relinquished to President Baughman. Terry explained that the efforts of Wayne and Sherry were instrumental in the formation of the American Legion Riders in California and that, had it not been for the tremendous effort of the two, the American Legion Riders would not be an official program of the Department of California today. He then presented each a framed certificate designating them as Life Members #1 and #2 in the American Legion Riders. Wayne gave a brief speech thanking the riders and encouraging us to continue our efforts in the state. A standing ovation of the delegates was given for Brother Wayne and Sherry.

The floor was relinquished to Secretary Gallagher.

Roll Call of Officers

Present: President - Terry Baughman, Vice President - Luis Diaz, Secretary - Jeff Gallagher, Treasurer - Tony Fettig, Sergeant-at-Arms, - Larry Miller, Judge Advocate - John "Doc" Bart, Service Officer - Bob Scudero, Chaplain - Mary Estrada, Historian - Gene Blakeman, Past President - Jim Banacus, AREA VICE-PRESIDENTS: Area 1 - Stu Greenfeld, Area 5 - Reggie L. Jacobsen, Area 6- Steve Weber.

Absent: Area 4 VP - John Leonard, Area 3 VP - Greg Dais, Area 2 VP - Wayne Cloukey (Excused).

Roll Call of chapters

The following chapters were present with delegates seated: 3, 48, 50, District 9/161, District 10/117, 119, District 12/88, 249,311, 348, 555,564, District 28/593, 720,741,746, 826.

A quorum was declared and all certified delegates were seated.

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws

Judge Advocate, John Bart, was given the floor. He briefly stated the proposed bylaws changes and recommended passage by the assembly. A Motion from the floor was made and seconded to approve the amendments. A voice vote of the delegates was taken and the amendments approved with no dissenting voices. **Motion Carried.**

Convention Announcements

Members were given the floor to make various announcements of upcoming events, rides, etc. in their areas. Luis Diaz reminded everyone to send him their event info for inclusion in the State calendar on the website.

Recess

The floor was given to President Baughman who placed the convention in recess until 1300 hrs.

Reconvene

President Baughman reconvened the convention at 1310 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance

It was pointed out by the floor that, in all the morning confusion, the convention neglected to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was led by President Baughman.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tony Fettig read the financial report and explained certain exceptional items. A Motion from the floor was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. A voice vote of the delegates was taken and the motion approved with not dissenting voices.
Motion Carried.

Introduction of Guest

The American Legion Department of California Sergeant-at-Arms, Dennis Fercho was introduced and welcomed to the Convention by Terry Baughman.

Area Caucus Reports

The floor was given to each of the Area Vice-Presidents who, in turn, gave a brief activity report for the chapters located in their respective areas.

Proposed Resolution

Secretary Gallagher relinquished the floor to the honorable delegate from Chapter 119.

Chapter 119 asked to introduce a resolution calling for the establishment of a class of Rider to be known as Honorary Member. The position supporting the resolution was explained. The floor was opened for discussion.

After Discussion, Judge Advocate John Bart advised that either a motion from the floor could be entertained or the proposed resolution could be withdrawn. After further discussion, the delegate withdrew the resolution.

Introduction of Guest

American Legion Department of California Commander, Howard Darter, was introduced. Howard spoke for a few minutes on the tremendous value of the ALR here in California. He told the group about newly formed post 911 in San Francisco and how in the first few months they were sponsoring 30 Boy Scout Troops and were creating all types of programs to encourage membership. He stated that he had similar hopes for the ALR and that he was very proud to have us as Legion Family. A standing round of applause was made for the Commander.

Nomination of Candidates for Executive Office

Secretary Jeff Gallagher advised the delegates that no written nominations for any office had been received by him prior to the opening of Convention.

The floor was relinquished to Judge Advocate John Bart. He explained the particular process of the nomination of officers for elected positions to the ALR DEC. He then turned the floor back to Secretary Gallagher who opened the floor for nominations for elected Offices.

President – Delegate Henry Cater nominated Luis Diaz. There were no other nominations heard and nominations were closed.

Vice-President – Roger Marshall nominated Bob Scudero. There were no other nominations heard and nominations were closed.

Secretary – Sam Brandes nominated Jeff Gallagher. There were no other nominations heard and nominations were closed.

Treasurer – Mits Ideishi nominated Tony Fetting. There were no other nominations heard and nominations were closed.

Sergeant-at-Arms – Gene Blakeman nominated Wayne Cloukey. Ken Simpson nominated Larry Miller. There were no other nominations heard and nominations were closed.

Recess

The floor was relinquished to President Baughman who recessed the convention until Sunday, April 20, 2008 at 0900 hrs.

Reconvene

President Terry Baughman reconvened the convention at 0900 hrs. on April 20, 2008.

Invocation

Chaplain Mary Estrada offered the Morning Prayer.

Election of Officers

Secretary Jeff Gallagher conducted the election of officers for the American Legion Riders, Department of California.

Unopposed Offices

On a motion from the floor made and seconded, a single voice vote was taken for all unopposed offices. The motion was carried with no dissenting voices heard.

Sgt-at-Arms

A roll call vote of delegates was conducted by Secretary Gallagher. By a majority vote of the delegates, Larry Miller was re-elected Sgt.-at-Arms.

Installation of Officers

The newly elected officers were honored to have American Legion, Department of California Commander Howard Darter administer the oath of office. The newly installed officers were then immediately seated.

Raffle

A Benefit Raffle by Chapter 88 was held and the winnings distributed.

Benediction

Chaplain Mary Estrada gave the benediction

Recovery of POW/MIA flag

President Luis Diaz ordered the recovery of the POW/MIA Flag from the Missing Rider Bike.

Colors Retired

Retreat of Colors was conducted and the colors retired in place. President Diaz was presented with the Convention Flag.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the membership, the convention was adjourned by President Diaz at 1025 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted this 20th Day of April, 2008,



Jeff Gallagher
Secretary