

**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country
Minutes
July 31, 2014

1. **Called to Order** by President James Adames at 1900
2. **Invocation** by Chaplain Mary Estrada
3. **Pause for MIA** by President James Adames
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** by President James Adames
5. **ALR Preamble** by James Adames
6. **Roll Call** by Anita Bart

Present – President James Adames, Vice President Chris Coleman, Finance Officer Don Christolear, Secretary Anita Bart, Chaplain Mary Estrada, JAG John Bart, Quartermaster Patrick Tafoya, Historian Jake Jacobsen, Area 1 VP Bob Perryman, Area 2 VP Ignacio Alvarez, Area 3 VP J.D. Bennett, Area 5 VP Mick Sobbczack, Area 6 VP Dan Dale, Jim Banakus/ Absent – Service Officer Mike Shuster, Jr. Past President Poncho Villa, Safety Officer Mike Mathis, Conventions Terry Boughman

7. **Additions to the Agenda** New business –
Chapter 22
Officer Announcements
8. **Approval of Minutes** – June 26, 2014 minutes – Ignacio Alvarez moved to approved, J.D. Bennett - 2nd – Motion passed
Minutes Meeting of April 15 – J.D. Bennett moved to approve, Chris Coleman 2nd – Motion passed
9. **Financial Report** – Don Christolear - Beginning balance – 50,853.15- Spent \$10.00 End 50843.16. JD Bennett moved to accept subject to audit, Chris Coleman 2nd - Passed. Jake Jacobson talked to caretaker of the Armory and said he would contact the commanding officer.

Ignacio Alvarez stated that the check to his area would be on hold to wait until next year. Taxes – State of Ca does not show us as tax exempt status. Right now we are a C4 we should have paid \$300.00 per year we are \$1200.00 in the arrears and with this year \$1500.00. John Bart will look into it. Don will send John the information from the state of CA. There is a possibility we have exceeded the minimum amount. John will look it over. Don has a CPA that will be reviewing the finances. He will have an audit next meeting.

10. Vice President Report - Chris Coleman – He has done some research. He also asked everyone to review the information John Bart began and also the letter on COC and the resolution from National. Chris needs input from the area VP's so that he can make a resolution to be presented to the DEC and then the next convention. Some Area VP's stated they did not receive the info. Chris asked that all review their contact info.

11. Committee Reports

- a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya – processed 61 orders up to date. Orders are picking up. Bakersfield new chapter received new patches. Question; can they put something above the ALR patch? James Adames – this will be addressed in the code of conduct. According to the bylaws there is nothing above the flag. There was a question about retired status patches. John Bart suggested a resolution to have a patch for retired status. There is picture on the website of the Derby covers and can contact Pat with any questions.
- b. Convention and Rally – Terry Baughman – No Report
- c. Judge Advocate Report – JAG John Bart - No Report
- d. Service Officer – Mike Shuster - No report
- e. Safety Committee – Marc Mathes - No Report
- f. Jr. Past President – Poncho Villa - No Report
- g. Historian – Jake Jacobsen – No Report

12. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 VP – Bob Perryman – Chapter 119 had a poker run and there are other poker runs coming up for 283 in Sept. they should be posting the info. There was one funeral escort in Yountville, for a person who was very active in the legion and community. There were many of the chapters present and all rode in as the National Anthem was being sung. There were over 200 vets at the dinner. There is another chapter looking at forming a chapter . They held a Hot August Nights event. He is creating a letter with the help of John Bart to present to posts to form chapters.

b. Area 2 VP – Ignacio Alvarez - Been busy Dist. 28 had an anniversary poker run. Rolling 9 and chapter 202 had poker runs. This weekend Dist. 28 will hold a stand down 400 homeless will be served. The Rally coming up; there are only 11 registrations so far. They need help in getting people to register. It will be fun, there will be some bike ability tests, poker run, band, but they need people to register so that they can get an idea of the numbers. He attempted to have an area 2 meeting during July 4, but was not able to. Post 82 is hoping to form a Chapter, their bylaws are being reviewed. He asked a questioned about forming a chapter vs dist. John Bart said he is correct in steering them to becoming a chapter more than a dist.

c. Area 3 VP – J. D. Bennett – It is fairly quiet, people don't ride in the heat. August 9th will be Our Heroes Dreams and Homes for Heroes give homes to disabled vets. Hanford Chapter 3 will be giving a home, and riders have been asked to be present. It will be at 10 AM 13526 Liberty Lane in Hanford. He will have an Area 3 Meeting in Madera Aug 30 10 AM at the Madera Post.

d. Area 4 – Vacant

c. Area 5 VP – Mick Sobczak – He just got out of hospital on July 8. He thanked Chris Coleman for attending his wedding. He sent out a weekly email with info. They have done five Homes for Vets and they love the escorts. They are vets who are amputees and love the help. Temecula has had nine in two years. He has had a Presidents' meeting with great attendance 21 out of 23. They are having a new presidents meeting/rally. Will do a BBQ in Loma Linda and have a presidents meeting. He has two chapters forming. They are waiting until they get quality riders.

d. Area 6 VP – Dan Dale - They have had a busy month, They have had 12 missions and several funerals. Chapter 534 poker run was well attended and Chapter 26 from Bakersfield lost riders and had memorial services. Post 66 will have a memorial tomorrow for the first female commander and advocate for riders. She was an Army Nurse. Arroyo Grande voted no confidence of president. He is helping then with new commander and update bylaws and helping them get stronger.

Mary – Asked that the Area VP's post lost riders on the website so that she can give condolence from the ALR DEC. and also for the Post Everlasting at convention. Aug 16 Chapter 48 Poker run.

13. Old Business

No Old Business

14. New Business

a. Officer Announcements – James Adames – The Department took some of the Riders' officers. Mary can do both positions ALR and Department. Poncho is Dist commander. John Doc Bart as JA. He cannot be both. We appreciate everything you have done for this organization and a job well done. Doc. He will be in close

contact with the new JA. He will always be available to anything that would not be a conflict of interest. He will still be riding.

Jim Banakus- It has been a pleasure. That you, everything you have done for the riders had been spot on. Thank you for everything you have done.

JD Bennett- Doc has been a great mentor to all of us

Bob Perryman – Glad he is going to the Department. If it wasn't for you some chapters would not exist. What he is doing is the best thing for the department and the riders. If it wasn't for his he would not be a rider. Thank Red for putting up the job.

Ignacio – Thank Doc and Red He is a true leader the DOC and will have a great leader. Thank you for your patience.

Doc Thank you for everything you do

Area 5 – Thank you for everything you thank Red. Doc will help the department but you will be missed.

Mary – I still get to work with DOC

James – New JAG – Robert “Smoky” Stover – Robert- Thank you. Smoky is a practicing attorney and comes highly recommended.

Smokey – I Appreciated the opportunity.

Finance Officer – Don has done fantastic work for the DEC. Thank you for 6he work you have done.

Area 2 – Thank you for all the work you have done

Area 1 – Thank you Don good luck

Area 5 – Thank you take care

Area 3 – Thank you for all that you have done

Don – Wanted to put the praise with Rita – they were a good team. Please do the new officer a favor and help him by getting the money in.

James – New Finance Officer – Larry Miller

Larry Miller – Thank You I know I have big shoes to fill. Email is

LarryMillerALR311@gmail.com

- b. Chapter 22 Approval – Lodi – JD Bennett - Moved to Approve – Area 5 Mick Sobbczack 2nd – Area 5 question - How many members? 11 Members. Motion Approved
 - c. Dan Dale - Lane Sharing – There are no guidelines on lane sharing. Bob Perryman– it is dangerous and he does not allow it in their rides. John Bart as an organization if you are riding in an event if you conduct the lane splitting (sharing) and there are injuries, you assume all liabilities.
- 15. Sick / Memorial** – Chaplain Mary Estrada – Remind everyone to use the rider everlasting link and to also report any sick or injured members. It came to Mary's attention the next year with be the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. There will be a number of ceremonies. There are already events being planned. The web site for information is vietmanwar50th.com Pat volunteered to put something together for the

memorial.

JD Bennett – Area 3 recognition for the veterans in central valley – Lemoore possibly getting involved in getting a tribute to the Vietnam vets. During convention. James will be going to the VA. For some injections.

16. **Good of the Order** – President James Adames – Send info to Chris for an event or meeting. He will try to be there. Next meeting – August 28 at 7:00 / Aug 23 Dinner dance post 521.
17. **Benediction** by Chaplain Mary Estrada
18. **Adjournment** by President James Adames at 2105