

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

September 22, 2017 at the ALRDOC State Rally in Indio

1. **Call to Order** - President Mick Sobczak @ 6:03pm
2. **Invocation** –chapter chaplain
3. **Pause for MIA** - President Mick Sobczak
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Caleb Homer
5. **ALR Preamble** - President Mick Sobczak
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt

President-Mick Sobczak;

Secretary-Debbie Proffitt;

Convention & Rally-Dee Pittenger;

Area 2 VP-Warren Halstead;

Area 4 VP-Joel Lopez;

Area 5 Asst VP-Ron Huff;

Area 5 Asst VP-Ray Ficek;

Area 6 Asst VP-Milo Barclay;

Sergeant-At-Arms-Caleb Homer;

Safety Officer-Ken White;

Area 1 VP-Fred Branson;

Area 3 VP-Robert Stover;

Area 5 VP-Rey Ruiz;

Area 5 Asst VP-Gene Hobby;

Area 6 VP-John Archuleta;

EXCUSED:

Vice President-Randy Brenneman;

Judge Advocate-John Bart;

Service Officer-George Smith;

Quartermaster-Patrick Tafoya;

Membership-Gary Teicher;

Treasurer-Leonard Phillips;

Parliamentarian-Hy Libby;

Webmaster/Area 6 Asst VP-Jim Oxley;

JR Past President-James Adames;

Area 1 Commissioner-Bob Perryman;

ABSENT:

Area 1 Asst VP-Cory Perryman;

Area 6 Asst VP- Jim Ross;

Area 2 Commissioner-Terry Baughman;

Area 5 Commissioner-Paul Patricio;

Area 1 Asst VP-Rich Bergin;

Area 6 Commissioner-Steve Weber

Area 3 and Legion Commissioner- Vince Cole;

Guests-

ALRDOC State Rally participants

7. **Additions to the Agenda**

a. Rey--Chapter support team patches

8. **Approval of Minutes** –

Motion by Robert Stover to accept the August minutes as electronically transmitted. 2nd by Rey Ruiz. Passed by vote of DEC.

9. **Financial Report** – Leonard Phillips-ex

Motion by Warren Halstead to accept the Financial Report as electronically transmitted pending audit. 2nd by John Archuleta. Passed by vote of DEC.

10. **President's Report** – Mick Sobczak-

*Went to the National Convention in Reno. Did the last legs of the Legacy run. Total this year was around \$750,000.00. In years past there had been \$1,000,000.00 donated. Mick will do the complete Legacy Run next year which will be in Minneapolis. California had 11 chapters represented on the run. At convention the National American Legion Riders Committee had no committee meetings. There was a letter from Dan Wheeler complaining about the rules. The Legion has rules and regulations that we must abide by them. The Riders are not better than the Legion, auxiliary or Sons. We must support our parent organization first. Without them there would be no Riders. While at convention Mick saw President Trump address the convention. Makes him proud to be an American.

11. **Vice President Report** - Randy Brenneman-ex

none

12. **Secretary Report** – Debbie Proffitt

*COO update- As of 9/20/2017 the ALRDOC has achieved 100%.

*Rosters- Deadline for updating will be 12/31/17. Rosters will be locked 2/1/18. On 2/1/18 I will print them out as is.

13. **Sgt. At Arms Report** – Caleb Homer

*Will address during Good of the Riders.

14. **Area Reports**

a. Area 1 VP-Fred Branson

*Have been to 2 major rallies.

*Area 1 President's meeting will be October 14 and will focus on younger membership as most chapter members are older. We need to get young people to know who we are and what we do.

b. Area 2 VP-Warren Halstead

*Have been doing lots of escorts to the new Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. Many, many cremains of service personnel who's family have been waiting to have their services.

*3 members from Area 2 doing the Epic Ride to raise awareness and money for the cemetery foundation so that in ground burials can be done.

*Mick told about the Epic Ride at Arlington. Arlington flew a flag at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and presented it to the Riders to bring back to fly at the cemetery. This has never been done before. Congress also recognized the Epic Ride on the floor and named them as American Legion Riders from California. Great recognition for our Riders and the state of California.

c. Area 3 VP-Robert Stover

*Looking to add an Area 3 Asst. VP.

*Have been having a booth weekly at the local Farmer's Market for the last 8 weeks. Handing out bracelets from the VA and info about the American Legion and it's family. Have signed up at least one new member each week.

*Partnered with the Rotary to do a golf tournament. In 2016 they put \$200 into it and got \$4,000 back for the Legion programs. This year hoping to get \$6,000.

d. Area 4 VP-Joel Lopez

*Apologized for missing a meeting as his Mother was ill.

*Membership of ch 804 up to 13 members. Have 3 members pending.

*Have been doing escorts with the PGR

*Apologized for the member of ch 804 that had non-compliant patches on the back of his vest. It was brought to their attention, they spoke with the member and the member said he would bring the vest into compliance.

c. Area 5 VP-Rey Ruiz

*Very thankful to the 3 Area 5 Asst. VPs. They've been doing a hell of a job. May add 1 more Asst. VP if the prospective chapters come through.

*Will be doing the Salute to Veterans Run in October.

*Passport run- goal is to sell 400 passports. Half of the money will go to charity and the other half will be broken down into 10 increments and those that have their passports full will be in on the grand prize with those partially full will be eligible for the rest of the prizes. There are 900 riders in Area 5.

*Working on a patch for those that get all 31 actual stamps, not ones signed off by the VPs for the 5 chapters without a home.

*Working on new chapters in Adelanto, Big Bear, Alpine, La Mesa, San Diego and Apple Valley.

d. Area 6 VP-John Archuleta

*Working with Mick to get a chapter started at the North Hollywood post.

*Working with the Santa Barbara Riders Foundation to get an ALR chapter in Santa Barbara.

*Have been asked to lead the parade on November 12th in Santa Barbara.

*Participated in a PGR mission in Arroyo Grande- A vet who died 74 years ago was brought home. There were over 2,000 people at the cemetery for the services.

*Milo has been a great help in Area 6.

15. Committee Reports

a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya-ex

*Buy your back patches from the Quartermaster. Don't bootleg them.

b. Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

- *Would like to thank Gene for a great Rally.
- *Convention- letters of intent for 2019 will go out.
- *Ken Derr- 2018 convention will be at h Junior Seau Recreation Center.
 - *There are 6 hotels that will give discounts. Holiday Inn will be the host hotel. Flyer will be up on the website by Sunday night. Link is on the flyer for the rates.
 - At the host hotel there will be a hospitality room.
 - *There will be a ride scheduled on Friday for those that get there early with a lunch stop.
 - *SOS will be the shuttle service for Friday and Saturday. All hotels are within walking distance.
 - *Will have food trucks for lunch Saturday and trying to get the Hunter's Steak House food truck for Saturday dinner.
 - *The next committee meeting will be October 5th 7-9pm.
 - *Addressed the rumor that the restaurants in Oceanside won't allow vests in their establishments. This rumor is false. Mick, Caleb and Ken will attend the next Oceanside Chamber meeting.
 - *ch 146 will have their annual Toys for Tots ride on November 5th.
- *Dee- has the check been sent for the convention seed money. Mick will make sure they get it when Leonard returns from his cruise.

c. Judge Advocate Report – John Bart-ex

None

d. Service Officer – George Smith-ex

None

e. Safety Committee – Ken White

- *So far we've logged in 129,700 miles. Not everyone is logging in. This is less than last year.
- *If a chapter has a safety representative let the Area VP know.

f. Webmaster – Jim Oxley-ex

None

g. Membership Officer – Gary Teicher-ex

- *Mick- we have 85 chapters. That's more chapters than some Departments have posts.
- *We have 2,200 members. Only 335 as Squadron and 350 as Auxiliary. We need to sign up our families to the Squadrons and Auxiliaries.
- *Warren- what about husbands whose wives are veterans?
- *Mick- working on changing the wording to the resolution that brought the Sons of the American Legion in as a program. Changing the wording to be the Men's Auxiliary.
- *Working on a resolution to have National leadership for the American Legion Riders. If passed it would take power from the National ALR committee and make the leadership like the Sons.

h. Historian – vacant

i. Jr. Past President – James Adames-ex

None

j. Dept. Commissioner – Vince Cole-ab

None

16. Old Business

None

17. New Business

None

18. Sick / Memorial – chaplain-vacant

19. Good of the Riders

*Rey-Chapter support team patches. We've seen full patches on little kids. They are not members. Can't wear those. Talking about a patch the would say "Chapter ??? Support Team". Rectangular 6x10 patch. Would have the legion, auxiliary or Squadron family patch above it.

*Will need a resolution.

*Caleb- been working on the Uniform manual to make it clearer. Brighter and more graphics, clearer explanations.

*Smokey-Asked about getting copies to look at. Caleb will email out to the DEC to look at. Uniform committee already Ok'd it. Going to DEC for vote then will be sent out.

20. Next Meeting Date – October 26, 2017 at 7pm.

21. Benediction - chapter chaplain

22. Adjournment – President Mick Sobczak @6:59pm