

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country

DEC Minutes
October 26, 2017

1. **Call to Order** - President Mick Sobczak @ 7:00pm
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain (Vacant) Ron Carmichael
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

PRESENT-

President-Mick Sobczak;
Sergeant-At-Arms-Caleb Homer;
Secretary-Debbie Proffitt;
Quartermaster-Patrick Tafoya;
Convention & Rally-Dee Pittenger;
Area 1 VP-Fred Branson;
Area 4 VP-Joel Lopez;
Area 6 VP-John Archuleta;
Area 2 Commissioner-Terry Baughman;

Vice President-Randy Brenneman;
Treasurer-Leonard Phillips;
Webmaster/Area 6 Asst VP-Jim Oxley;
Membership-Gary Teicher;
Public Relations-Ron Carmichael-
Area 2 VP-Warren Halstead;
Area 5 Asst VP-Gene Hobdy;
Area 6 Asst VP-Milo Barclay;
Area 3 and Legion Commissioner- Vince Cole;

VACANT-

Chaplain-
Area 3 Asst VP-

Historian-

EXCUSED-

Safety Officer-Ken White;

ABSENT-

Judge Advocate-John Bart;
Service Officer-George Smith;

Parliamentarian-Hy Libby;
JR Past President-James Adames;

Area 1 Asst VP-Rich Bergin;
Area 3 VP-Robert Stover;
Area 5 Asst VP-Ron Huff;
Area 6 Asst VP- Jim Ross;
Area 5 Commissioner-Paul Patricio;

Area 1 Asst VP-Cory Perryman;
Area 5 VP-Rey Ruiz;
Area 5 Asst VP-Ray Ficek;
Area 1 Commissioner-Bob Perryman;
Area 6 Commissioner-Steve Weber

GUESTS-

Geni Lefler - PR Committee

7. Additions to the Agenda

Voice recorder for the Secretary

8. Approval of Minutes –

Motion to accept the September 22, 2017 minutes as electronically submitted by Warren Halstead, 2nd by Fred Branson. Passed by majority vote of the DEC.

9. Financial Report – Leonard Phillips

*Motion to accept the Financial report pending audit by Fred Branson, 2nd by Milo Barclay. Passed by majority vote of DEC membership.

*Will check on the chapter 43 Paypal payment.

*discussion of inconsistencies from the 2106-2017 year. \$ being on wrong line item and not accounted for.

*Charge for Hollister was rectified.

*199 tax paperwork has been filed with state.

*99N tax paperwork has been filed with federal.

*Union bank withdrew a debit of \$580 on July 31. Will go to the bank and inquire about it. Will email Mick, Randy, Caleb and Debbie with results of the inquiry.

10. Presidents Report – Mick Sobczak

*Rode to the Area 1 President's mtg. Visited Foresthill then went to ch 694 Monterrey for their steak dinner. Had breakfast Sunday morning at ch 598 Prunedale.

*Celebrated the Salute to Veterans Run.

*Spoke at the District 22 Auxiliary workshop.

*Will be gone to Indianapolis for a week to teach at the American Legion College.

**"I'm not bad at karaoke...lol"

11. Vice President Report - Randy Brenneman

*Area 1 had a great President's meeting. Lots of good discussion.

*Talked with Leonard about Rally payments. \$1,500 was budgeted for call in expense. This was underestimated by \$819.80. There is \$3,000 in discretionary spending. Would like to put \$820 from discretionary into call in.

12. Secretary Report – Debbie Proffitt

*POCs- We had talked about that there are to be 3 POCs per chapter. On the website there are anywhere from 1 to 6 listed per chapter. Mick stated he would send an informational email out about this and what a POCs job list is.

*Debbie will start sending out weekly roster updates. Rosters are to be correct by December 31. They will be locked on January 31.

*Rider Everlasting flag- Debbie spoke about having a flag similar to the flag the Department of Missouri has. It would say “Rider Everlasting” at the top and “California” at the bottom. It would have year patches made to look uniform instead of being embroidered every year on the flag. The top of the patch would state the Legion year, for example, 2007-2008. Under this would be the chapter then the name of the Rider. Discussion about whether the current streamers would stay on the US flag once this was started. Mick stated that the streamers would most likely come off. The delegates to the 2018 convention would vote on different proposals.



13. Sgt. At Arms Report – Caleb Homer

*National Commander will be in Southern California December 9 through 15.

*Caleb will put out an itinerary for the escorts between posts to all chapters when the information is ready.

14. Area Reports

a. Area 1 VP-Fred Branson

*Had a good President's meeting.

*Checking to see if any chapter can host the 2018 Rally or the 2019 Convention.

*Seeing where they can help after all the fires.

*Riding season here is winding down, getting colder.

b. Area 2 VP- Warren Halstead

- *Have been doing lots of escorts
- *On November 18 will be participating in the internment of a WW2 Marine KIA.
- *Epic ride- reported support of over \$25,000 so far.
- *Will be participating in the Honor Our Fallen walk/run at Fort Ord and Dunes State Park.

c. Area 3 VP- Robert Stover

none

d. Area 4 VP- Joel Lopez

- *Doing chapter rides
- *Chapter 804 now has 15 members
- *Montebello post has many riders, talking to the post commander to get a riders chapter going. Mick stated to let him know when the Montebello November post meeting is and he will go and explain about who the riders are and what they do.
- *South Gate post has an interest in a riders chapter.
- *Helped escort a bike run from the VA to post 843.

c. Area 5 VP- Rey Ruiz- *Gene Hobdy reporting

- *Gene has been talking to the Big Bear chapter. Excited about starting a chapter. Will talk to the commander.
- *Rey has been working with the posts in Apple Valley, La Mesa, San Diego and Alpine. Gene will be helping Rey.
- *Indio sponsored the Salute to the Veterans run- over \$10,000 donated to disabled veterans. Lots of media coverage.
- *1st Annual Police Memorial Run- 519/739 led the run.
- *Thanks for making the Rally great.
- *November 18- Area 5 Barstow Veterans Home ride. Big event last year.
- *November 18- chapter 200 is having a car and bike show.

d. Area 6 VP- John Archuletta

- *Visited 8posts in the Northern area
- *November 2- Santa Maria to Kettleman City
- *Broke down on the way to the chapter 43 meeting.
- *November 12- 3rd year they have been asked to represent the ALR/PGR in the Santa Barbara parade. Will post the information on the website.

15. Committee Reports

a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya

- *Getting old order forms.
- *New order forms are on the website.
- *Patches are ordered online now. Only the treasurer should be sending a check from the chapter.
- *Mick will send out this information when he sends out the Point of Contact information.

- *He's struggling with his computer, needs a new one.
- *Area VP's- If you need any information please email Pat.
- *Pat is still in school, working and doing ALR business.
- *Red shirt orders. Pat filled them himself.

b. Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

- *Letters of intent for 2019 convention-no responses yet.
- *Need an Area 5 Convention and Rally committee person- Mick stated Ken Derr should be on it.
- *Vests at Oceanside- reminded that Mick, atc. Would come to the Oceanside chamber meetings.
- *Has the seed money been sent for convention yet? No, waiting for the new checks to arrive.
- *Wasn't at the October 5th committee meeting because of family obligations.
- *2019 convention venue- will be voted on by delegates at the 2018 convention.
- *2018 Rally will be voted on at the December DEC meeting. It will be in Area 1, 2 or 3.
- *Area VP's to help get the word out. Dee will do a mass POC email for Areas 1, 2 and 3. It will be noted that Areas 4, 5 and 6 can disregard.

c. Judge Advocate Report – John Bart

none

d. Service Officer – George Smith

none

e. Safety Committee – Ken White

- *Chapters need to be properly reporting their mileage
- *Don't reset your mileage after an accident

f. Webmaster – Jim Oxley

- *Posted address for the Finance officer on the website.
- *Created new Paypal buttons.
- *Need assistance with keeping up postings on the website. Could the Area VP's possibly help? Chapters to give information to the Area VP to post on the website.
- *Geni Lefler stated that she has a graphic design background. She is willing to help with the website and will give her contact information to Jim.
- *Mick asked Ron Carmichael to ask the Public Relations committee members if they could help.

g. Membership Officer – Gary Teicher

- *2,149 riders listed from the rosters. Auxiliary have added 4, Sals have added 5 and Veterans have added 7.
- *2.08% growth since April.

h. **Public Relations- Ron Carmichael**

*Working on a project for a video to include all Areas in the video. Goals being public awareness showing Auxiliary doing Auxiliary events, Sals doing Sals events and Veterans doing Veteran events in all parts of California.

*Will work on a trifold brochure, similar to the one National puts out, but only for California.

*Geni stated that it would be all inclusive.

*The committee will be contacting Gary Teicher for membership stats.

*They are on the right track, will be putting the video together with the right music to hook the people watching it.

*Ron was asked about the smoke from the fires in his area and said it had been very bad.

i. **Jr. Past President – James Adames**

none

j. **Dept. Commissioner – Vince Cole**

*Condolences were expressed at the loss of Vince's wife.

*No report.

16. **Old Business**

*Uniform Manual- no verbiage changes. Added pictures for visual clarification.

*Motion by Caleb to update the Uniform Manual. 2nd by John Archuletta. Discussion- Debbie stated that sample manuals had run out at the Rally and she hadn't seen it yet. Those that didn't attend the Rally stated they hadn't seen it either. Randy made a motion to table it until all DEC members had a chance to look it over. 2nd by Warren Halstead. Passed by vote of DEC.

*Mick asked Caleb to send emails with the manual attached to all DEC members and the JA and to ask for any comments to be made within 5 days.

***DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THE MANUAL TO ANYONE.** Caleb was asked to send it as an uneditable PDF so no changes could be made.

17. **New Business**

a. Chapter 43 (Hollywood)

*Motion by John Archuletta to approve chapter 43, Hollywood, as an ALR chapter. 2nd by Milo Barclay. After some discussion about the Paypal receipt motion was passed by majority vote of the DEC. Chapter 43 is the 86th chapter.

*Milo stated that he had had a good visit with the chapter and that they would be an asset to the ALR.

b. Laptop and Voice Recorder for the Secretary position-

*Debbie stated that the Secretary position should not have to use their own personal laptop. It would be much easier to have a laptop for the position so that when a changeover of Secretaries takes place the laptop is handed over to the new Secretary with all state information on it. No downloading from the personal laptop of the outgoing

Secretary to be uploaded into the laptop of the new Secretary. The voice recorder would be used at Convention to record the proceedings, which would enable the Secretary to have accurate minutes. The voice recorder would also stay with the Secretary position. Discussion to use discretionary funds to pay for the laptop and voice recorder. Motion by Warren Halstead to use no more than \$1,000 from discretionary funds to pay for the laptop and voice recorder. 2nd by John Archuletta. Passed by majority vote of the DEC.

c. ALRDOC quarterly newsletter-

*Mick would like to start a quarterly online ALRDOC newsletter that would be published in March/July/September and November. All elected and appointed DEC officers and committee chairs would write an article for the newsletter. Chapters, with a group photo, could also be highlighted with what they have been doing and what's coming up. Mick would like to start it in November or 2017. Motion by Caleb Homer to start an ALRDOC quarterly newsletter. 2nd by Geni Lefler. Passed by majority vote of the DEC.

DEADLINE FOR 1ST ARTICLE IS NOVEMBER 15th, 2017. Please email suggestions for a newsletter title to Mick at president@alrdoc.org.

18. Sick / Memorial

*Vince Cole's wife passed.

*5 riders lost homes in the Santa Rosa fire.

19. Good of the Riders

a. Status on new chapters-

*Area VP's send information on prospective new chapters to Mick, Randy and Gary.

b. Randy-

*Was approached by a chapter 684 rider who asked about the ALR doing Iron Butt rides and the like. Would like to put them together for 250/500/1,000 miles. If sponsored by the Iron Butt Association it would be by their rules. There could possibly be patches, certificates and rockers.

*Gary stated that it wouldn't be a good idea. There are riders who aren't experienced enough to attempt it that would.

c. Chapter 66-

*Area 6-Chapter 66 voted to make a donation. They're trying to back out of making the donation. The treasurer hasn't been there so nothing has been done. The chapter has to follow up even though the treasurer isn't there. The chapter can make a motion to rescind the motion as action hasn't been taken. Already talked to the President and the Commander. No movement. May need to go to the District Commander. Call Doc Bart first and have him contact the chapter.

***The December DEC call in will be December 21 at 7pm.**

20. Next Meeting Date – 16 November 2017 at 7 pm. (Due to Thanksgiving)

21. **Benediction** - Chaplain (Vacant) Ron Carmichael

22. **Adjournment** – President Mick Sobczak @ 9:03pm

CONTENT OF THESE MINUTES MAY BE SPOKEN ABOUT BUT NOT POSTED OR
DISTRIBUTED UNTIL VOTED ON NOVEMBER 16.