**The American Legion Riders**

**Department of California**

****



*For God and Country*

**DEC Minutes**

September 17, 2021

1. **Called to Order** - President Rey Ruiz @ 6:05pm
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Fred Branson
3. **Pause for MIA** - President Rey Ruiz
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Cory Wattenbarger
5. **ALR Preamble** - President Rey Ruiz
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt

**President** - Rey Ruiz

**Vice President** – Gene Hobdy

**Sergeant-At-Arms** – Cory Wattenbarger

**Treasurer** - Leonard Phillips

**Secretary** - Debbie Proffitt

**Chaplain** – Fred Branson

**Judge Advocate** - Mark Rice

**Jr Past** - Mick Sobczak

**Safety Officer** - Mike Killion

**Service Officer** - George Smith

**Webmaster/Public Relations** - Jim Oxley

**Quartermaster** - Mike Clement

**Membership/ Legacy Run** - Rochelle Billet-Smith

**Convention & Rally** – Mike Smith

**PPC** - Ken Sutton-EX

**Ways and Means** - Kathleen McClary

**Historian** – John Smartt

**Parliamentarian-**James Adames

**Area 1 VP** – Pete DePalma **Area 2 VP** – Robert Lopez

**Area 3 VP** --Ralph Wenzinger **Area 4 VP** – Joel Lopez

**Area 5 VP** – Edmund Arguello **Area 6 VP** – Cris Molina

 **Guests:**

Area 5 Alt VP/Commissioner Tracy Dalton; Area 6 Alt VP Penni Brown; Chapter 229-Calvin Chaney;

1. **Additions to the Agenda** –

None

1. **Approval of Minutes** – August 26, 2021

Motion to accept the August 26, 2021 minutes as electronically transmitted by Ralph Wenzinger. 2nd by Mike Smith. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Financial Report** – Leonard Phillips Leonard

Total Debits $6.00

Total Deposits $0.00

Current Balance $87,376.37

State Bank Account $50,000.00

Union Bank Account $13,368.49

PayPal account (State) $24,007.88

Total in all accounts $87,376.37

DEC, turn in your address for mileage and hotel receipts for per diem. Leonard will check on who gets per diem.

Motion to accept the finance report as read by Ralph Wenzinger. 2nd by Gene Hobdy. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Presidents Report** – Rey Ruiz

As we meet on this POW/MIA Remembrance Day let us remember that:

83,114 Americans who fought in these wars since WWII are still missing:

* 73,515 from World War II (an approximate number due to limited or conflicting data)
* 7,841 from the Korean War
* 1,626 from Vietnam
* 126 from the Cold War
* 6 from conflicts since 1991

More than 41,000 have been presumed lost at sea.

The traditional [POW/MIA flag](http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/celebrate/powmia.pdf) that's well-known across America was actually created many years before the Remembrance Day became official.

In 1971, a woman named Mary Hoff contacted a flag company near her home to see if a flag reminding people of POWs and the missing could be made. She was one of the many waiting to see if her husband, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Michael Hoff, would ever return home after his plane had been shot down over Laos.

World War II pilot Newt Heisley designed the now-famous flag, which was made in black and white to represent the sorrow, anxiety and hope symbolized by the image of the gaunt man featured on it.

For every POW/MIA Recognition Day since 1982, the flag has flown just below the stars and stripes at the White House – the only other flag to ever do so. In 1998, Congress ordered it to also be displayed on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

(Uncover) A moment of silence in remembrance and the return of our 83,114 POW/MIA’s

* August 28th – Attended Chapter 180 Azusa’s Swap meet
* August 28th – attended chapter 299 Chino’s 1st Bike Night
* August 29th – Attended a Pancake breakfast for LCPL Kareem Nikoui of Norco at Post 328. In 5 hours, we served 587 breakfast and raised over $29,000.00 and counting for the family. This total is now over $40,000.000
* August 29th – September 1st attended the American Legion National Convention in Phoenix, AZ. Presented the National Commander with a check from California for $28,000.000 to the National Legacy Fund.
* September 1st & 15th – Attended Rally Meeting
* September 5th – attended chapter 416 Encinitas Breakfast
* September 11th – Attended Chapter 211 Tehachapi’s Poker Run
* September 17th – 19th Attending West Coast Rally
1. **Vice President Report** – Gene Hobdy

\*Attended the Certified Motorcycle Accident Scene Course in Mesa, AZ. Will be working with Monkey and Rey to put together a safety pamphlet.

\*Attended the Post 328 breakfast for LCpl Nakoui.

\*Attended the Ch 421 breakfast.

\*Contacted and got Covid somewhere. Have quarantined for the last 2 weeks and now test negative.

1. **Sgt. At Arms Report** – Cory Wattenbarger

Since our last meeting I have participated in the following:

* 9/1 Made a run to Henderson NV to assist a brother who broke down to get his vehicle back home
* 9/4 escort the ROF (remember our fallen) memorial
* 9/11 participated in the chapter 221 poker run
* 9/13 participated with removing the flags from the 1000 flag parade in Ridgecrest
* 9/14 attend chapter 221 meeting

Total of 798 service miles

 Events within my Area in the coming weeks & month:

* 10/2 999 ride in Bakersfield in support of our local law enforcement
* 10/9 Sikh riders blood drive and fun run
* 10/23 Chapter 555 Octoberfest
1. **Secretary Report** – Debbie Proffitt

\*I have been having fun for the last 2 months having Cal escorting me to various events and places in California, Arizona and Nevada. He and his wardrobe will be passed on to Rey to

have until the Ch 716 Toys for Tots breakfast.

\*I have been working to get the last few chapters to send in their POC reports. There is still one chapter outstanding.

\*I have been working with the Quartermaster to make sure that he gets notice of PayPal payments so he can process orders.

 \*I have been working with the Convention and Rally committee to refine the guidelines for C & R.

\*I have been working with the Webmaster to update the Resources area on the website. We are about 50% finished.

 \*For the Area VPs and Alt VPs there is now an updated Chapter Start Up Kit.

 \*Attended a 9/11 memorial ceremony at Post 716.

\*Chapter 716 was informed that rider member John Scoby had passed on September 3rd. He had had surgery for a mass on his brain. Services will be announced in the future once John’s son recovers from his own surgery. John was a member for just under a year but he would tell anyone who would listen how proud he was to be a rider and participate in the riders’ mission.

 \*October 9th Ch 716 will be having our 1st annual Hoedown from noon to 4pm.

 \*December 5th Ch 716 will have our 12th annual Toys for Tots breakfast from 9am-1pm.

 \*Thank you to those who are emailing their reports to me.

 \*I have CLR certificates for the Area VPs to take back.

 \*I have CLR pins for the Area VPs to take back.

 \*I emailed an area, district, post cheat sheet to all DEC.

1. **Area Reports** –
2. Area 1 VP – Pete DePalma

 Due to Covid resurgence there hasn’t been much taking place.

Attended Vigil for Sgt Gee on August 31st…one of the Marines killed during the suicide Bombing at the Kabul Airport. I was accompanied by Presidents of 383 and 709, along with his VP, we were later joined by members of the Legion Auxiliary and the Marine Corps League.

Participated in a Fundraiser for Post 709 on Aug 26th

Participated in a Birthday Ride By for JA Mark Rice’s Father

Chapter Activities

Chapter 383 held a 9/11 Ride to the Coast

Chapter 383 participated in a Birthday Ride by for JA Mark Rice’s Father on 9/16

Chapter 383 President is coordinating with the Patriot Guard for the procession for Sgt Gee on 9/16

1. Area 2 VP – Robert Lopez

D-28

They have riden 7,709 miles did a couple escorts for US Navy / Air force veterans also traffic control for the Indycar grand prix.

No fund raiser or donation yet.

D-31

Currently have two riders on an 11,000 mile journey Respect & Dignity.  Have done two escorts Luis Angeles and Mark McVey both Vietnam Veterans as well as a post ceremony for 9/11.

Chapter 69

Have done 12 flag lines & escorts, they have ridden 1,700 miles and are holding a Poker run on 11/13 21' .   No fund raising yet or donations.

Chapter 82

No report, they have 6 members.

Chapter 105

They have ridden 8,536 miles, have 99 missions

1,159 volunteer hours so far.

No fund raiser or donation yet.

Chapter 202

No report

D-9

They have done an escort/flag line

Held a horseshoe tournament raised money for

VA.   They also are going to do an escort at Travis Air Force Base on 9/17 for an MIA/POW.

D-10

Have been very busy along with D-9 and joined forces for the Horseshoe tournament and road to Sacramento today to escort Sgt Nichole Gee to the Mortuary in Roseville California.

They are planning on hosting a BBQ for the Livermore VA, NO DATE SET.

Chapter 694

No report.

1. Area 3 VP – Ralph Wenzinger

Events / Meetings Attended

September 4 (morning /early afternoon) - Attended TAL Area 3 meeting at Post 509 – Fresno. Spoke with District Commanders about ALRDOC and Dixie Fire Pony Express

September 4 – (late afternoon/evening) – Attended Celebration of Life for Jack “Papa Jack” Perry Founder and Past President of Chapter 83 at Post 83 – Merced. Offered condolences on behalf of Rey Ruiz and ALRDOC. Attended by Chapters 3, 23, 26, 108, 509

September 5 – Attended TAL District 14 meeting at Post 509 – Fresno. Spoke with Post Commanders about ALRDOC and Dixie Fire Pony Express.

September 8 – Attended meeting of Post 147 – Clovis and spoke about ALRDOC. Provided documents and guidance for formation of ALR Chapter. Post has already taken a favorable vote to form a Chapter

September 11 – (morning/afternoon) Attended Chapter 221 – Tehachapi poker run fundraiser. Attended by Chapters 3, 20, 26, 50, 100, 328, 555, 684, 711 and a Rider from an Oregon ALR Chapter

September 11 – (evening) Participated in ride to and attended 9-11 Ceremony at Bakersfield World Trade Center Memorial

September 13 – Attended Birthday Parade/celebration for 100-year-old World War II Royal Air Force veteran at an assisted living facility in Bakersfield

September 16 – Attended Honor Flight Kern County Welcome Home for 99 veterans returning from Washington, DC (4 WWII, 14 Korea, 81 Vietnam)

Chapter Activities

Chapter 88 – Turlock hosts a fundraiser breakfast the first Sunday of the month

Chapter 83 – Merced hosts a fundraiser breakfast the third Sunday of the month

Chapter 684 – Ridgecrest provided financial support, escort of and set up for the Remembering Our Fallen Memorial in Ridgecrest on September 4. Chapters 711 and 221 participated in the escort and set up. Chapter 684 also participated in the tear down on September 12.

On September 11, Chapter 684 marched in Ridgecrest’s annual Parade of 1000 Flags. The Chapter’s membership officer, Brian Beitens, donated the use of two of his classic convertibles for parade dignitaries. 684, along with ALRDOC SAA Cory Wattenberger, assisted with the tear down of the parade. 684 finished the day by participating in Chapter 221’s poker run.

Chapter 711 – Kern River Valley Poker Run fundraiser benefitting French Fire victims on October 9, 2021

1. Area 4 VP – Joel Lopez

Participated in:

1. Honor guard on September 11 At the Huntington Beach yacht club for a World War II veteran.
2. Honor guard for Jacob Aguilar at Rose Hills cemetery on September 11, 2021.
3. September 11 ceremony color guard at American Legion Post 804 on Cesar Chavez Avenue.
4. Color guard at AFL-CIO Hall for 9/11 ceremony.
5. Funeral escort for Arthur Romero Valenzuela World War II veteran in Whittier California, September 10, 2021.
6. Funeral escort for South Vietnamese national Veteran. Westminster memorial park and mortuary. Escort to final resting place.
7. Area 5 VP – Edmund Arguello

AUG 28- Chapter 299 Bike Night/ Meet N Greet

AUG 29-SEP 2- American Legion National Convention in Phoenix, AZ

SEP 7- Pre-Op Covid Testing

SEP 10- Left Knee Surgery

SEP 12-Release to Wife pending follow-up appointments and recovery

SEP 24-ALR Steak Dinner in Adelanto

Upcoming Area Chapter Activities

ALR DOC State Rally SEP 17-19

Ch 364 Santee, Burger Burn SEP 18

Ch 262 Fontana, Breakfast SEP 19

Ch 255 National City Annual Poker Run SEP 25

Ch 555 Midway City-Annual Oktoberfest

1. Area 6 VP – Cris Molina

- Area 6 has collected about 40 gift cards for the Greenville Post that will be handed over to State VP Gene Hobdy.

- Chapter 790 has been heavily involved with the escorts of multiple Service Members who lost their lives in the Kabul Airport attacks. Gratitude to them for their hard work on these missions.

- Chapter 484 supported 2 PGR missions, Ride to the Flags, and the Patriot Flag Run. One of their members joined in taking the flag from Lancaster to Las Vegas. They have logged in excess of 750 miles.

- Chapter 211 supported 3 welcome home / Veteran salutes with a total of 398 miles. They attended the Santa Maria Elks Rodeo Parade and the Vandenberg Space Force Base 9/11 ceremony for a total of 78 miles.

- Chapter 48 had a dinner ride to the Tavern Grill with 80 miles round trip logged. They will also be supporting Sarah’s Ride next Saturday the 25th.

- Chapter 30 attended a vigil in Rancho Cucamonga for one of the fallen Marines from the Kabul Airport attack. They continue to participate in PGR escorts and support local Legion breakfasts and dinners.

- Chapter 311 supported 2 PGR missions out of Tehachapi to Bakersfield National Cemetery. They held a burger/hotdog burn to support the Vets4Veterans sock hop at their post. They donated their time and food and raised over $1000 for local Veterans. On September 11th they did the escort for the Nation of Patriots Flag from Lancaster to Vegas. They had 7 riders and also rode with Mick and flew his tribute flag on their bikes for the trip.

- Chapter 43 had a good turnout for the Bob’s Big Boy fundraiser and raised over $500. The Chapter VP represented at Ride to the Flags on 9/11. Several members of 43 are participating in the PGR mission for LCpl Kareem Nikoui (on 9/17). They also attended the USC game on 9/11 and took to the field in their vests and were part of a group holding the giant American flag on the field.

- I had the honor of installing the new officers for Chapter 790 in West Covina. I also presented them with the Charter and recruiting certificate. On 9/11 I attended the Fire Hogs LA County MC Memorial Ride. The event was well-attended and we had over 250 bikes there on a VERY hot day. It was over 200 miles for me round-trip. After that my daughter and I delivered flowers to our local police and fire stations and paid our respects. I am working on bringing in a new Chapter. Details will be forthcoming as we are still in the exploratory phase of everything but hoping it can all come together.

**UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AREA 6:**

- Reminder: Sarah's Ride is on Saturday, September 25th. Chapter 507 does a great job with this event and proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Event starts at VFW Post 6886 this year.

* Reminder: On November 6th, Chapter 30 in Pomona is hosting a 1st Birthday celebration and meet-and-greet. All are welcomed. I'll be reminding everyone as we get closer.

- Every year on 9-11 my daughter and I deliver flowers and baked goods to local police and fire stations. We’ve been doing it since the day the attacks happened. I knew someone on one of the planes so it’s a personal thing for me. Many Chapters will be participating in events but I encourage all of you and your Chapters to do something special on 9-11, no matter how big or small, everything counts.

1. **Committee Reports** –
	1. Quartermaster – Mike Clement
	2. Public Relations/Website – Jim Oxley

\*Been working with Debbie to update the resources area.

* 1. Convention and Rally – Mike Smith

On Wednesday, September 8, 2021, the Convention and Rally Committee met remotely, via Zoom, to discuss additions/changes to the Rally and Convention Guidelines as directed by President Rey Ruiz during the DEC meeting conducted on August 26, 2021.

The Convention and Rally Committee reviewed and discussed both documents. The format of both documents was changed to be make is easier to read and mark off items as the chapter/district moves forward. Changes/additions were made to both documents. These changes were italicized, underlined and bolded for easy identification. These changes documents were presented to President Ruiz who in turn sent the documents to the DEC via email so they could be reviewed and commented on.

Chapter 328 has communicated all Rally activities planned. I want to congratulate them in advance on what should turn out to be a very successful and fun West Coast Rally.

* 1. Past President’s Club – Ken Sutton

We are still helping out with current and incoming officer training on a regular basis.

* 1. Judge Advocate Report – Mark Rice

President Ruiz and Riders of California,

I attended the National Convention three weeks ago as a California delegate. This was the result of my attendance as it pertained to the American Legion Riders.

* The resolution that was submitted by California concerning the title change issue was rejected by the National Committee on Internal Affairs. This precluded it from making it to the floor of the Convention. There was no support for the resolution from any other Department.
* I was able to speak briefly with the ALR National Advisory Committee Chair, Mark Clark about the title change in National Resolution 5 (Spring 2021 NEC). I explained to him how California is complying with the resolution. He accepted that.
* I received some questions from some members, including the Legion Department Adjutant from California about whether Resolution 5 is binding. I explained that it is just as binding as if it came off the National Convention Floor. Title changes will take effect next spring during the regular elections.
* I was there in support of the check presentations for the Legacy Run.
* I learned how the resolution process is handled at the National Convention.
* I was unable to talk with the Florida Department Chairman about their high membership numbers, but President Ruiz did.

With the Chapter Bylaws Sample being in place, so far, I have received and approved 3 sets of Chapter Bylaws. I have set a deadline of November 19th for submission of new Chapter Bylaws. Chapters needing an extension need to contact me. Bylaws must be submitted directly to me at alrdocja@gmail.com. The next Chapter Bylaws Workshop will be on Monday, September 27th at 7:00 PM, online. You can find the link on the information page on the Department website alrdoc.org. The Area VPs will be key in helping all Chapters in making the deadline. They need to be proactive in this endeavor. I am available by email or phone for those having questions or needing assistance.

I received one conduct complaint for which I have started a preliminary investigation into. Specific information will be available at a later date.

* 1. Service Officer – George Smith
	2. Safety Officer – Mike Killion

\*Area 5 had a rider go down.

 \*Area 3 had a rider in an accident.

 \*Ch 112 Misty was sideswiped.

* 1. Membership Officer – Rochelle Billet-Smith

\*September 4 (morning /early afternoon) - Attended TAL Area 3 meeting at Post 509 – Fresno.

\*September 4 – (late afternoon/evening) – Attended Celebration of Life for Jack “Papa Jack” Perry Founder and Past President of Chapter 83 at Post 83 – Merced.

\*September 5 – Attended TAL District 14 meeting at Post 509 – Fresno.

\*September 8 – Attended meeting of Post 147 – Clovis and spoke about ALRDOC. Provided documents for formation of ALR Chapter.

\*September 11 – (morning/afternoon) Attended Chapter 221 – Tehachapi poker run fundraiser.

\*September 11 – (evening) Participated in ride to and attended 9-11 Ceremony at Bakersfield World Trade Center Memorial

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area 1** |  | **Area** | **District**  | **# of AL Post** | **# of ALR Chapters** | **%** |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | **294** |  | 1 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 7.1% |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | **13** |  | 1 | 2 | 10 | 1 | 10.0% |  |  |
| # of Veterans | 179 |  | 1 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 16.7% |  |  |
| # of SAL | 72 |  | 1 | 4 | 13 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| # of AUX | 36 |  | 1 | 5 | 23 | 2 | 8.7% |  |  |
| # of Active Duty  | 4 |  | 1 | 6 | 16 | 4 | 25.0% |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 40.0% |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **92** | **13** | **14.1%** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Area 2** |  | **Area** | **District**  | **# of AL Post** | **# of ALR Chapters** | **%** |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | **221** |  | 2 | 8 | 10 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | **9** |  | 2 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 25.0% |  |  |
| # of Veterans | 142 |  | 2 | 10 | 15 | 1 | 6.7% |  |  |
| # of SAL | 34 |  | 2 | 13 | 13 | 1 | 7.7% |  |  |
| # of AUX | 45 |  | 2 | 26 | 7 | 1 | 14.3% |  |  |
| # of Active Duty  | 1 |  | 2 | 28 | 12 | 4 | 33.3% |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **65** | **9** | **13.8%** |  |  |
| **Area 3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | **387** |  | **Area** | **District**  | **# of AL Post** | **# of ALR Chapters** | **%** |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | **21** |  | 3 | 11 | 14 | 4 | 28.6% |  |  |
| # of Veterans | 275 |  | 3 | 12 | 14 | 4 | 28.6% |  |  |
| # of SAL | 54 |  | 3 | 14 | 23 | 6 | 26.1% |  |  |
| # of AUX | 58 |  | 3 | 15 | 17 | 5 | 29.4% |  |  |
| # of Active Duty  | 10 |  | 3 | 27 | 9 | 3 | 33.3% |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **77** | **21** | **27.3%** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Area 4** |  | **Area** | **District**  | **# of AL Post** | **# of ALR Chapters** | **%** |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | **22** |  | 4 | 17 | 12 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | 3 |  | 4 | 18 | 22 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| # of Veterans | 15 |  | 4 | 19 | 22 | 1 | 4.5% |  |  |
| # of SAL | 2 |  | 4 | 23 | 10 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| # of AUX | 4 |  |  |  |  | **66** | **2** | **3.0%** |  |  |
| # of Active Duty  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | **Area** | **District**  | **# of AL Post** | **# of ALR Chapters** | **%** |  |  |
| **Area 5** |  | 5 | 21 | 17 | 11 | 64.7% |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | **830** |  | 5 | 22 | 29 | 8 | 27.6% |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | **36** |  | 5 | 25 | 27 | 6 | 22.2% |  |  |
| # of Veterans | 534 |  | 5 | 29 | 28 | 6 | 21.4% |  |  |
| # of SAL | 149 |  | 5 | 30 | 9 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| # of AUX | 147 |  |  |  |  | **110** | **36** | **32.7%** |  |  |
| # of Active Duty  | 32 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | **Area** | **District**  | **# of AL Post** | **# of ALR Chapters** | **%** |  |  |
| **Area 6** |  | 6 | 16 | 19 | 11 | 57.9% |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | **306** |  | 6 | 20 | 18 | 3 | 16.7% |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | **14** |  | 6 | 24 | 13 | 0 | 0.0% |  |  |
| # of Veterans | 214 |  |  |  |  | **50** | **14** | **28.0%** |  |  |
| # of SAL | 56 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | 36 |  | **Total Riders** |  | **2,060** |  | **# ALR Chapters** | **96** |
| # of Active Duty  | 7 |  | # of Veterans |   | 1,359 |  | # AL Post in CA  | 460 |
|  |  |  |  |  | # of SAL |   |   | 367 |  | % of Chapters to AL Posts  | 21% |
|  |  |  |  |  | # of AUX |   |   | 326 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | # of Active Duty  | 54 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

* 1. California Legacy Run – Rochelle Billet-Smith

Both Southern & Northern Routes still pending

Next meeting scheduled for September 28th, 2021 at 7:00PM via Zoom

* 1. Historian – John Smartt

Progress

* 1. Jr. Past President – Mick Sobczak

\*Why is the Judge Advocate looking into a possible disciple issue. That should be for the DEC. Mark stated he is just gathering information.

\*Why does Area 5 have 5 Alt VPs? It was decided before I left office that it would be 1 Alt VP for every 10 chapters. Rey stated he couldn’t find anything but will look farther.

\*The last time Area 5 did a passport run over $1,400 was gathered in the process. The person in charge of the run moved out of state and took the money with him. It was stated then that a police report was made. I checked with the Chula Vista PD and they don’t know anything about it. This needs to be looked into.

* 1. ALR Commissioner – Bob Perryman
	2. Ways and Means – Kathleen McClary

President, Officers, and Fellow DEC Committeepersons,

The Quilt tickets are sorted, bundled, and ready for distribution to the Chapters, and Area VPS. I will be selling tickets during the Rally this weekend as well as having the quilt out for viewing.

I will email the flyer to the Area VP’s next week, as I am having an issue with the picture I have of the quilt, and need to retake it. Area VPs, if you would, please email it to all of your chapters, Posts, Districts, Areas, etc. so we can get the word out.

The original plan of dividing all of the Posts, etc. in the State did not work as it should…it left some Chapters needing to travel 6-8 hours or more to go to some of the Posts in their district/Area and that is not fair to those who would only have one or two other posts very near to them. I am encouraging ALL chapters to take extra tickets and go visit any posts they can, to sell tickets and make this the most successful quilt raffle we have had.

We have received two donations to make the quilt raffle more enticing, Auxiliary Unit 3 is donating a gift Basket, and Chapter 3 is donating a $500 Cycle Gear Gift Card. All Chapters have been notified in the letter in the packets, that if they would like to add to the “prize” donations, to please get ahold of me so we can add those to the list.

1. **Old Business**
	1. Ken, where are we with the PPC manual?

Rey-Ken is not on the call tonight. A year ago, I gave him a template and haven’t gotten

anything back yet.

1. **New Business**
2. Presentations from Chapter 53 Hemet and Chapter 229 Adelanto on the 2022

 convention location.

Presentations were made by both chapters 53, Mick Sobczak and 229, Calvin Chaney.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were Adelanto 5 votes, Abstains 2 votes and Hemet 1 vote.

Congratulations to Chapter 229, Adelanto, for the 2022 convention. Convention will be held at the San Bernardino Fair Grounds in Victorville, Ca. Date to be determined.

1. Presentations from Chapter 69 and Post 564 Mission Santa Clara for site of the

 2022 West Coast Rally.

 Delayed until next month.

1. Report from - ADHOC committee lead by Mike Smith our Convention &

Rally Chairperson. Guidelines for Hosting Convention & Rally.

 See the Convention and Rally report.

 Motion to accept the Convention and Rally hosting guidelines by Mick Sobczak. 2nd

 by Ralph Wenzinger. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. Report from – ADHOC committee lead by Cory Wattenbarger our State Sgt. At Arms. Updating Uniform Manual for gender correct designations.

Delayed until next month.

1. Report from – ADHOC committee lead by Cris Molina our Area 6 VP. ALR Calendar Fundraiser.

Will need to look into it.

1. Chapters on suspension for non-compliance?

Chapter 155-There has been no communication from chapter 155 and they currently

only have 3 members.

1. DEC to Vote on the suspension of chapters/districts for non-compliance.

Motion to revoke the Chapter 155 charter for noncompliance and low membership

numbers by Mick Sobczak. 2nd by Cris Molina. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. Appoint ADHOC Committee to write procedures for

 1. The number of Assistant Area Vice Presidents/Directors an area is allotted.

2. What shall be the process for revoking a chapter/districts charter.

 Rey appointed an AD Hoc committee chaired by Cory Wattenbarger. Mark Rice will

 be on the committee.

1. **Sick / Memorial**

 Ill-Misty Faber Chapter 112 Ontario (Recovering) Motorcycle Accident

 Ill-Edmund Arguello-Area 5 VP- I had Left knee surgery, I think it was successful,

 I woke up, so I’m calling it a win.

 Ill-Chapter 519-Victor Lopez will be having a stent put in.

 Ill-Chapter 43-The Judge Advocate and his wife have serious health issues.

 Ill-Chapter 53-Shelley Sobczak is recovering from surgery.

Rider Everlasting-John Scoby-Chapter 716

1. **Good of the Riders**

Area 5 VP-From Chapter all the way up to National, Riders need more involvement on Committees, in District, Area, and Department Offices and on as many committees as is possible.

Area 1 VP- It’s my intent to reach out to the chapters in my Area to ensure they report any

 activities they are involved in so I can include them in my reports.

Good morning Department Leadership, Area 5 Leadership, District 29 Post Commanders, 1st Vice Commanders, Adjutants and District Leadership.  The following flyer regarding the Centennial Celebration for Post 132 Orange is being sent at the request of Post 132 leadership.  Please contact them directly at the contact point on the flyer or above in this email for more information.

The Commander and Leadership of Post 132 are very proud to announce that they will be celebrating the centennial of Post 132 on October 16th, 2021 commencing at 5:00 pm.  Commander DeLaRosa and the Leadership of Post 132 request the honor of your attendance as they celebrate 100 years of service to Orange County veterans.  The celebration will be held in the historic American Legion Post located at 143 S. Lemon St. in Orange, CA.  The evening will include dinner, dancing, no host bar, recognition from local community leaders.

**Tickets**:  $40.00 for individuals

               $75.00 for couples

               $300.00 for a table of 8

**Attire**:    Legion Business attire or business casual.  Legionnaires and members of other veteran’s service organizations are encouraged to wear their uniform cap.  Members of the American Legion Riders are encouraged to wear vest and beret or parent organization uniform cap. This will be a very special evening and all attendees are encouraged to be attired commensurate with the occasion.

1. **Next Meeting Date** – 28 October 2021 1900 or 7:00 PM
2. **Benediction** - Fred Branson
3. **Adjournment** – President Rey Ruiz @ 7:25pm