**The American Legion Riders**

**Department of California**

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*For God and Country*

**DEC Minutes**

January 26, 2023

1. **Called to Order** – Director Mike Smith @ 7pm
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Fred Branson
3. **Pause for POW/MIA** – Director Mike Smith
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Cris Molina
5. **ALR Preamble** – Director Mike Smith
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt

**Director-** Mike Smith

**Vice Director** – Ralph Wenzinger

**Sergeant-At-Arms** – Marc Lawrie-ex

**Area 1 Vice-D** – Mark Rice

**Area 2 Vice-D** – Robert Lopez-ex

**Area 3 Vice-D** – Paul LaPierre

**Area 4 Vice-D** – Brian Toal-ex

**Area 5 Vice-D** – Robert Partlow

**Area 6 Vice-D** – Cris Molina

**Jr Past** – Rey Ruiz (In Memoriam)

**Treasurer** – Stan Tehee

**Secretary** - Debbie Proffitt

**Chaplain** – Fred Branson

**Historian** – Mick Sobczak

**Judge Advocate** – Donny Brannon

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

**Parliamentarian-** Hy Libby-ab

**Quartermaster** – Mike Phillips

**Safety Officer** – Andrew Trapani-ex

**Service Officer** - George Smith

**Convention & Rally** – Geni Leffler-ab

**PP/DC** – Dennis Kee

**Ways and Means** - Kathleen McClary

**Webmaster/Public Relations** - Jim Oxley

**Guests: (TALDOC, ALR, etc)**

Commander Jere Romano, A5 Alt Vice D Bill Blackstone, Ch 262 Lawrence Martinez, Ch 785 Lou and Jeff Carson, A2 Alt Vice D Pete Torrecillas, A6 Alt Vice D Stephanie Huff, D9 Luis Torres, PP Jim Banakus, PP Steve Weber, Ch 69 Larry Earl, Ch 64 Daniel Phillips, Ch 82 Ed Caler, Ch 64 Sophie Grant, Ch 77 Fred Bryner, Ch 30 Bob Radcliff.

Commander Jere Romano-Thank you for the invite. We’ve been making changes to make the Riders feel supported and giving you everything you need. We’re here to help the organization grow. The Department of California is hurting. We are losing more to Post Everlasting than signing up new members. We have to be true to ourselves. We are our own worst enemy because of the toxicity in out Posts. We need to look at ourselves and change. Compromise builds consensus. Find a common ground. Older Legionnaires don’t want change. We need to look at our posts. Posts need to look presentable. We need to invite the community to 1 or 2 family nights per month. Keep it as cheap as possible and free to younger families. Our post family is our secondary family. We need to lead by example and work your family membership. Riders are what’s dynamic about this organization. California is 47th in the nation. We need new people.

Donny Brannon stated that March Air Field has huge potential membership. Are there any grants that would provide the first-year membership initial fees. Jere said he will look into it at the Department level. Need a definitive number.

PP Jim Banakus-Happy New Year. The rider’s organization is doing a fantastic job. It has grown and is very visible. Example, James Adames was brought into the organization because he saw me wearing my vest and asked questions.

PP Steve Weber-Echoing what has been said. The Riders are the fore front of the Legion. What we’re doing is great for the whole organization.

PP Mick Sobczak-The Riders have been around for a long time. Maybe 24 years in California. 30 years nationally. Bring in younger members. Sign up families not just the rider.

Cris-Spotted a rider on the freeway. We are the billboard.

1. **Additions to the Agenda** –
   * + 1. Accept charter return from Chapter 11 Madera.
       2. Rescind Robert Partlow as A5 interim Vice Director.
       3. Accept Edmund Arguello as returning A5 Vice Director.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – ALRDOC December 15, 2022 Minutes

Accepted as electronically transmitted.

1. **Financial Report** – Stan Tehee

General Accounting as of 1/25/23

Beginning Bank Balance $ 53,042.66

Bank Deposits $ 25,722.00

Interest on bank account $ 2.25

Bank Withdraws $ 1,102.93

Ending Bank Balance $ 77,663.98

PayPal Balance $ 4,066.75

Ending Total Balance $ 81,730.73

Ralph asked about the $25,000 deposit to the bank account. Was told it was moved to the bank account from the PayPal account.

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report as given pending audit by Ralph Wenzinger. 2nd by Cris Molina. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Director’s Report** – Mike Smith

Since our last meeting I have:

* December 17, 2022, conducted installation of officers for Chapter 951, March AFB
* December 19, 2022, attended Chapter 20 Christmas Wrapping event
* December 19, 2022, attended funeral in Lindsay, CA
* December 27, 2022, attended funeral in Visalia, CA
* January 6, 2023, attended Theodore ‘Teddy’ Jackson funeral
* January 9, 2023, attended Post 20 Blood Drive
* January 11, 2023, attended funeral in Visalia, CA
* January 12, 2023, attended funeral in Porterville, CA
* January 14, 2023, conducted installation of Officer for Chapter 497, Bloomington
* January 14 and 15, 2023, attended American Legion, Department of California DEC in Orange, CA
* January 16, 2023 CA Legacy Run Zoom Meeting
* January 17, 2023 Chapter 20 Convention Zoom Meeting
* January 19, 2023, attended funeral in Dinuba, CA
* January 21, 2023, attended American Legion District 15 Meeting at Post 785, Visalia, CA
* January 23, 2023 CA Legacy Run Zoom Meeting
* January 24, 2023 Convention and Rally Zoom Meeting
* January 25, 2023, attended funeral at Tule Indian Reservation

Busy month of meetings and funerals. It was an honor to conduct the installation of officers at Chapters 951 and 497. Both Post Commanders are supportive of their new chapters.

By-laws. I must take responsibility for our By-laws not getting to the DEC meeting this month. I have spoken with Commander Romano about this. He will be having a special DEC meeting in the next week, or so, and our By-laws will be one of 2 subjects. We are only a few weeks behind on this.

Area Vice Directors, at the DEC, I reported our mileage as a group. We are looking at 172,000+ miles, prior to an audit. Please get your Areas audited. I saw a few very questionable entries. Even with an audit, I am feeling comfortable we will eclipse 100,000+ easily. I multiplied our miles to determine how many miles we have done per individual. We are at 1.3 billion+ miles. I found a ‘small’ discrepancy. One chapter reported 300 Riders going to an event. I found another reporting 180 Riders. We do not have any chapter close to those numbers. We are a little skewed on our miles rode. Our Safety Officer is tasked with monitoring this as well.

Please remember, if you have submitted your report electronically to Debbie, keep your report succinct and to the point for the sake of time. Please do highlight anything in your area you would like to share with the DEC.

Stay safe and I will see you on the road!

1. **Vice Director’s Report** – Ralph Wenzinger

This report is submitted by Ralph Wenzinger, ALRDOC Vice Director

Since our last meeting I have participated in the following:

December 17 – Officer Installation Chapter 951 - March Reserve Air Force Base

December 18 – Breakfast fundraiser Chapter 262 – Fontana

December 18 – Post 507 – Newhall visit for California Legacy Run planning

January 16 – ALRDOC California Legacy Run committee meeting

January 17 – ALRDOC Safety committee meeting

January 23 – ALRDOC California Legacy Run committee meeting

January 24 - ALRDOC Convention and Rally committee meeting

Events planned for the months to come: February 25 – Area 5 Directors meeting – Chapter 716 – Los Alamitos March 11 – Chapter 26 – Bakersfield - Veteran’s Memorial Run fundraiser April 1 – Area 3 Directors meeting – Chapter 785 – Visalia

Thanks for the hospitality of Chapter 262 for breakfast.

Will be doing a CLR route check and visiting the Chapter 507 meeting this weekend.

1. **Sgt. At Arms’ Report** – Marc Lawrie

Not much to report this month.

I did make it to the new chapter 497 Bloomington installation. Congratulations to them. They did a great job, good food and a great group of people.

It’s good to see new chapters getting started up.

1. **Secretary’s Report** – Debbie Proffitt

I’ve been sending out area tracking for the convention obligations due.

Chapter online roster updates are due January 31.

Chapter Per Capita is due February 14. If sending a check please notify me when it is sent.

Getting everything in place for convention on my end.

Will have a 1st Credentials committee meeting in March.

On March 21 there will be an escort for The Wall That Heals in Hawaiian Gardens. More info to come.

1. **Area Reports** –
2. **Area 1 Vice D –** Mark Rice

This past month has been a challenge for me. I found out I need surgery which will probably be in April (specific date not set yet). I’m not able to tolerate riding very far right no due to some pain. I will be off my scooter for about 4 weeks post-op so I can heal properly.

Post 620 in Rocklin will be closing its doors this June. I am working with Chapter 620 on their move to Post 264 in Lincoln. They will be surrendering their current Charter and applying for a new one. They’re working on the required paperwork. They are a small but very active Chapter and am pleased they will be remaining with Riders.

The Commander of a Post up near Chico has contacted me about starting a Riders Chapter in that area. I gave him the information and told him to contact me when they’re ready to start the process.

The Wall That Heals will be coming to Citrus Heights CA at the end of March. Chapter 383 Director Lee Payne is working with the City of Citrus Heights and Post 637 for the Riders to provide an escort as it comes into our Area. I am sending out a notice to all other Chapters in Area 1 to contact Lee if interested in participating. The wall will be here in Citrus Heights on March 28th and will be open for visiting for four days.

There will be a Military Ball to raise funds for Operation Comfort Warrior in Sacramento on May 20th. Some of the riders for Chapter 383 will be proving escort support at the ball. Information and tickets can be found at <https://www.sacmb.com/>.

Several of the Chapters are remaining more active in the Area.

I am scheduling a virtual Area Meeting sometime on Monday March 6th at 7:00 PM. The link will be provided before the meeting.

The raffle tickets for the Legacy Run Quilt have been distributed to all Chapters in Area 1. There was only one Chapter I was unable to get them to and will be working on that.

1. **Area 2 Vice D –** Robert Lopez

No report. Had 3rd surgery on arm on Tuesday.

Pete Torrecillas- D28 is having a meeting with surrounding chapters so they can schedule events without having them on the same day as the other chapters.

1. **Area 3 Vice D –** Paul LaPierre

\*Chapter 11 requested to resign their Charter per Chapter vote on Jan 10th, 2023

\*Chapter 100 supported Escort, Flag Line & Honors for Army Vet Glen Haven, Flag Line for Air Force Veteran David Eckert, Flag Line, Escort and Pallbearers for Navy Veteran, Military Honors for Army Veteran Marc Collins,

\*Chapter 108 supported Outreach to Homeless

\*Chapter 221 supported Wreath Across America Truck escort, PGR Escort US Army Sgt Miranda, PGR Escort USN Thomas Poor, Buddy Check Taking Jim Pops Davis to DR appt, Pgr Pony Express Ride 2LT George Merritt, Riverside County Sheriff memorial ride

\*Chapter 684 supported Veterans Breakfast, Post 684 Christmas Party support, donated funds for 2023 Wreaths Across America, Funeral escort for Dennis Kelly to BNC

\*Chapter 785 supported Military Graduation ceremony Ft Bliss Texas, Birthday drive by for Venus, funeral escort, Toys for Tots, Starbucks coffee with a vet,

Many chapters continue weekly meals and fundraisers.

April 1 is the Area 3 meeting in Visalia.

Leaving February 11 for a cross country motorcycle trip.

1. **Area 4 Vice D –** Brian Toal

Chapter 309 Star post is disbanding. Director sold motorcycle and no one is willing to step up.

Chapter 184**:** January 28 – Chapter 184 Chili Cookoff

1. **Area 5 Vice D –** Robert Partlow

-January 8-Volunteer Chapter 416 Breakfast

- January 14-Chapter 497 Installation of Officers

- January 15-TAL CA. DEC Meeting (Anahiem)

- January 16-Legacy Run Meeting

- January 22-Chapter 255 Breakfast

- January 22-Post 460 Aux Breakfast

- January 23-Legacy Run Meeting

Total Mileage 210 Miles

Area 5 meeting February 25 at 10am at Post 716 in Los Alamitos.

Debbie-Breakfast from 8:30am-9:45am.

1. **Area 6 Vice D –** Cris Molina

Chapter 30 - They have a new date for their bike show. It will be on Saturday, March 18th. They continue to support local Chapters and Patriot Guard missions. They're currently working on setting up a Chapter ride to get some of their missing members back in and active.

Chapter 741 - Raised $504, had their Chapter dinner and are planning their next dinner for February 3rd.

Area 6 Vice - Attended the funeral for Alt. Area 6 Vice, Teddy Jackson, in Lompoc. Mike Smith played Taps. It was a nice service followed by a reception at the local Veteran's Memorial Building. I finally got 2 wheels but also keeping the Trike.

1. **Officer Reports-**
   1. **Jr. Past President –** Rey Ruiz (In Memoriam)
   2. **Chaplain -** Fred Branson

\*Wrapping up the four chaplain’s ceremony for the city of Willits. We are presenting this on 4 February at 11 am at the Grace Community Church.

\*I still invite any chapter to pursue their own four chaplain ceremony. I will be available to help with the set up.

\*Met with comrade George Smith, comrade Mick Sobczak to discuss putting together a memorial service for rider everlasting appropriate to use for a graveside service, a post or chapter service.

* 1. **Historian -** Mick Sobczak

Progress

* 1. **Judge Advocate –** Donny Brannon

I attending TALDEC as Area 5 Finance Commissioner & Riders State JA found out our bylaws have not been given to TALDEC for review.  We have since sent them up and they will be having an emergency DEC meeting for other topics and said they will discuss our bylaws then.

I anticipate them to pass with flying colors since I have spoke with most of them individually.

Other than that, I have nothing to report.

* 1. **Membership Officer –** Rochelle Billet-Smith

12/17/2022-Officer Installation Chapter 951-March Reserve Air Force Base

12/18/2022-Breakfast Fundraiser Chapter 262-Fontana

12/18/2022-Post 507-Newhall Visit for California Legacy Run “Stop”

1/10/2023-ALR Chapter 26 E-Board Meeting via Zoom

1/11/2023-ALR Chapter 26 Riders Meeting via Zoom

1/16/2023-California Legacy Run Committee Meeting

1/20/2023-Auxiliary District 15 Meeting-Visalia

1/23/2023-California Legacy Run Committee Meeting

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area 1** | | | |  | **Area** | **District** | | **# of AL Post** | | | **# of ALR Chapters** | | | | **%** | |  |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | | | **255** |  | 1 | 1 | | 14 | | | 1 | | | | 7.1% | |  |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | | | **13** |  | 1 | 2 | | 10 | | | 1 | | | | 10.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of Veterans | | | 165 |  | 1 | 3 | | 6 | | | 1 | | | | 16.7% | |  |  |  |
| # of SAL | | | 71 |  | 1 | 4 | | 13 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | | | 48 |  | 1 | 5 | | 23 | | | 2 | | | | 8.7% | |  |  |  |
| # of Active Duty | | | 2 |  | 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** | | | **195** |  | 2 | 8 | | 10 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | | | **9** |  | 2 | 9 | | 8 | | | 2 | | | | 25.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of Veterans | | | 122 |  | 2 | 10 | | 15 | | | 1 | | | | 6.7% | |  |  |  |
| # of SAL | | | 36 |  | 2 | 13 | | 13 | | | 1 | | | | 7.7% | |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | | | 37 |  | 2 | 26 | | 7 | | | 1 | | | | 14.3% | |  |  |  |
| # of Active Duty | | | 1 |  | 2 | 28 | | 12 | | | 4 | | | | 33.3% | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **65** | | | **9** | | | | **13.8%** | |  |  |  |
| **Area 3** | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | | | **421** |  | **Area** | **District** | | **# of AL Post** | | | **# of ALR Chapters** | | | | **%** | |  |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | | | **21** |  | 3 | 11 | | 14 | | | 4 | | | | 28.6% | |  |  |  |
| # of Veterans | | | 295 |  | 3 | 12 | | 14 | | | 4 | | | | 28.6% | |  |  |  |
| # of SAL | | | 58 |  | 3 | 14 | | 23 | | | 6 | | | | 26.1% | |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | | | 68 |  | 3 | 15 | | 17 | | | 5 | | | | 29.4% | |  |  |  |
| # of Active Duty | | | 5 |  | 3 | 27 | | 9 | | | 3 | | | | 33.3% | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **77** | | | **21** | | | | **27.3%** | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Area 4** | | | |  | **Area** | **District** | | **# of AL Post** | | | **# of ALR Chapters** | | | | **%** | |  |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | | | **41** |  | 4 | 17 | | 12 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | | | 3 |  | 4 | 18 | | 22 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of Veterans | | | 16 |  | 4 | 19 | | 22 | | | 1 | | | | 4.5% | |  |  |  |
| # of SAL | | | 1 |  | 4 | 23 | | 10 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | | | 3 |  |  |  |  | **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** | | | **758** |  | 5 | 22 | | 29 | | | 8 | | | | 27.6% | |  |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | | | **36** |  | 5 | 25 | | 27 | | | 6 | | | | 22.2% | |  |  |  |
| # of Veterans | | | 471 |  | 5 | 29 | | 28 | | | 6 | | | | 21.4% | |  |  |  |
| # of SAL | | | 143 |  | 5 | 30 | | 9 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | | | 144 |  |  |  |  | **110** | | | **36** | | | | **32.7%** | |  |  |  |
| # of Active Duty | | | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | **Area** | **District** | | **# of AL Post** | | | **# of ALR Chapters** | | | | **%** | |  |  |  |
| **Area 6** | | | |  | 6 | 16 | | 19 | | | 11 | | | | 57.9% | |  |  |  |
| **Total Riders** | | | **310** |  | 6 | 20 | | 18 | | | 3 | | | | 16.7% | |  |  |  |
| **# of Chapters** | | | **14** |  | 6 | 24 | | 13 | | | 0 | | | | 0.0% | |  |  |  |
| # of Veterans | | | 193 |  |  |  |  | **50** | | | **14** | | | | **28.0%** | |  |  |  |
| # of SAL | | | 66 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| # of AUX | | | 40 |  | **Total Riders** | | |  | **1,980** | |  | **# ALR Chapters** | | | | | **96** | |  |
| # of Active Duty | | | 5 |  | # of Veterans | | |  | 1,262 | |  | # AL Post in CA | | | | | 460 | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | # of SAL | |  |  | 375 | |  | % of Chapters to AL Posts | | | | | 21% | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | # of AUX | |  |  | 340 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | # of Active Duty | | | | 36 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

* 1. **Quartermaster –** Mike Phillips

Currently we have 6 orders Invoiced and 4 orders currently in process. Please pay for all orders submitted in a timely manner and your orders will get out to you as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions regarding your orders feel free to give an email or a call. Leave a message and I will return your call as I don’t generally answer numbers I don’t know. 559-759-7705.

Chapter 785 will have a $10 lunch available at the April 1 area meeting.

Quartermaster store-Discussed with Patch what is needed and it is in the works.

Patch prices went up the beginning of the year. A full patch set is now $103. Top flare is now $25. Bottom flare is now $20.

* 1. **Safety Officer –** Andrew Trapani

The Safety Committee met January 17 and completed the revamp of the Safety manual. It was sent out to all chapter POCs to get to their members.

* 1. **Service Officer –** George Smith

Fred, Mick and I met to come up with a way to honor our Riders Everlasting who are Auxiliary and Sons.

Fred has a curriculum that they use. Chapter 105 stands a flag line and give a certificate to the family.

We want to get these ideas out to all chapters to use.

Every member we bring in is a family member first.

1. **Committee Reports** –
   1. **California Legacy Run –** Rochelle Billet-Smith

Will be running the route for day 1 on Saturday.

Fred and I will be working on the website.

Hotels and Post stops have been verified.

Will be posting the flyer to the Chapter 26 Annual Poker Run that is in March.

* 1. **Convention and Rally –** Geni Leffler/Debbie Proffitt

The committee had a meeting January 24 with representatives from both Ch 20 convention and Ch 53 rally. The next meeting will be February 13 at 7pm via Zoom.

Convention-Ch 20- Porterville-venue is in Tulare

The building has enough space for area caucuses to have their own areas and should easily accommodate all needs. There will be a building walk through sometime the first week in March for DEC and committee members.

Registration is open and includes a shirt, pin and Saturday lunch from Subway. Can register electronically or by mail. As of Tuesday, 28 have registered.

The flyer with hotel info has been put out. There is no RV space or tent space for camping.

Along with this year’s merchandise there will be left over shirts for sale from the 2022 convention, the 2022 rally and the 2022 legacy run. Convention merchandise will be ordered this week and should arrive in 4 weeks.

There will be a 50/50. No other raffles.

The post is taking care of the event insurance.

Local law enforcement has been apprised of the event.

Legion and other dignitaries have been invited.

It was decided that the “I rode mine” will state the location as Tulare.

Rally-Ch 53- Hemet-venue is Post 53

Dates will be September 29 and 30 and October 1. This weekend is 2 weeks after the Western Romp in Tombstone.

Working on hotels 1 mile from the post and RV parking 2.5 miles from the post.

Will have 2 routes for rides Saturday. Both mountain but one easier than the other. One is to Josey’s Hideout in Idyllwild.

Working on raffles/drawings.

* 1. **Past President’s Club –** Dennis Kee

We had a productive meeting last night. Looking for someone to step up as Secretary.

The next meeting is February 27 at 7pm.

* 1. **Ways and Means –** Kathleen McClary

Not a lot to report.

I have gotten the email out to the POC’s regarding the quilt/tickets.

I have received money and ticket stubs from Chapters 299 and 82.

I attended District 14 meeting and did a presentation on the quilt. I also attended the District 14 Auxiliary meeting as well.

* 1. **Webmaster/Public Relations –** Jim Oxley

As of January 1, 2023 I am no longer in the web design business.

I will be stepping down as Webmaster as of convention. I will not be at convention.

Mike- Thank you for all you years of service and work you’ve done.

George- Thank you for everything you’ve helped me with.

Cris- Thank you. Technology can be unpredictable.

Mick- You’ve served under 3 presidents and have had to deal with us. You’ve stood by us from 2016 until now.

1. **Unfinished Business-**
   1. Ad-Hoc Committee for Recognition of ALR member transferred to Riders Everlasting.

See Service Officer report.

1. **New Business-**
   1. Accept charter return from Chapter 11 Madera.

Motion to accept the returning of the Chapter 11 Madera charter by Paul LaPierre. 2nd by Mark Rice. Passed by vote of DEC.

* 1. Rescind Robert Partlow as the Interim Area 5 Vice Director.

Motion to rescind Robert Partlow as Interim Area 5 Vice Director by Donny Brannon. 2nd by Ralph Wenzinger. Passed by vote of DEC.

Mike-thank you for stepping up and all your hard work.

* 1. Reinstate Area 5 Vice Director Edmund ‘Guido’ Arguello.

Motion to reinstate Area 5 Vice Director Edmund Arguello by Donny Brannon. 2nd by Ralph Wenzinger. Passed by vote of DEC.

* 1. Mick- Move to donate $1250 from the Emergency Relief Fund to help Bill Bryant with surgery. 2nd by mark Rice. Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Sick / Memorial-**

**Ill/injured:**

Ch 119-Bill Bryant-surgery.

Ch 53-Paddy McDowell has a blood clot, then will need more liver surgery.

Ch 20-Robert Lassatovich-Back surgery.

Ch 20-John Alba has cancer.

Ch 105-Andrew Trapani has health issues.

Ch 507-Jim Oxley has health issues.

Ch 229-Larry Baxter has cancer.

Ch 229-Harold Manly-back surgery.

Ch 229-Raven Manly has gallbladder cancer.

Ch 229-Calvin Chaney has heart health issues.

Ch 785-Maria Gonzalez has breast cancer that is spreading. Waiting for surgery.

Ch 785-Joe Gonzalez has blood clots.

**Rider Everlasting:**

Ch 28-Craig Krogstad

1. **Good of the Riders-**

Mark Rice-There will be a military ball March 20. [www.sacmb.com](http://www.sacmb.com)

The Wall That heals will be in Citrus heights March 28. Organizer is Lee Payne

Stephanie Huff-Chapter 30 will have a bike show March 18.

Ralph-Thank you Robert Partlow for a wonderful job. Great work. Guido, welcome back.

Ralph-Every Monday we escort recruits going to basic training. This is a great time to give Legion applications to the family or spouse.

Rochelle-Every member of the chapter carries an envelope with family applications on their bike.

Concerns about losing chapters. Some chapters are still struggling from the after effects of Covid, etc. We need to do chapter checks like buddy checks.

George-Ch 105 is mailing the per capita check.

Mike-Everyone should take the American Legion Basic Training. This will help you answer the question “What’s in it for them?” from those you meet and try to get to become a member. There are many great grassroots vets organizations out there but none other have a voice in Congress.

Robert Partlow-it was great fun to step in for Area 5. Appreciate everything everyone has helped with. I’m not leaving. I’ll be at convention.

1. **Next Meeting Date** – February 23, 2023 @ 1900 hours, via Zoom.
2. **Benediction** – Chaplain Fred Branson
3. **Adjournment** – Director Mike Smith @ 8:38pm