**The American Legion Riders**

**Department of California**

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*For God and Country*

**DEC Agenda**

July 27, 2023

1. **Call to Order** – Director Mike Smith @ 7pm
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Mark Rice
3. **Pause for POW/MIA** – Director Mike Smith
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** – SAA Marc Lawrie
5. **ALR Preamble** – Director Mike Smith
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt

**Director-** Mike Smith

**Vice Director** – Ralph Wenzinger

**Sergeant-At-Arms** – Marc Lawrie

**Area 1 Vice-D** – Lane Ybright - Absent

**Area 2 Vice-D** – Robert Lopez

**Area 3 Vice-D** – Mike Phillips

**Area 4 Vice-D** – Brian Toal - Excused

**Area 5 Vice-D** – Robert Partlow

**Area 6 Vice-D** – Cristina Molina

**Jr Past** – Rey Ruiz (In Memoriam)

**Treasurer** – Stan Tehee - Excused

**Secretary** - Debbie Proffitt

**Chaplain** – Mark Rice

**Historian** – Louisa Carson (interim)

**Judge Advocate** – Donny Brannon - Excused

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

**Parliamentarian-** Mick Sobczak

**Quartermaster** – Mike Phillips

**Safety Officer** – Andrew Trapani

**Service Officer** - George Smith - Excused

**Convention & Rally** – Bob Atchley

**PP/DC** – Dennis Kee - Absent

**Ways and Means** - Kathleen McClary - Absent

**Webmaster/Public Relations** – Tom Lively

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

Jeff Sheggrud 149, Larry Earl 69, A5 Alt Wm. Blackstone, A5 Alt Jeff Beck, Jeff Carson 18,

Ed Caler 82, Pete Torrecillas 69, Paul Swanson 460, PP Jim Banakus, PP Steve Weber,

Bob Elder 328, Greg martin D28.

PP Jim Banakus- Orcutt chapter had their 18th vet’s legacy poker run. 92 bikes. Raised

$3,814 for CLR.

PP Steve Weber-Time for retiring and ride safe.

1. **Additions to the Agenda** –

None

1. **Approval of Minutes** – ALRDOC June 22, 2023 minutes.

Accepted as electronically transmitted.

1. **Financial Report** – Stan Tehee/Mike Smith

Beginning Bank Balance $ 93,020.29

Bank Deposits $ 9,332.95

Interest on bank account $ 9.06

Bank Withdraws $ 5,811.16

Ending Bank Balance $ 96,551.14

PayPal Balance $ 28,180.07

Ending Total Balance $ 124,731.21

Motion to accept the finance report as given pending audit by mike smith. 2nd by Mike Phillips.

Passed by vote of DEC.

1. **Director’s Report** – Mike Smith

Since our last meeting I have:

* June 23 – 25, 2023, attended T.AL.D.O.C. 104th Convention in Visalia. Addressed Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of American Legion Conventions.
* July 3 – Funeral Porterville Sounded Taps
* July 10 – Blood Drive at Post 20
* July 15 – traveled to Chapter 428 Banning 2nd Anniversary to benefit for Post 180, 299 and 428.
* July 21 – traveled to UCLA for American Legion Baseball CA State Championship
* July 22 – traveled to Orcutt Chapter 534 18th Annual Fallen Warrior Legacy Poker Run
* July 24 -traveled to Bakersfield, Bristol Hospice Foundation Kids Camp
* July 24 – Legacy Run Zoom meeting

During T.A.L.D.O.C. 104th Convention the Resolution to re-map the Areas, which would have created Area 7, did not pass.

Changes to T.A.L.D.O.C. Bylaws did not affect the ALRDOC.

I attended the Parliamentary Procedures class conducted by Diane DeVries. Good class. I highly recommend this class. It can only help.

Reminder to all, during our last meeting, our Parliamentarian clarified committee chairs can be the maker of the motion for their own report. Yes, Stan this means you can make the motion to accept the Finance Report.

Area Vice Directors, please remind your chapters their Bylaws are due no later than March 1, 2024. Getting them submitted sooner, rather than later, will be a huge help to our Judge Advocate.

I looked at the miles the chapters have ridden so far. There are some serious contenders out there this year!

Thank you, Vice Directors, Alternate Vice Directors, appointed officers and committee chairs, for all the work you do in keeping the Riders moving forward.

For next month’s meeting I will be on the road to the National Convention in Charlotte, NC. I plan to chair the meeting, however if I am unable, our State Vice Director will take my place.

Stay safe and I will see you on the road!

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

Since our last meeting I have participated in the following:

June 22-25 – TAL Convention Visalia

July 4 – Military Recruit sendoff Bakersfield

July 10 – California Legacy Run committee meeting

July 22 – 15th District TAL and Auxiliary Officer Installation and Dinner Visalia

July 24 – California Legacy Run committee meeting

Events planned for the months to come:

September 29- October 1 – West Coast Rally Chapter 53 Hemet

John Archuleta is ill.

Phil Mygatt from chapter 26 passed away.

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

* Events attended, and miles ridden-

1. ALR DOC sponsored American Legion Baseball game at Jackie Robinson stadium UCLA: miles 210.
2. Chapter 534 Orcutt poker run: 587 miles.

* Comments.

The events I attended were fun, I had a great time. Chapter 534 always puts on a great event. I recommend everyone try to get out to their next poker run. I know I’ll do what I can to be there next year.

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

We are closing in on the COO deadline of July 31. Any chapters not having turned a COO in on time will automatically be put on probation and a list sent to Director Smith and Vice Director Wenzinger. Chapters 509 and 519 have extended deadlines as their posts are still under suspension.

We then swing into the POC deadline of August 31.

The boys and I have been road tripping and are currently at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs.

I sent out a reminder about Rider Everlasting to all POCs and replies will be in Rider Everlasting later in the meeting.

I send out a report reminder 7 days prior to them being due to me. I also send a text reminder Tuesday evening. I will no longer be sending the text reminders. No excuses.

Gunny and I have made hotel reservations and registered for Tombstone.

Gunny and I have made hotel reservations and will be registering for Rally.

Reminder, Cal will be auctioned off at Rally.

I’m here to help. 😊

1. **Area Reports** –
2. **Area 1 Vice D –** Lane Ybright

During this last month I have been helping the Cheula Post 92, in McCloud, get a riders group started. Martin Glen from 92 is spearheading the effort.

I rode to Visalia for the Legion Convention.

This is a sad report as I feel like I’m drowning. I still have about 50% of my chapters that are about to be out of compliance with their paperwork. The limited amount of time that I have available to babysit these chapters is apparently inadequate.

I am starting to plan my 1st Area 1 meeting, as soon as I have a venue locked down, I will be asking for help as I have never held a meeting before. That’s all I have for now.

1. **Area 2 Vice D –** Robert Lopez

Since our last meeting District 9 has participated in the following:

 Area 2: District 9: 07/04/2023/ 4th of July Annual Parade American Legion Riders

 Area 2: District 9: 06/30/2023/ Visit to local college. Los Medanos College Community in Pittsburg, California /VA Center: Mission to recruit new American Legion members and ALR Riders.

 Area 2 - District 9 :06/24/2023; Family Funeral Escort; American Legion Riders.

 Area 2 - Chapter 105: 06/07/2023: District 9 Chapter Meeting District 9 Meeting

Events within my Area in the coming weeks & month:

Working with Chapter 202 to partner in community events within Contra Costa County.

Events planned for the months to come: Future activities and plans have not been finalized.

1. **Area 3 Vice D –** Mike Phillips

In the month of July, I still have no motorcycle. However, I have been told by my mechanic I should have my bike back by week end. I can’t wait to get back on two wheels and start visiting the chapters in my area.

Area 3 Chapters rocked this month attending many events and supporting their communities, below is a list of events they have participated in:

Chapter -18 Funeral Escorts X2, attended 428 Charterversary, attended 534 Fallen Warrior Poker Run, Attended CA Legion Baseball Tournament.

Chapter -20 Rode to Bristol Hospice Kids Camp, attended 428 Charterversary, attended 534 Fallen Warrior Poker Run, Attended CA Legion Baseball Tournament. TALDOC

convention X3, Porterville Chamber Golf Tournament opening ceremonies.

Chapter -83 Dinner Ride, Funeral Escorts X2

Chapter -100 Flag line Funeral escort X5, Visited Vandenburg road captain recon.

Chapter -108 Funeral Escort

Chapter -221 Funeral Escort x2

1. **Area 4 Vice D –** Brian Toal

No report.

1. **Area 5 Vice D –** Robert Partlow

-July 8-Attended TAL District 22 meeting

- July 9-Conducted Chapter 354 Installation

- July 16-Attened Chapter 255 Breakfast

- July 23- Attended TAL District 22 Installation

Total Mileage 240 Miles

Area 5 meeting is Saturday, July 29 at post 79 at 10am.

Barstow visit is Saturday, November 18.

1. **Area 6 Vice D –** Cristina Molina

Chapter 534 in Orcutt had their 18th Annual Fallen Warrior Legacy Poker Run. All reports from the event indicate it was a great time and was very well attended. Thank you to all who were able to attend! Proceeds benefit the Legacy Scholarship. Past President, Jim Banakus, was in attendance and spent time sharing his wisdom with many attendees.

Chapter 43 was a sponsor of one of the American Legion Baseball World Series games on Saturday, July 22nd. A handful of Riders from the Chapter attended and were on-hand to throw out the first pitch. They are also hosting a fundraiser at Bob's Big Boy in Burbank on Friday August 25th. A flyer has been posted on the ALR California page.

Your friendly Area 6 Vice stopped at 428 for an anniversary fundraiser for Chapters 428, 299, and 180. The event was on July 15th and was well-attended. Mike Smith cheated and won the gift basket I wanted, but other than that, it was a really fun event. One final note... register for Rally and do your buddy checks!

Mom is having health issues. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

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

No report.

Please send an address with a Rider Everlasting notice.

* 1. **Historian –** Louisa Carson (interim)

06/22/2023 Attended the American Legion Convention Dinner hosted by Post 18 and Sierra Post 785. Hamburgers provided for the attendees of The Convention. Several ALR Chapter members supported the dinner. Shared photos on social media.

06/23/2023 Attended the Pizza Night hosted by Post 18 and Sierra Post 785. ALR 18 members cooked, sold, and were able to help sell tickets for the Legacy Scholarship Raffle that Chris Wenzinger headed up. Both Wendy Williams and I sold tickets. Shared photos on social media.

06/24/2023 Attended ALR 18’s first ever chapter ride to the Mountain House. 9 patched

members and one guest. Rode through the mountains and had an excellent lunch. Shared photos on TikTok and Facebook

06/24/2023 Attended the BBQ Dogs &amp; Links Post 18 and Sierra Post 785 held for the Convention attendees. I met two Past Historians for a Northern Post and Orange County Post. Both had the same advice….take as many photos as you can and document the members or the history of their post/chapter of the events you attend. Sold more tickets for the Legacy Scholarship raffle while taking pictures. Shared photos on social media.

07/01/2023-07/04/2023 Attended various Fourth of July events in Tulare County. Helped at the Post Fireworks Stand and rode with ALR Ch 18 members in The Greatest American Race held at Riverway Sports Park in Visalia. Shared photos on TikTok.

7/15/2023 Attended the Charter Anniversary for ALR 428 in Banning then visited Post 112 Ontario with Mike Smith and Jeff Carson. Shared Photos on social media.

7/22/2023 Attended the18th Annual ALR Ch 534 Poker Run in Orcutt with Mike Smith ALR CA State Director, Glenn from ALR Ch 20, and Jeff Carson ALR 18 Director. I also was honored to meet Jim Banakus the Founding President for ALR CA. Later that evening, I attended the American Legion Baseball.

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

No report

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

6/22/2023-6/25/2023-American Legion Auxiliary Department of California Convention

7/10/2023-California Legacy Run Committee

7/11/2023-ALR Chapter 26 E-Board Meeting

7/12/2023-ALR Chapter 26 Riders Meeting

7/14/2023-Friday Night Dinner-Selling Dinner tickets

7/22/2023-Attended District 16 Officer Instillation for Legionnaires &amp; Auxiliary,

received checks for CLR $4,761

7/24/2023-California Legacy Run Committee Meeting

* 1. **Quartermaster –** Mike Phillips

Currently we have 4 orders Invoiced, 5 shipped and 8 orders were completed during this month and 1 order was cancelled at patron’s request.

Please pay for all orders submitted in a timely manner and your orders will get out to you as quickly as possible.

I currently have 2 ordered that were invoiced in May and still have not been paid for. Sweatshirts are now available for order at a price of $40 plus shipping.

I understand many Chapters aren’t receiving their invoices when they place an order. If you do not receive your invoice with 4 days of placing your order, first check your spam as I have found that some of my invoices go there and if it still is not there email me at alrdocquartermast@gmail.com and I will email you a copy of your invoice.

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.

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

Visited District 9 in Antioch.

Participated in 12 Honor Details, CPR Training, Post 105 Clean Up

Events within my Area in the coming weeks & month:

100 Miles for Hope Ride, SF Marathon, and more clean up at the Post.

Events planned for the months to come:

Training 23rd Regiment Motorcycle Riding and Safety. 22 Mile Ride for suicide prevention.

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

Toxic Exposure Exam

All Veterans need to go to the VA Hospital or your private physician and get a Toxic Exposure Workup, regardless of where you served. This workup will identify any Toxin’s you’ve been exposed to by markers in you DNA.

The PACT Act requires the Department of Defense to take these results and look at any base/ship you served at/on to see if there were any Toxins there that you might have been exposed to.

If you have a marker and the Toxin that matches that marker was at a place you served. You will be notified.

At that time, you need to contact your Veterans Service Officer and file a claim. You may or may not have symptoms or a disease caused by that Toxin now but later in life you may.

This exam does a couple of things, one, it will give you positive identification of any Toxin you were exposed and you might be able to get a head start on preventative healthcare for the issues that are related to that Toxin.

**VERY IMPORTANT – GET YOUR TOXIC Exposure EXAM**

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

We are currently at $65,000.

* 1. **Convention and Rally –** Bob Atchley

2024 ALR/DOC Convention Report

Chapter 460 San Diego, Wayne Madsen reported

Where convention will be held. Must be able to hold a minimum of 350 to 375 persons, be ADA compliant and have suitable parking. Venue is being discussed with Post 282 La Mesa for convention.

List of accommodations, (hotels, motels, RV & camping), with reservation codes for each.

Committee has approached 5 hotels and negotiating prices. RV & camping haven’t been identified.

Images of logos for flyers and merchandise have been previewed, completed and approved by Emblem Sales. Design for T-shirts, pins & flyers are to be presented to the Chapter & committee for approval.

Preview of Convention flyer presented to ALRDEC. Will be presented to ALRDEC once approved.

Online registration open. Accepting mail in registration. Not open yet. Will be using Event.com for registration.

What merchandise (wristbands, shirts, pins, hats, etc.) has been ordered. Once design has been approved it will take approximately 40 days to receive.

Report on Opportunity drawing donation progress, 50/50, etc. There will be no 50/50. Raffle will require a permit from the State of California.

2025 ALR/DOC Convention Report

Chapter 69 Hollister, Pete Torrecillas reported.

Venue has been established. Committee has started arranging for hotels and RV camping.

2023 West Coast Rally Report

Chapter 53 Hemet, Mick Sobzcak was not available. Questions that were asked during the meeting are as follows.

Was there going to be a mail in form for registration?

Shirt size available to women only went up to X-Large. Were larger sizes going to be made available?

Update:

Womens shirts will now be up to 3x.

No camping at the post due to construction.

2024 West Coast Rally Report

No report was required of Chapter 20 Porterville.

Next meeting to be held on August 15, 2023 at 1900 hrs.

* 1. **PP/DC –** Dennis Kee

The next ALRDOC PPC/PDC meeting is scheduled for 28th of August at 7 p.m.

We had a meeting in July but did not have a quorum. We still have a position open for Secretary that we would like to get a volunteer for.

We will continue to try to get support for the ALRDOC PPC/PDC.

* 1. **Ways and Means –** Kathleen McClary
  2. **Webmaster/Public Relations –** Tom Lively

Fixed access for several individuals and actively responding to emails.

Identified several areas of website that are not currently working.

 Mail to Members

 Look for Chapter

Still need to arrange meeting with Website volunteers.

Volunteers so far:

 Donny Brannon

 Stan Tehee

 Jeric Wilhelmsen

**Public Relation Committee**

No Report

* 1. **Parliamentarian -** Mick Sobczak

Hydrate, ride miles, hydrate and change your socks.

1. **Unfinished Business-**

None

1. **New Business-**

Ratify Louisa Carson as ALRDOC State Historian from Interim Historian.

Motion to ratify Louisa Carson as the ALRDOC State Historian by Cris Molins.

2nd by Mike Phillips. Passed by vote of DEC.

Mike Smith- thanks for your hard work and going with me.

1. **Sick / Memorial-**

**Ill/injured:**

John Green-Chapter 584- on hospice.

Frank Rehm- District 9- still recovering from a motorcycle accident.

John Archuleta-Chapter 26- is ill.

Ralph Wenzinger-Chapter 26- vision issues.

**Rider Everlasting:**

Ed Hawkins- Chapter 69- 6/25/23

Don Stevenson- Chapter 555- 7/2023

Gator- ?

Phil Mygatt-Chapter 26- July 2023

1. **Good of the Riders-**

Mark Rice- American Legion college will be October 21 at the Woodland post.

Andrew- Hydrate- It’s safer and makes you more comfortable.

Mike Phillips- Youngest son is graduating language school learning Cantonese and

going on to Fort Huachuca in Arizona.

Ralph- the Chris who has been talked about with the opportunity drawing is my younger brother who I just passed the TAL District 15 gavel to for District 15 Commander.

Ralph- Last year at this time I threw out a challenge for the CLR. I am donating $100 and challenging all others to do so.

Ralph=$100

Mike Smith=$101

Mark Rice-$100

Andrew/Ch 105=$102

Robert Lopez=$103 + $19

Paul Swanson/Ch 460=$125

Jeff Beck/Ch 328=$150

Greg Martin/District 9=$200

CLR is now at $66,500

1. **Next Meeting Date** – August 24, 2023 @ 1900 hours via Zoom.
2. **Benediction** – Chaplain Mark Rice
3. **Adjournment** – Director Mike Smith @ 8:01pm