**The American Legion Riders**

**Department of California**

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*For God and Country*

DEC AGENDA

January 25, 2024

1. **Call to Order** – Director Mike Smith @ 1900 hours
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Mark Rice
3. **Pause for POW/MIA** – Director Mike Smith
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Ralph Wenzinger
5. **ALR Preamble** – Director Mike Smith
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Debbie Proffitt

**Director-** Mike Smith

**Vice Director** – Ralph Wenzinger

**Sergeant-At-Arms** – Marc Lawrie EXCUSED

**Area 1 Vice-D** – Sam Fergason

**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

**Secretary** - Debbie Proffitt

**Chaplain** – Mark Rice

**Historian** – Louisa Carson

**Judge Advocate** – Donny Brannon

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

**Parliamentarian-** Mick Sobczak

**Quartermaster** – Mike Phillips

**Safety Officer** – Andrew Trapani

**Service Officer** - George Smith ABSENT

**Convention & Rally** – Bob Atchley EXCUSED

**PP/DC** – Dennis Kee ABSENT

**Ways and Means** - Kathleen McClary EXCUSED

**Webmaster/Public Relations** – Tom Lively

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

Brian Garcia Ch 184, A3 Alt Gus Compton, A5 Alt Wm. Blackstone, Jacque James Ch 64, Ed Caler Ch 82, A6 Alt Stephanie Huff, Jeff Beck Ch 328, Bob Radcliff Ch 30, Mike Daugherty Ch 20, Ozzie

1. **Additions to the Agenda** –

None

1. **Approval of Minutes** – ALRDOC December 21, 2023 minutes.

Accepted as electronically transmitted.

1. **Financial Report** – Stan Tehee

General Accounting as of 01/16/24

Beginning Bank Balance $ 58,783.06

Bank Deposits $ 1,055

Interest on bank account $ .49

Bank Withdraws $ 2,870.30

Ending Bank Balance $ 56,968.25

PayPal Balance $ 9,702.71

Ending Total Balance $ 66,670.96

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

1. **Director’s Report** – Mike Smith

 December 28 – Post 20 Honor Guard Funeral

 December 29 – Post 20 Honor Guard Funeral

 January 3 – Post 20 Honor Guard Funeral (x2)

 January 11 – Legacy Run Meeting

 January 12 – Post 20 Honor Guard Funeral

 January 15 – Post 20 Blood Drive

 January 16 – Convention and Rally Meeting

 January 19 – Attended Art Cope funeral at San Joaquin National Cemetery

 January 24 – Chapter 20 West Coast Rally

I will keep this short and to the point. We are quickly approaching the convention. With that, Area

Vice Directors, keep in mind:

1. You need to be going through the mileage for your chapters. Mileage Cup is coming up.

2. Make sure you are looking at the tracking Debbie is sending out. Updated rosters is up on

January 31, 2024.

3. By-Laws. You will need to be contacting your chapters. Emails may not be sufficient and a

phone call or face-to-face will be needed. Donny needs time to review their By-Laws and

return them to the respective chapters.

Steve Weber’s celebration of life is this Saturday in Ventura. Myself, Ralph and at least one from my chapter will be headed down.

Stay safe on the road!

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

Since our last meeting I have participated in the following:

January 1 Chapter 20 New Year’s Day Ride

January 7 Recruit Send Off and Escort, Bakersfield Armed Forces Career Center

January 10 Chapter 26 meeting

January 11 California Legacy Run committee meeting

January 12 TAL Revitalization held at Post 26

January 15 Recruit Send Off and Escort, Bakersfield Armed Forces Career Center

January 19 Escort to San Joaquin National Cemetery, Santa Nella for Art Cope, Director of Chapter 476

January 20 District 15 meeting at Bakersfield Post 26.

January 21 Recruit Send Off and Escort, Bakersfield Armed Forces Career Center

Events within my Area in the coming weeks &amp; month:

January 27 Celebration of Life for Past President Steve Weber, Ventura

February 3 TAL Area 3 meeting Post 147 – Clovis

February 6 Chapter 26 Bike Night

February 10 ALR Area 6 meeting, Chapter 43

February 13 Convention Site Inspection

Events planned for the months to come:

March 9 ALR Area 3 meeting Chapter 476

March 16 Celebration of Life for Leland Neva, Chapter 95

March 23 Veterans Memorial Run Chapter 26

April 12 to 14 ALRDOC Convention San Diego

May 3 to 5 California Legacy Run

What chapters are putting in for mileage is pretty shocking. Many of the things that are not allowed. Area vice directors need to go through their area events and delete the ones not allowed.

1. **Sgt. At Arms’ Report** – Marc Lawrie
2. **Secretary’s Report** – Debbie Proffitt

Online roster updates due by January 31.

Per Capita due February 14.

Bylaws are due 3/1.

Delegate fees due 3/13.

Delegate roster due 3/18.

Year end reports due 4/1.

April= Chapter 1st nominations for officers.

May = Chapter 2nd nominations and voting for officers.

June = Chapter officers take their office positions.

I sent out the updated POC list to DEC.

I sent out the current Rider Everlasting list to chapter POCs to update.

If any POC or Area Vice needs assistance, ask.

1. **Area Reports** –
2. **Area 1 Vice D –** Sam Fergason

There has been very little riding activity due to cold and rain this time of year.  Chapters are busy planning for fundraising and other activity:

* Chapter 105 Redwood City and Chapter 119 Placerville will have Superbowl parties at their respective posts.
* Chapter 119 Placerville will support a talent show during Happy Hour at the post on January 26th.
* Chapter 26 Bakersfield will host a poker run on March 23rd
* Chapter 521 Rio Linda will host a poker run April 20th
* Chapter 521 Rio Linda is offering Sunday morning breakfast at their post.

Chapter 119 will be having a poker run June 1.

1. **Area 2 Vice D –** Robert Lopez

**District 28**

Attended Honor Mission for: Timothy Wayne Thomas USAF

Hosted Funeral and Celebration of Life: Terry Baughman USA, Past President

Made donations to KSBW Share Your Holidays, benefits The Salvation Army, and Wreath Across America

Issued Food Bank meals for Chualar Community.

ALR District 28 Christmas Party

Attended Run for Toys for Tots Santa Cruz

Events within my Chapter in the coming weeks &amp; month:

Honor Mission for US Navy Veteran Joseph Alonzo

Events planned for the months to come:

Saturday February 17th – ALA District 28 Scholarship Fundraiser

**Rolling 9’s.**

Function # 1: Rolling 9’s Riders Participated in Christmas Day festivities i.e., Brentwood Liberty High School Holiday parade.

Function # 2: Veterans Memorial Cemetery laying of Holiday wreaths at Veterans grave sites.

Rolling 9’s Riders Participated in no further functions due to inclement weather

conditions.

**Chapter 105**

5 Honor Details. Lead the Wreaths Across America Escort. Worked in the Post 6X6.

Upcoming-

Post Super Bowl Party. Car show benefitting Post 105.

District 10 will be having a pancake breakfast the first week in February.

1. **Area 3 Vice D –** Mike Phillips

In the month of January, I rode in the pony express for the funeral services of Art Cope. Art went to Rider Everlast in great fashion with a lot of love and support from Area 3 as well as other areas and Legion Posts.

Unfortunately, I have to report Michael “Dipstick” Leach from Chapter 3 went to Rider

Everlasting.

Below is a list of events Area 3 Chapters have participated in during the last month:

Chapter – 3 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter - 18 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral, Central Coast Military Museum and post visit, Chapter 20 New Years Day fun ride.

Chapter - 20 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral, Hosted a Chapter 20 New Years Day fun ride.

Chapter - 26 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral, Chapter 20 New Years Day fun ride. Escorted New Recruits to MEPS.

Chapter – 83 ALR/HOG event, Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral, Flag line X2.

Chapter – 88 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter - 100 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral, Funeral Escort/Flag Line X2

Chapter – 108 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter – 147 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter – 221 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter – 476 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter – 509 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter – 684 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter – 711 Art Cope Pony Express flag line/Funeral

Chapter 3 had member Mike Leach pass in January.

Chapter 163 is going to give up their charter. Andrew Trapani will help get their charter back.

Ken Sutton will be having rotator cup surgery.

May 11-Chapter 20 Porterville will be having their annual Cannon Ball run

June 22-Chapter 18 will be having a 22 a day run

1. **Area 4 Vice D –** Brian Toal/Brian Garcia

Nothing to report

1. **Area 5 Vice D –** Robert Partlow

-January 20-Area 5 Directors meeting. 12 of 35 chapters attended.

Other

Barstow Veterans Home visit March 23.

Thanks Donnie, for helping with Chapter 519.

There will be joint poker run on February 3 with chapters 519 and 428.

Chapter 460 has only 34 persons registered for convention.

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

Chapter 311 –

Supported their post for a Veterans Day Service at Joshua Memorial Cemetery (from November). Participated in the Lancaster Christmas Parade as well as Wreaths Across America at the Lancaster Cemetery. They also attended the Bombshell Betty’s Calendar signing at Bravery Brewery and participated in several PGR missions.

Chapter 136 –

Reported to remove wreaths from Veteran graves in Arroyo Grande and then rode to Finn’s Leather Shop in Morro Bay and enjoyed some burgers.

Chapter 30 –

Would like to thank Cris Molina for checking in after the severe break-in at the Post. Chapter did lose their passport stamp, meeting items, and hats that were purchased to fundraise. They quickly obtained a new meeting place until the Post’s future is decided. They have prospective Riders and support their Post members. They continue attending PGR events, plan rides, and attend local events to support other Posts and Chapters. They were invited to co-host another event in Area 5. Details are forthcoming.

Chapter 43 –

Patched in a new member at their December meeting. They will be hosting the Area 6 meeting on February 10 at 11 hours.

Area 6 Vice –

Preparing for Area meeting. Ramping up outreach to Chapters. Registered and booked for convention and looking forward to seeing everyone.

Area 6 meeting will be February 10th at 11am at Chapter 43 Hollywood.

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

February 2 there will be a 4 Chaplains ceremony in Sanger.

Have been waiting on knee replacement surgery. Could be before or after convention.

Please pray for each other, it bonds us closer together.

* 1. **Historian –** Louisa Carson

1/1/24 ALR Ch 20 ride to Riverview Café. Chapters 3,18, and 26 had lunch

together. Posted to social media.

1/5/24 Visted the Santa Maria Elks and attended the steak dinner as well

as visited American Legion Post 56.

1/6/24 Visited the American Legion Post 371 in Guadalupe as well as the

Historical Museum. Stopped into American Legion Post 534 Orcutt and

found out that they we under remodeling. Post should be up and running

again by mid-late January. Visited the American Legion Post 66 San Luis

Obispo and the Central Coast Veterans Memorial Museum.

1/13/24 Attended Celebration of Life for US Navy Veteran Art Cope at

American Legion Post 476 California City. 4 Chapters were in attendance.

Posted to social media.

01/14/24 Attended the Veterans Breakfast at the Elks in Visalia. 4 members

attended.

1/19/24 Participated in the escort of US Navy Veteran Art Cope by Pony

Express to his final resting place at San Joaquin Valley Nation Cemetery.

38 bikes and 7 cages were the count as best due to the Pont Express. Area

3 was well represented along with a few members from Area 2 and

American Riders Group out of Tulare. Posted to social media.

1/20/24 ALR Ch 18 visited the Clovis Memorial District as well as their

community museum. We had lunch and were able to see the Dresses Worn

Once Show in which the crowned models all were from Fresno County.

They presented themselves as well as the charities that they raised monies

for. One of which is designated for local military Veterans and their families.

Across the street we dropped into American Legion Post 147 Clovis. There

was a part-E in progress. Posted to social media.

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

Only 32% of bylaws have been turned in.

Area 1 = 3/16 Area 2 = 5/12 Area 3 = 5/17 Area 4 = 0/3 Area 5 = 15/36 Area 6 = 3/14

Send the bylaws in and I will review.

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

1/1/2024-New Years Day Ride with Chapter 20

1/9/2024-Chapter 26 E-Board meeting

1/10/2024-Chapter 26 Meeting

1/11/2024-California Legacy Run Meeting

1/12/2024-Friday Night Dinner-Selling Dinner Tickets

* 1. **Parliamentarian –** Mick Sobczak

Progress

Rewriting the Operating Rules and Official Call for convention.

We only have 4 Past Presidents remaining. Life is fragile. Hug the people you love.

* 1. **Quartermaster –** Mike Phillips

We have 4 orders in process, 4 orders in process of being made and 1 order on hold due to an issue with the shipping. Please pay for all orders submitted in a timely manner and your orders will get out to you as quickly as possible. Once you have submitted your order and paid for it, you check on the progress of your orders by logging back into the store and going to your order.

Sweatshirts are now available for order at a price of $40 plus shipping.

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. If you have not received your invoice, please 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.

POCs- Once you put in your order, go back and check periodically for the status of your order.

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

There was one accident from my chapter. Ran into roadwork and broke a shoulder.

If you’re at a spot and don’t know what to do park and call for help.

If you have a CCW and are in an accident, make sure you know the chain of custody for your fire arm.

Will call a safety committee meeting to finish the cup miles.

* 1. **Service Officer –** George Smith
  2. **Webmaster/Public Relations –** Tom Lively

Fixed access for several individuals and actively responding to emails.

Maintaining Calendar and News.

Public Relations Committee Chair

Nothing to report

Ralph to Tom-Thank you for your assistance and dedication.

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

Working on the website.

Will need help with the website.

Chapter 26 has a poker run on March 23.

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

2024 ALR/DOC Convention Report

6 months out report to DEC:

Wayne Madsen, Chapter 460

Dignitaries-Director Smith has sent out invites to AL, Auxiliary & Sons. Wayne has sent out invites to the Mayor of San Diego has declined, San Diego P.D.; Fire; waiting for Daryl Iced to respond. Need dates for an on-site visit which have not been set yet. Date will be determined shortly. Commander for 282 is available every Tuesday for visit. All merchandise has been received with the exception of T-Shirts which

will be ordered on 2-24-24 to minimize over ordering. There will be a small amount of T-Shirt available at convention. Time lines are good. Checking is set for Friday and T-Shirts will be available to purchase.

What to have for lunch on Saturday is still in the deciding stages. They have discussed tacos or pork butt.

Friday is RED FRIDAY and Saturday and Sunday is Navy blue for shirts. All committees with in the Post & Chapter are still meeting monthly.

Next report will be on February 6.

2024 West Coast Rally Report

8 months out report to DEC:

Mike Daugherty, Chapter 20

No report required. Next report will be on February 20.

Whiskey tasting is being planned. About $25 to $30 per person. Will need enough people to sign up for it to have it.

At the Holiday Inn hotel last year there was a group that was extremely loud. Management will escort anyone who is loud off the property this year. Please act accordingly.

Will have vendors coming. T shirts. Raffles and a gun raffle. Hotels are confirmed. There will be dry camping behind the building.

Registration cost will be about $70-$75 dollars. Trying to keep the cost down.

2025 ALR/DOC Convention Report

18 months out report to DEC:

Pete Torrecillas, Chapter 69

No report required. Next report will be on February 20.

Next meeting to be held on February 6, 2024 at 1900 hrs.

* 1. **PP/DC –** Dennis Kee
  2. **Ways and Means –** Kathleen McClary

Deadline for getting quilt tickets, leftovers and money in is March 31.

1. **Unfinished Business-**
   1. Chapter 263 Escalon update about returning to normal business. See Area 3 report.
   2. Safety Committee update on Mileage Cup Rules. See Safety Comm report.
   3. Chapters submission of By-Laws to Judge Advocate. See Judge Advocate report.
   4. Riders Everlasting ribbons redo. SAA pull flags. Debbie will make a list for Mick.
2. **New Business-**
   1. If you have a problem with another officer or member, contact a state officer. Don’t run around saying stuff and spreading gossip.
3. **Sick / Memorial-**

**Ill/injured:**

Chapter 108-Ken Sutton-Shoulder surgery.

Rochelle’s mom had a medical issue.

**Rider Everlasting:**

**Chapter 48-**Steve Weber, Past ALRDOC President/Secretary-December

**Chapter 852-**Mindy Phillips-cancer-January

**Chapter 584-**John Green-July

Ralph-Remember the 2 Navy Seals, and their families, that lost their lives in the Arabian Sea. Christopher Chambers and Nathan Ingram

1. **Good of the Riders-**

Debbie-Steve Weber was a great help when I became secretary in 2017.

Stephanie-Can we put a pause in place for those in Chapter 1000? There was much discussion on the subject of those who are in Post 1000, Unit 1000 or Squadron 1000 and their ability to join the riders. Donny has been looking into it and will have more information forthcoming.

Andrew- Thank you Ralph for the great riding video. Will get it out to all.

Cris-The last year has been challenging all around. I called Mike. Thank you for listening, guiding and being a friend. If you are having a hard time, reach out, talk to someone.

Ralph-Mentioned reviewing the mileage cup entries. Using stuff that can’t be used.

To all my brothers and sisters, we in the air force are awaiting your entries. The winner of the Miss America Contest this year is an active-duty Air force service person.

Mike-The way we do this process of bantering ideas around without pointing fingers, etc. Love it. It’s how we get stronger and better.

I have to admit I’m not as comfortable with this new bike. I will be taking a road training course.

1. **Next Meeting Date** – February 22, 2024 @ 1900 hours.
2. **Benediction** – Chaplain Mark Rice
3. **Adjournment** – Director Mike Smith @ 8:46pm