

**SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
HEALDSBURG - GEYSERVILLE - WINDSOR**



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016

Post 111, Squadron 111 and Legion Riders Chapter 111, PO Box 281, Healdsburg, CA 95448

Unit 111, American Legion Auxiliary, P.O. Box 174, Healdsburg, CA 95448

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Volume 82 Issue 7

WWII KIA Marine John Saini escorted from SFO to final resting place in Healdsburg



Motor Escort Team members l to r, Gary Greenough, Ron Collier, & Mark Archambault

Chaplains Corner

Post: Warren Luke, 707-239-1811

Auxiliary: All Officers will take turns

Squadron: Reuel Miller, 707-874-1951

Riders: Ed Howell, 707-292-8033



Need someone to talk to?

You or someone in the family ill?

Know of a Veteran who needs help?

Start with a phone call to your Chaplain.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

WAR-TIME VETERANS AND MILITARY MEMBERS
DEDICATED TO A STRONG NATIONAL SECURITY,
COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES; COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND THE
WHOLESALE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH.

**INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE
SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION
FAMILY TODAY!**



Commander Lance Ballenger



As the newly installed Commander I am looking forward to representing the Post this coming year. I want to personally thank each and every past Officer, Board Member and appointed position member from the outgoing Post, Riders, Sons and Auxiliary who've given their time, energy and selfless service to our organizations and the causes that we support. I also want to congratulate all the newly installed members that are prepared to serve for the 2016-2017 term and wish you all success within your prospective duties and tasks required of your positions that you have taken the oath to uphold. One of my goals this term is to establish within each of our 111 groups is an appointed Liaison for our new comers, who are vitally important to the growth and sustainable future of Sotoyome.

These individuals will be tasked as the welcoming party for new members, initially introducing new and prospective folks to our fellow members. They will educate and inform them of American Legion principles, values and our long history of lineage dating back nearly a century.

They will assist them with Legion headgear, attire and proper uniform dress. As well these individuals will encourage them to participate and join with our core group of volunteers who make each and every one of our events, memorials and functions a success.

Again, I look forward to a prosperous, safe and enjoyable year as a humbly chosen leader of an exceptional outfit such as ours. Anyone interested in the Newcomer Liaison positons, please contact myself to discuss. Thank you. ~Lance

Installation Meeting June 9th



Auxiliary President Linda Karnstedt



Dear Auxiliary members, I am pleased to be your new president for this coming year and will do everything I can to make it both enjoyable and rewarding. And know you are supporting our veterans and the purposes of the auxiliary. As soon as you receive your renewal reminders in the mail please send it in so we can meet our membership goal this year. Hopefully you will be reading this prior to our 4th of July event and will be able to help with the setup, bucket brigade, or clean up. And make sure to enjoy the best fireworks display in Sonoma County!!! See you at the July 14th meeting, ~Linda



New Auxiliary Officers swearing-in ceremony



Ahlborn Structural Steel recognized



Commander Reuel Miller presents **Tom Ahlborn** of Ahlborn Structural Steel with a gift from the Post acknowledging the support given to the Sotoyome American Legion Family.

Fathers Day Breakfast huge success



The American Legion Family came together once again to celebrate Father's Day with the annual Father's Day Gin Fizz Breakfast.

Early morning shift was able to serve those pancakes, eggs, sausages and fruit salad by 7:30 a.m. There was a continuous flow of folks throughout the morning with the last bunch coming in at 11:15, just in time to sit down and eat before we started the cleanup.

Finance Officer Bob Taylor reported the Post made close to \$600.00 profit this year, while serving approximately 140 people. A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this another great Father's Day breakfast. ~Melanie Taylor



SAL Commander Matt Foreman



Hey guys and gals. Thanks again for all your help and support.

It's a pleasure being a part of great family. The Son's participated in the Father's day breakfast on June 19th serving the community at the Annex in Healdsburg. As everyone knows, I made some great pancakes.

The Legion served over 140 meals that morning. Next time let's make it 200. District 5 SAL is moving forward with elections of new officers. Help is still needed and the focus this coming year is to substantially increase both membership and participation.

We would like to especially bring in new members of high school age to ensure the program moves forward.

Thanks again for those who have been invaluable to our commitment to the community and our Veterans.

A big shout-out to Moose and his new bride. Congratulations!



Hope to see you sooner than later.

On Wednesday June 22nd, the riders and myself participated in the Welcome Home escort of Staff Sergeant Rico Pesce of Cloverdale. Sgt. Pesce has seven years of active duty as an Airborne Ranger involved with Medical operations and completed five tours in Afghanistan. We are all proud of his service and commitment, as are his family and friends, and wish him good luck in his future endeavors in the medical field. ~Matt

ALR President Ron "Campy" Dillow



Well here it is, a new President has arrived. As you know by now I have been appointed your new president and can only hope I can do as good a job as Mitch did. God bless him. Because of all the years he put in and all the work he did, will make it difficult to fill his shoes.

Mitch, thank you from all of us for all you did over the last three years. I know that he will be there to guide me through the next year or more.

This is the first time I have done anything like this, so bear with me and let me know if you have anything that you think will help me do a good job as this is about all of us as riders. I have some things that I would like to do as ALR and hope if you have some things you would like to see happen, feel free to call or E-Mail at any time. ~Campy rdcampy@comcast.net



Ride recaps

The American Legion Riders Chapter #111 had the honor to participate in the return of WWII KIA Pfc **John Saini**, USMC on June 10th and 11th and participated in an honor for a Fallen Vietnam Veteran to his Memorial on June 12th.

Sotoyome Post 111 Motor Escort Team, including **Ron Collier, Gary Greenough, Tony Grado and Mark Archambault**, along with several other ALR Chapter 111 riders, ALR Chapter 82 and Patriot Guard Riders met at SFO to honor Pfc **Saini** and under CHP Escort, bring him home to Sonoma County.

On Saturday June 11th, the MET, ALR and PGR riders again escorted Pfc **Saini** and Family to his Graveside Service at Oak Mound in Healdsburg.

Pfc **Saini** received full military honors by a USMC Team and had a Catholic burial near the resting place of his parents. Pfc **John Saini**, 20, is finally home 72 years 6 months and 22 days after falling in combat on Betio during the battle of Tarawa in the Pacific.

On June 12th ALR Chapter 111 escorted Fallen Vietnam Veteran **Ricky Clark**, who served in the US Army and was "In-Country" from 1968-1969. We met family in Petaluma and with Ricky's cremains secure on the back of a friends Harley, we escorted to Sebastopol, where we met up with Sebastopol PD and Fire who honored **Ricky Clark** leading our escort through town to Ragle Ranch Park where family and friends were waiting for our arrival. Our Soldier was walked thru a flag line and placed on a table that included many great photos and family mementos. Those there to celebrate his life included children, grandchildren other family and friends, with music and a great smelling BBQ.

While **Ricky Clark** didn't talk about his time in the Army or Vietnam, we were happy to honor him when the family requested this escort.

And by bringing Pfc **John Saini** home, we honor the other 35 Marines that were located with him (and are being brought home), as well as the 300 yet to be located, the 1006 Marines killed and over 1600 US Servicemen killed during the three day battle for Tarawa. We also honor the over 70,000 American KIAs yet to be located from WWII.

It's Our Honor to Do This. ~**Mitch**, Past President (pictures on Page 6 & 7)

**John Saini escort
June 10-11, 2016**



Ricky Clark escort June 12, 2016



Important Notice!!

Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, & Riders

There will be a pre-Fireworks meeting on Thursday, June 30, 2016 @ 7pm.

We need crews for fencing and barricades on July 3 and 4th with all-hands on deck for the July 4th fireworks bucket brigade, etc.

Sign up at the meeting.

The Boy Scout Breakfast at the Annex on July 4th. The Legion is buying breakfast for all Fireworks and Car Show workers.

RSVP so we can get a head count for Pizza and Salad at the Thursday, June 30th meeting.

We can go also over last minute details for the car show on July 10th.

There will be no July Board meeting or Post meeting.

These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.

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 NRA Certified Instructor
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 RIFLE - PISTOL - PERSONAL PROTECTION
 NRA Level 1 Coach
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American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2016-2017

Post 111 American Legion

Commander	Lance Ballenger	707-396-1331
1st Vice	Ken Cody	707-536-5562
2nd Vice	Tim Madura	707-815-6983
Adjutant	Reuel Miller	707-874-1951
Finance	Bob Taylor	707-894-0857
Asst. Finance	Steven Bowne	707-578-4775
Judge Advocate	George Sager	707-433-2044
Sgt. at Arms	Tony Grado	707-527-8233
Service Officer	Chris Bingham	707-565-5960
Historian	Harold Bagdonas	707-843-4790
Chaplain	Warren Luke	707-332-3843
Bar Manager	Frank Teuschler	707-431-2328
Jr. Past Comdr.	Reuel Miller	707-874-1951
Executive Bd.	Doug Newton	707-217-6309
	Tricia Lay	707-695-0345
	Roy Caporale	707-894-8954
	Stan Shusda	707-838-4593
	Frank Jerins	

Unit 111, American Legion Auxiliary

President	Linda Karnstedt	707-529-1243
1st Vice	Shirleen Perry	707-838-9790
2nd Vice	Judy Chavez	707-857-0024
Secretary	Marie Canale	707-431-0563
Treasurer	Melanie Taylor	707-894-0857
Chaplain	All Officers will take turns	
Sgt. at Arms		
Marshall		
Jr Past Pres.	Eddy Sauers	707-838-9429
Executive Bd.	Linda Karnstedt	707-529-1243
	Nancy Grimes	707-529-2271
	Judy Chavez	707-857-0024

Squadron 111 , Sons of The American Legion

Commander	Matt Foreman	707-340-0315
1st Vice	Dave McAleece	707-838-2676
2nd Vice	Ken Cody	707-536-5562
Adjutant	Steven Bowne	707-578-4775
Finance	Bob Taylor	707-894-0857
Chaplain	Reuel Miller	707-874-1951
Sgt. at Arms	Terry Perry	707-838-2432
Judge Advocate	Doug Newton	707-217-6309
Historian	Harold Bagdonas	707-843-4790
Jr. Past Comdr.	Mitch Laing	707-623-9179
Executive Bd.	Mark Archambault	707-292-6746
	Ron Collier	707-239-6703
	Mitch Laing	707-975-1541

Chapter 111 American Legion Riders

President	Ron (Campy) Dillow	707-753-0575
Vice Pres.	Ron Krudop	707-765-0373
Secretary	Doug Newton	707-217-6309
Treasurer /Adj.	Steven Bowne	707-578-4775
Sgt. at Arms	Terry Perry	707-838-9790
Chaplain	Ed Howell	707-542-1135
Road Captains	Matt Foreman	707-340-0315
	Joe Manning	707-501-9880

SOTOYOME JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB

3rd Annual Rifle raffle

**to benefit the Junior
Shooters program**

RUGER MINI 14 RANCH RIFLE .223 CALIBER

Contact Reuel Miller for further information



**Miles and Willum Ridder at the
Ukiah Gun Club**



**Reuel Miller and Bob Taylor at the
American Legion Convention**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Fireworks/ Boy Scout Breakfast	5 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	6	7 VFW 6 PM	8	9
10 Car Show	11 Jr. Shooters Annex 6:00 PM	12	13	14 Post meeting 7 PM Annex Honors Team	15	16
17	18	19 Newsletter Input Due	20 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	21 Job Fair Flamingo Hotel	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30 Jr. Shooters Ukiah GC

August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Board Meeting 7 pm Annex	2 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	3	4	5	6
7	8 Jr. Shooters Annex 6:00 PM	9	10	11 Honors Team 6 PM Annex	12	13
14	15	16	17 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	18	19	20
21	22	23 Newsletter Input due	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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Post 111, Auxiliary Unit 111, Son's Squadron 111, Legion Riders Chapter
A proud part of the Healdsburg Community since 1920

Sotoyome Post receives recognition at 98th Annual American Legion Convention in Fresno

Post 111 was represented by **Bob and Melanie Taylor, Reuel Miller, Lorraine Plass and Steven Bowne** at the American Legion Convention June 23rd -26th.

Al Delsid 5th District Sons of the American Legion Commander from Cloverdale was also in attendance.

Post 111 was presented with the James Fiske Americanism Award for its devotion to law and order, the raising of wholesome youth, an educated and law-abiding citizenship, and



respectful observance of patriotic holidays and remembrances.

In addition, Sotoyome Squadron 111 received a 100% Membership ribbon as did District 5.

Reuel Miller accepts the James Fiske Americanism Award on behalf of Sotoyome Post 111

The Sotoyome Newsletter

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