

SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY  
HEALDSBURG- GEYSERVILLE - WINDSOR



# THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

## JULY-AUGUST 2014

Post 111, Squadron 111 and Legion Riders Chapter 111, PO Box 281, Healdsburg, CA 95448  
Unit 111, American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 174, Healdsburg, CA 95448

Visit our new Website at <http://www.healdsburgamericanlegion.org/>

Healdsburg is a Purple Heart City 

Sonoma County is a Purple Heart County

### 2014 Membership Renewals

| Post 111 | Unit 111 | Sqd 111 | Legion Family |
|----------|----------|---------|---------------|
| 96.9%    | 101.3%   | 103.3%  | 98.8%         |

### Villa Update

As of going to press time we have not had an update from the City. The last report was that the attorneys for the city and The Tayman Group were reviewing the language of the agreement. As a result we are on a month to month basis with the bar in the Villa.

### Congratulations

**Nancy Evers**

**5th District**

**President for**

**the 2014-15**

**Program Year.**

**The District**

**includes**

**Sonoma, Lake,**

**Napa, Marin, and Solano County**

**and has 12 Auxiliary Units.**



### 2014-15 Leadership



Here is your leadership for the 2014-15 program year. Commander Tom, on the right, is returning for his 3rd year as Commander of Sotoyome Post 111. Linda Karnstedt is President of Sotoyome Unit 111. Mitch Laing, on the left, is doing dual duties this year as Commander of Sotoyome Squadron 111 and President of Chapter 111, Sotoyome American Legion Riders.

### Inside This Issue

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| From the Top - Commander Tom      | Page 2 |
| Remembering....                   | Page 4 |
| July & August Calendars           | Page 3 |
| Sotoyome Legion Family Leadership | Page 4 |
| September Calendar                | Page 4 |
| Auxiliary Happenings              | Page 5 |
| SAL Update                        | Page 6 |
| Sotoyome Chapter 111, ALR         | Page 7 |
| The Back Page Notes               | Page 8 |

### New Department Commander



**Janet Wilson**  
**Member of Post 161,**  
**Antioch.**

### New Department President



**Harriet Clendenin \**  
**Member of**  
**Tehachapi Unit 221**

## From the Top

The 96th Department Convention is over and a new American Legion Year begins. We have a new Commander, Janet Wilson, from Post 161, Antioch, has assumed leadership of the 87,000 plus members of the Department of California.

As you can see we came close but did not make 100% membership this year. Adjutant/Finance Bob Taylor will be sending out the 2015 membership cards for the Honorary Life Members and dues notices for those who are not Paid Up For Life and Honorary Life Members. We will be having our annual Pasta Dinner in November. Those who pay their 2014/2015 dues before the dinner will be our guests.

I hope you like the new format of the newsletter. I will be asking other leaders to write columns.

2015 will be a great year. We have a great mix of both new and experienced leadership. This is a team effort and we need more members who will step forward and assist. This can be working on existing efforts or bringing a new program to the your respective board and then give leadership to implementing the program.

Remember, our mission is to serve veterans of all ages. There is so much more we can do.

Thank you for your support.

## Remembering...



Since the last newsletter we have said a final goodbye to the following members of our American Legion Family.

### None Reported

Please let your Chaplain know when you become aware of the death or illness of one of our Legion family members. You can also let one of the board members know and they will pass the word.



**Tom Grimes**  
**Commander**



## Observations from the First Vice

Sisters and Brothers of Post 111.

I just returned from my 1st California American Legion Convention in Santa Clara. A great experience and a must for every member to attend one sometime. I sat in on the Leadership Committee, Youth and Children Committee, and the Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy Committee.

Leadership Commissioners elected this years Legionnaire of the year and Lifetime Achievement Legionnaire (25+ years of American Legion Service). The Youth and Children Committee members complained about Posts not filling out all there paperwork and putting together scrapbooks to show the past years work with the Youth in their Posts. AG, NR, and Energy touched lightly on the California Bullet Train and Salt water intrusion in the delta. I was somewhat disappointed that this committee does not do more in this area. The entire time was spent on the Youth Environmental Conference, a worthwhile program but I think this should be part of the Youth and Children's program.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS for the coming year were picked up at the Convention. It's time for all to pay there dues and get our Post to 100% in the coming year. Our district (THE MIGHTY 5) low membership numbers keeps us in the back of the room at the convention. Post 111 needs to do better than 96%. As we are the second largest Post in our District we draw our Districts percentage down. Please get your dues in early.

I also can't help but notice that I at 61 years old, am a relative baby in the American Legion. It is imperative we come up with ideas to get the younger Veterans involved. One way we hope to help get the ball rolling is thru our coming Junior Shooters Program.

I also believe our Legion Riders can bring us some youth also. I will seriously look at any other ideas our members have in order to meet this years membership quota.

One aside. I am looking for someone who is very experienced with Air Rifles and the refilling of the cartridges.

Never Forget and Never Quit. KEEP ON CHARGING.

Reuel Miller, your new 1st Vice.

| Sun                                       | Mon  | Tue                              | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat                       |
|---|--|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|
|   |  | 1                                | 2   | 3<br>Fireworks<br>setup   | 4<br>Fireworks<br>Show  | 5<br>Fireworks<br>Cleanup |
| 6   | 7<br>Post/Unit board<br>mtgs 7pm               | 8<br>ALR Meeting<br>6pm, Windsor | 9   | 10<br>SAL/Post/Unit<br>7pm  | 11  | 12                        |
| 13  | 14<br>Past Presidents<br>Card Party<br>12 Noon | 15<br>Newsletter<br>Input Due    | 16  | 17<br>Honors Team<br>7pm Annex  | 18  | 19                        |
| 20<br>District<br>Installation<br>Vallejo | 21   | 22                               | 23<br>Bingo<br>Yountville 10am<br>United Vet Cncl<br>7pm SR | 24<br>Sonoma County<br>Veterans Job Fair<br>Santa Rosa<br>12 Noon - 3pm | 25<br>Sotoyome Social<br>Pot Luck 6:00pm<br>Bingo following<br>At the Annex | 26                        |
| 27  | 28   | 29                               | 30  |   |   |                           |

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue                               | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat |
|-------|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|-----|
|       |  |                                   |   |   | 1   | 2   |
| 3     | 4<br>Post/Unit board<br>mtgs 7pm               | 5                                 | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   |
| 10    | 11<br>Past Presidents<br>Card Party<br>12 Noon | 12<br>ALR Meeting<br>6pm, Windsor | 13  | 14<br>SAL/Post/Unit<br>7pm                    | 15<br>Newsletter<br>Input Due   | 16  |
| 17    | 18   | 19                                | 20  | 21<br>6:30pm Honors<br>Team Practice<br>Annex | 22<br>Sotoyome Social<br>6pm potluck<br>Games<br>following<br>Nancy & Tom's | 23  |
| 24/31 | 25   | 26                                | 27<br>Bingo<br>Yountville 10am<br>United Vet Cncl<br>7pm SR | 28  | 29  | 30  |

**Post 111 The American Legion**

|                  |                 |          |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Commander        | Tom Grimes      | 481-9169 |
| 1st Vice         | Reuel Miller    | 874-1951 |
| 2nd Vice         | Steve Bowne     | 578-4775 |
| Adjutant/Finance | Bob Taylor      | 894-0857 |
| Chaplain         | Steve Piotter   | 217-6236 |
| Judge Advocate   | Doug Newton     | 217-6309 |
| Sgt. at Arms     | Tricia Lay      | 695-0345 |
| Asst Sgt at Arms | Tony Grado      | 527-8233 |
| Service Officer  | Chris Bingham   | 565-5960 |
| Historian        | Harold Bagdonas | 843-4790 |
| Jr. Past Cdr     | Dave Richey     | 568-7278 |
| Executive Board  | Frank Jerins    |          |
|                  | George Sager    | 433-2044 |
|                  | Frank Teuschler | 431-2328 |
|                  | Roy Caporale    | 894-8954 |
|                  | Stan Shusda     | 838-4593 |

**Squadron 111****Sons of the American Legion**

|                      |              |          |
|----------------------|--------------|----------|
| Commander            | Mitch Laing  | 623-9179 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice | Matt Foreman | 894-5603 |
| Adjutant             | Tom Grimes   | 481-9169 |
| Finance              | Bob Taylor   | 894-0857 |
| Chaplain             | Reuel Miller | 874-1951 |
| Sgt at Arms          | Steve Bowne  | 578-4775 |
| Jr. Past Comdr       | Matt Foreman | 894-5603 |

**Unit 111 American Legion Auxiliary**

|                   |                  |          |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| President         | Linda Karnstedt  | 529-1243 |
| 1st Vice          | Eddy Sauers      | 838-9429 |
| 2nd Vice          | Linda Clary      | 433-5800 |
| Secretary         | Marie Canale     | 431-0563 |
| Treasurer         | Melanie Taylor   | 894-0857 |
| Chaplain          |                  |          |
| Sgt. at Arms      | Judy Chavez      | 894-4636 |
| Marshall          | Thelma Frey      | 546-7791 |
| Historian         |                  |          |
| Junior Pass Pres. | Nancy Evers      | 481-9169 |
| Executive Board   | Virginia Hawley  | 838-6395 |
|                   | Virginia Wallace | 838-8702 |
|                   | Thelma Frey      | 546-7791 |

**Chapter 111 American Legion Riders**

|                    |                |          |
|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| President          | Mitch Laing    | 975-1541 |
| Vice               | Ron Dillow     | 753-0575 |
| Secretary          | Doug Newton    | 217-6309 |
| QM/Treasurer       | Steve Bowne    | 578-4775 |
| Sgt at Arms        | Terry Perry    | 838-9790 |
| Ride Captain       | Matt Foreman   | 894-5603 |
| Chaplain           | Ed Howell      | 292-8033 |
| Jr. Past President | Gary Greenough | 837-8384 |

LEADERS: Please let me know if I have your phone Number is wrong or if there is a better number to reach you.

September 2014

Sotoyome American Legion Family, Healdsburg

| Sun | Mon  | Tue                              | Wed   | Thu                            | Fri   | Sat |
|-----|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|-----|
|     |  | 1                                | 2   | 3                              | 4   | 5   |
| 6   | 7<br>Post/Unit board<br>mtgs 7pm               | 8<br>ALR Meeting<br>6pm, Windsor | 9   | 10<br>SAL/Post/Unit<br>7pm     | 11  | 12  |
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| 20  | 21   | 22                               | 23<br>Bingo<br>Yountville 10am<br>United Vet Cncl<br>7pm SR | 24                             | 25<br>Sotoyome Social<br>Pot Luck 6:00pm<br>Bingo following<br>At the Annex | 26  |
| 27  | 28   | 29                               | 30  |                                |   |     |

## From the PRESIDENT,

Who would have thought when I joined the Auxiliary in 2007 that I'd be writing this as your president? Aside from the values and the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary, it is really the people I get to "hang out" with that I am honored to be a part of. It is really through the wonderful camaraderie and commitment of my past and current leadership group that I happily take on this responsibility. I hope to do the position justice and help to keep our unit strong. You will see some new names in this slate of officers which bodes well for the health of our unit. In order to meet our membership goal this year - and we are over 100% - we welcomed several new members and their presence is already felt. Aside from the past and current leadership team, Shirleen Perry was a big help in the kitchen preparing our installation potluck. Although it is not clear yet what position she will be holding, one of our newest members, Chelsea Bricker has volunteered to fill one of my open positions. I can't say enough about how proud I am of all the women who have committed to be part of our unit this year. Former 2nd Vice Eddy Sauers is moving up as 1st Vice. Linda Clary has stepped into the 2nd Vice spot. Our ever faithful Secretary Marie Canale and Treasurer Melanie Taylor have agreed to stay on in those offices again for another year. As are Judy Chavez, Sargent at Arms and Marshall, Thelma Frey. Continuing on as my Executive Board members are Virginia Hawley and Virginia Wallace with Thelma Frey and Rose Sandoval. Chaplain Bettie Crandall has asked to step down so I still have that position to fill as well as Historian. By the next writing I will introduce you to who will be filling those positions. Thank you to all.

Since we are also starting a new year I thought it fitting to remind us of why we joined the Auxiliary. Hey, not just because we have food several times a year, and it is a nice break to come to a meeting once a month, but because of what the American Legion Auxiliary stands for - here is our Vision statement and the values predicated on the founding purposes of the Auxiliary. So as you read this, recommit yourself to uphold the vision and the values of this great organization you are a part of.

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and

Continued Next Column>>>>

Continued from left column.....

security. The statement of values is predicated on the founding purposes: Commitment to the four founding

principles: Justice, Freedom, Democracy, Loyalty; Service to God, our country, its veterans and their families; Tradition of patriotism and citizenship; Personal integrity and family values; Respect for the uniqueness of individual members; Truthful open communication in dealing with the public and our members; and Adherence to the adopted policies and rule.

Welcome to the new year (and remember to renew your membership in August!). Sincerely, President **Linda**

## 1ST VICE EDDY'S CORNER

Now that the new year has already approach. It is time to think what the American Legion Auxillary is all about and what we do to help the lives of the veterans, service members and their families and promote an AMERICA WE CAN BE PROUD of the YOUNG LADIES of today.

We as a Auxiliary each of us have our own reasons for being a member of the SOTOYOME UNIT 111. As you may know it is that time to start renew your membership and try real hard to contribute to all or most of the programs the Unit supports. As a person who has done many things since I joined in 2012. I like to see our year to start out with HIP,HIP,HOORAY. All you ladies start renewing your membership. At our next meeting let see if we can break a record this year, I know you can do it ladies. If you can't make the meeting, mail the membership to our Treasurer, MELANIE TAYLOR AT 457 MUSCAT DR., CLOVERDALE,CA.,95425. She would be delight to receive the membership from each one you. Remember it is \$21.

Plan for the Early Bird Pasta Dinner at the November Meeting on November 9th. More details will follow at our next couple Newletters. Thank you, Ladies



Linda Karnstedt,  
President





From Adjutant Tom.

Congratulations to the new leadership of Sotoyome Squadron 111. They are listed on page 4.

I have asked Finance Officer Bob Taylor to order a copy of the **Squadron Handbook of the Sons of The American Legion** for each of you who renews this year.

There is much that needs to be done. I'm hoping that this year we can begin to offer program our members, especially our junior members.

I don't now how many times I have read General John A. Logan's Memorial Day Order. As Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, he issued General Order No. 11 on May 5, 1968, which have become the foundation of our annual memorial day programs.

There is one sentence that reminds us of our duties go beyond the cemeteries. .

**let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the Nation's gratitude, -- the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.**

The squadron is an integral part of the Sotoyome American Legion Legion Family. Many of you are also members of the post and/or American Legion Riders.

Let's make this our best year let with the leadership of Commander Mitch Laing.

## Healdsburg Hometown Hero



**William  
Southall**  
**Navy**



Coming soon to Healdsburg. Contact  
Commander Tom for information. 707-  
481-9169



**Mitch Laing,**  
**Squadron Commander**





Jul - Aug 2014

Page 7



American Legion Riders Chapter #111 held our 5th annual Memorial Run and BBQ May 31 and had a great turn out of riders and others for the BBQ. This year we Remembered US Army Cpl Joshua Kynoch, KIA Iraq Oct 1, 2005, and our donation was to his daughters education trust fund.

At the Thursday Night Post Installation of Officers we made a presentation to Gold Star Mom Linda Kynoch. Including \$250 from M.O.M.S. presented by member Suzette, and a check from Rip City Riders for \$500, plus other checks from generous donors, we gave the Savannah Kynoch Education Trust a total of \$4000, far more than than projected.

While this is an ALR event there are many from Post #111 and outside volunteers who worked hard to make this happen and be the success that it has become. Commander Tom Grimes, Unit President Nancy Evers and 2nd VP Eddy Sauers, and not only did Chef Warren Luke do a great job on the BBQ but again he was able to hustle up some fantastic dining donations used for Raffle Prizes. Chris Leonhardt assisted Warren for the excellent TriTip BBQ.

While all Riders pitched in to make this event happen, standouts were Steve Bowne who organized the Raffle Prizes and handled the financial side, Matt Foreman for heading the Ride with his group of Leaders and Guards, the route was excellent and overall very safe for 70 motorcycles. Rider Steve Heidorn was able to secure Kenwood Fire Dept as a stop for us and the Fire Explorers supplied refreshments. Terry Perry and Ron Dillow promoted this to other rider groups and many riders pre-sold BBQ Tickets and collected Raffle Donations, Joe Manning supplied the BBQ Wood and we had several provide BBQ Supplies, waters and much more. Thank You All Riders and Volunteers, Family and Friends!

One unique element for this ride was a pass thru at Calvary Cemetery where GSM Linda Kynoch had a Banner of Josh setup and was honored as all riders passed by to salute her son. This was the idea of ALR member Doug Newton and was excellent.

Again this would not have been a success without the support of The Post, Auxiliary, Squad and our Riders plus our many non-Legion volunteers like Shirleen, Kris, Alice, Greg, Terri, Sue, Tim, Nancy, Tom, Deb ... plus others

Aside from the Memorial Ride and BBQ ALR Riders are out there every week in colors standing flag lines for our Service Members and Veterans, Riding Escorts and Welcome Homes, Funerals and of course this past Memorial Weekend we had ALR Chapter #111 Represented at Cemeteries, Memorials and Honors throughout all of Sonoma County. Several Riders put in volunteer hours to clean up Oak Mound Cemetery prior to the Memorial Day Ceremony. Flag Day saw Legion Riders at most every event in Sonoma County.

In September we might host Area 1 ALR Riders for an informal get-together, Ride and BBQ as a way to promote Communication and Support amongst our local Rider Chapters.

ALR Chapter #111 is now up to 28 members, and is open to any rider or spouse in Sonoma County who is part of the American Legion Family (any SoCo Post) and rides a freeway size motorcycle (650cc+ but we might make an exception or two).

Again My Thanks to All who worked hard to make the Joshua Kynoch Memorial Ride and BBQ the Best Yet.



**Sotoyome Chapter 111, ALR**  
Mitch Laing, President



## Sotoyome Post 111 The American Legion

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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

If you know of a veteran and his/her family  
in need, please call Commander Tom  
Grimes at 707-481-9169

## The Back Page.....



Congratulations to Lois and her team at  
***Empire Boat & RV Storage***  
for an outstanding car show!  
She report nearly \$4900 net income! This is  
more than double last years income.

Thank you Lois. We hope to see you at the  
July Membership Meeting on  
July 10th.

Thank you to the Sotoyome American Legion  
Family members who volunteered to help with  
the show and/or entered a car in the show.

## Looking for An Assistant Editor

Call me at 707-481-9169 or email me at  
[coachtom.grimes@gmail.com](mailto:coachtom.grimes@gmail.com)

## POT LUCK AND GAMES Have gone dark until Fall.

Call 707-491-9169 for more information

## The Sotoyome Newsletter

The Official Monthly Publication of the  
Sotoyome Post 111 and the Sotoyome American Legion Family

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