

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



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 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 12

Veterans Day Ceremony Windsor Town Green



More photos on Page 6

Chaplains Corner

Post: Reuel Miller, 707-874-1951

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
WHOLESUME DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH.

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

Commander Lance Ballenger



November 11th reaffirmed once again our Nations gratitude to all Veterans. Post 111 once again thanks the



Rotary Club of Healdsburg for putting on another successful Veterans Day Breakfast. The highlight of the morning was the keynote speaker, 93 year old 1st SGT **Harry Morse**, a Combat Veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Harry's stories were priceless, inspiring, captivating and ever so hilarious that he left the crowd with side splitting laughter. Harry is one of those guys that John Wayne would have revered and looked up to as a hero. We were all very fortunate to hear him speak. We also once again were graced with the singing talents of **Dallas Caroline** singing the National Anthem as well as the Military Branch hymns.

The breakfast followed with our customary public ceremonies at Healdsburg Town Square and Windsor Town Green. A note of gratitude and thanks was followed by our Honor Guard firing a 21 gun salute with the playing of Taps. **Windsor Fire Department** brought out one of the big gun Red Engines booming out Old Glory off the ladder above the ceremony with many of the Fireman in attendance. Thank you towns of Windsor and Healdsburg for coming out to show your support and appreciation for your local Vets.

We also had another highly successful Hometown Hero's function where eight new inductees were introduced and honored in Windsor. **Ken Cody** once again pulled off a very successful event...even if it did include 50% Marines...I kid. Speaking of Marines, I was fortunate enough to be able to tag along with **Steve Bosshard** to the Marine Division 1 SOS breakfast at Moffet Field to meet **General 'Maddog' Mattis** and hear him speak to an exceptional group of Marines. It was an honor to meet the General and I for one am pulling for President Elect Trump to place him as our Secretary of Defense. The General is known for his straight forward talk and actions that will surely inspire our Enemies to think twice about their continued aggressions against our Country, Allies and Interests.

We look forward to December with the **Crab Cioppino Dinner** to support the Legion Junior Shooters Club on **December 17th** up at the Annex. This is our 3rd annual dinner and the club will once again be auctioning off a rifle. For \$5 a ticket, and a maximum of 600 tickets sold, the Ruger Mini-14 ranch rifle can be yours to express your 2nd Amendment rights out at the range or in the field with a magazine of .223 hot load ammo. We would love to have more members show up and support the kids program that has been teaching them firearm safety, respect, accuracy and marksmanship.

"For God and Country"...Is our motto...Let me be the first to wish all of you a Merry Christmas. Enjoy the Holidays, as we prepare for a New Year, with a new President who has emphatically expressed the reinstatement of appreciation, honor, respect and dedication to our Military and Veteran Community. This is one campaign promise we intend to insure is kept!

~Lance

Auxiliary President Linda Karnstedt



November's early bird membership pasta dinner was well attended and the food was tasty and decorations were festive. One of the Boy's State delegates who was not able to make the October recognition dinner was able to attend and was very articulate in recounting his experience. Again I will say if he is an example of our youth today, we will be in good hands in the future.



December's meeting on the 8th is our annual Christmas potluck dinner and raffle. Please bring an entre and side dish or salad to feed eight. Also bring any raffle items you have as the proceeds from this event supports the Pathway house in Yountville.

Remember one man's trash - er ah slightly used item - is another man's treasure. I am sure we all have re-gifted from time to time so here is a great opportunity to do so without guilt. If you are bringing young children, please let me know (707-529-1243) so we can have a stocking to give to them. I hope to see all our local members and their families for a fun night and celebrate the holiday season.

To the board - we will meet at 7pm on Monday December 5th at the Annex.

Sincerely, ~Linda

ALR President Ron "Campy" Dillow



Well it looks like another year is about to come to a end. I hope everyone had a good year and will have another good year in 2017.

I want to thank all of you for all you did for the Post. You have made a lot of people thankful for all you have done over the past year.

I know that you may think it's no big deal, but believe me when I say that you have given many people, some you may not even know, something to remember the rest of their lives. So lets keep on with the good work over the new year.

~Campy



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	707-975-1541
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	Reuel Miller	707-975-1541
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	707-975-1541
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	707-975-1541
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
Past President	Mitch Laing	707-975-1541

The American Legion Sotoyome Post 111 held it's annual **Pasta Dinner** with approximately 78 attending.

Also attending were **Kyle Hoff**, Boys State Delegate who did not get to share his Experience with us at the October Youth Recognition Dinner because he was at Annapolis being interviewed for a spot in the Naval Academy.

With Kyle were his parents **Mark** and **Tracy Hoff** who are extremely proud of their son. Kyle had just a week before received his Boy Scout Eagle badge. I was requested by Mark and Tracy to present the American Flag to Kyle during that ceremony.

The Past Dinner was a huge success thank to hard working Post members and the Ladies Auxiliary. Without their help with decorating Tables, providing desserts and helping in the Kitchen and serving, it would not have been a success.

Let's hope for a larger attendance next year.
Submitted by **Harold Bagdonas, Historian**



Kyle Hoff and Harold Bagdonas

More dinner photos on Page 7

Jesse Pittman Memorial Bridge dedication Willits, November 3rd

At least a thousand people gathered on a bridge in the middle of the Little Lake Valley to commemorate the opening of the Willits Bypass in honor of Navy SEAL Jesse Pittman, a construction project first envisioned some 60 years ago, and which officially opened to traffic later that day.

Post 111 American Legion Riders staged in Windsor and rode to the ceremony that morning and were surprised at how large the crowd was.

The young Willits native was killed in Afghanistan when his helicopter was shot down by rocket-propelled grenades in Afghanistan in 2011.



Veterans Day November 11th



Pasta feed November 10th



Photos by **Harold Bagdonas**

Toys for Tots ride Sonoma, November 20th



December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 VFW 7 PM Annex	2	3 Yountville Christmas Party
4	5 Board Meeting 7 PM Annex	6 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	7	8 Post meeting 7 PM Annex Honors Team 5:30 PM Annex	9	10
11	12 Junior Shooters Practice 6:00 Annex	13	14 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	15	16	17 <u>Jr. Shooters</u> <u>Cioppino</u> <u>dinner</u> <u>6:00 PM</u>
18	19	20 Newsletter Input due	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve

These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.



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A proud part of the Healdsburg Community since 1920



**Post 111 Honors Team
in front of the
Villa Chanticleer on
Veterans Day.**

Front row l to r: **Harold Bagdonas, Eddy Sauers, Dave Meyers,
Roy Caporale, Frank Zak, Lance Ballenger.**
Back row l to r: **George Sager, Bob Taylor, Frank Jerins,
Frank Teuschler, Ken Cody.**
Missing: **Dave Richey**

The Sotoyome Newsletter

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