

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



# **THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER**

## **NOVEMBER 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

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

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Volume 82 Issue 11

### ***7th Annual Fallen Warrior Memorial Ride successful***



**Dave Meyers** securing wristband on a CMA rider at the Café Nolo in Windsor.  
*(Recap on Page 4)*

### **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



If anyone has been following this coming Election cycle's events, you would think that our Country is in turmoil, with divisions amongst parties which are deeper than the Mariana Trench and our future headed for uncertainty. In many cases, most folks I know believe this to be true with the salacious rhetoric and turmoil brewing from every facet of the pulpit, corner soap box and blaring bull horn that can be had. From the Media, Conservative Political Action Committees (CPAC's), the leading Parties, the Candidates themselves, Corporate Political Donors, every corner of Social Media as well broiling commentary from anyone and everyone

from Celebrities to Foreign influences. This Election process is unprecedented and unlike anything we have ever seen. The closer we get to November the 8<sup>th</sup>, the more unfathomable the headlines, accusations and stories appear, hourly mind you.

As Constituents of the Voter Electorate, all we can do is cast our Vote in the end to have our voices heard. This sacred right to elect our Leaders has been given to us from the countless sacrifices, blood, sweat and tears, which by many, includes us Legionnaires as well. From the decisive battle of Yorktown etching in stone the Declaration of Independence giving rise to our Constitution and the Bill of Rights of these United States of America, and every effort thereafter to uphold our unalienable rights as Citizens of this great Country. It may not be pretty this time around, but it is our duty to engage this electoral process and Vote our conscience.

Aside from that, we must remain vigilant as Members of the American Legion, aside from our differences we must remain steadfast in our Mission that supersedes all other dissimilarities which bring us together. In the end we must carry on the Mission of the Legion. The American Legion Preamble states this best:

***The American Legion Preamble***

***"For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and good will on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy; To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.***

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.

As Commander I implore you all to get out and Vote, and too carefully select the Candidate you feel best emboldens Veteran Issues, dignifies our great Military and who also supports our Mission and creed defined above. Good luck.

~Lance



## 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
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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

## Auxiliary President Linda Karnstedt



We had a wonderful turnout for our annual Girl's and Boy's State student recognition potluck. The Legion provided great ham, salad, and garlic bread and everyone else brought plenty of food. The room was a festive sight as well. Thanks to all who were involved with setup and decorations. I am always encouraged when I hear the student's recounts of their week in knowing the youth of today will make great leaders for tomorrow.

Remember our meeting for November is our early bird membership dinner. If you haven't paid your dues by then you can do so at the dinner. Also start thinking of raffle items for December's potluck as the proceeds from this annual event will go to the Pathway House in Yountville. To the board - we will meet at 7 pm on Monday November 7th at the Annex.

I hope to see everyone at the early bird dinner.  
Sincerely, ~Linda



## Memorial Ride & BBQ Recap

The American Legion Riders Chapter #111 held our 7th annual Fallen Warrior Memorial Ride and BBQ on Oct 8th. Our Fallen Warrior was **Pfc Caesar Viglienzone**, US Army, KIA 1 Feb 2006 in Iraq.

We had about 60 riders stage at the Windsor Town Green head off on a 95 mile 2-1/2 hr. ride that went through Sonoma, Napa and Lake Counties. The BBQ was held at Villa Chanticleer Picnic Grounds (where the Post is located) and 160 happy people enjoyed a great TriTip BBQ cooked by a volunteer backup team headed by **Dave Schaefer & Bryan** from Native Sons of the Golden West. Great volunteers from The Post, Friends and **Lytton Springs 4H** helped everything go smooth. The BBQ included TriTip Roasts seasoned and cooked over oak, with beans, salad, rolls and salsa. Sodas and water was also provided.

The Raffle had over 160 individual items available, ranging from T-Shirts and Hats to Hotel Stays, Wine, Dining Gift Cards, Massage/Spa Treatments, Roller Skating, Automotive Services, Helmets, Good Wine, Shopping Cards, Great Wine, Gift Certificates, Pizzas, and did I mention Premium Wines?

The Viglienzone Family had a great display for Caesar, including a painted portrait, Shadowbox and Quilt.

The Sonoma Quilt Guild made a special quilt that was donated for Silent Auction, plus we had a custom handmade Wooden American Flag the Post Purchased to display.

Our \$4,200 (record high) Donation was made to **Homes For Our Troops** which builds mortgage-free, specially adapted homes for severely injured Veterans. We requested the donation be used for a home being built in Northern California in the name of Pfc Caesar Viglienzone. Plan on attending next years Memorial Ride and BBQ, tentatively set for Saturday Sept 9, 2017, where we will honor another Sonoma County Fallen Warrior.

*Submitted by* **Mitch Laing**



## Volunteer Recognition

This Memorial event would not have been possible without the selfless contributions of many individuals. I'd like to recognize a few of those people:

**Joe Manning, Shirleen & Terry Perry, Eddy Sauers, Dave Meyers, Tim Madura, Reuel Miller, Ron Krudop, Campy Dillow, Matt Foreman, Tony Grado, Moose, Harold Bagdonas, Susan Aguilar, Frank Jerins, Roy Caporale, Jim Campbell, Lance Ballenger, Tricia Lay, Terri Goemke, Tom Garske & Mitch Laing.** *(There were many more individuals, whose names I can't recall, that worked tirelessly throughout the day.)*

*Submitted by* the Editor



## Youth Recognition night October 13, 2016

The Recognition Night potluck dinner gives the Junior High School boys and girls who were chosen as delegates to represent American Legion Sotoyome post 111 at Boys State and Girls State, the opportunity to share their experiences with the post members. This year there were four Junior Girls selected to be our delegates at Girls State and seven Junior boys at Boys State. Two girls and five boys were present at the dinner this evening.



**Riki Jones** from Geyserville HS and **Ryleighy Norgrove** from Healdsburg HS represented the girls. Missing was **Leah Bishop** of Cloverdale HS and **Seyilla Santana** of Windsor HS.

The two missing boys had very important commitments on the same day which prevented them from attending.

**Kyle Hoff** was in San Francisco attempting to win a full four year college scholarship.

**Andrew Nunez** was in Annapolis Maryland attempting to be accepted in the Naval Academy. We wish success to both.

They have been invited to speak at our November 10th general meeting.

Submitted by **Harold Bagdonas**





## Fallen Veterans Honored at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery posted by KFBK News - Joe Michaels – October 13, 2016



Dozens of veterans from across Northern California gathered at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon Wednesday afternoon to honor nearly 200 fallen comrades who were either homeless, indigent or had no known family members.

Assistant Director Mike Brophy says the cemetery holds the “Fallens Memorial Program” four times a year to honor their service and preserve their memory.

“This is a crucial part of us being able to say 'thank you' and recognize their service and their sacrifice to our country,” said Brophy.

With a row of veterans holding U.S. flags on each side of the small bandshell, 198 men and women

had their names read by members of the Vacaville Christian Middle School National Junior Honor Society led by Valerie Marchoine. “They are learning to honor veterans,” said Marchoine of her students. “They are learning that freedom isn’t free... it comes with a price.”

After each name was read, cemetery director Cynthia Nunez looked on as a giant American flag was folded into the traditional triangle.

“The memorial for the fallen is what separates the United States of America from the rest of the world,” said Nunez. “We continue to find ways to honor, remember and pay tribute to our veterans.” The folded flag was presented to General Richard Lundin as Air Force Veteran **Tim Madura** stood watch.

“This is our way of giving them their final resting spot,” **Madura** explained. “Many of them have been sitting on a shelf in a morgue for many years with nobody to claim them.”

This week’s event marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cemetery’s Fallen Memorial Program. More than 27,000 veterans are now buried there.

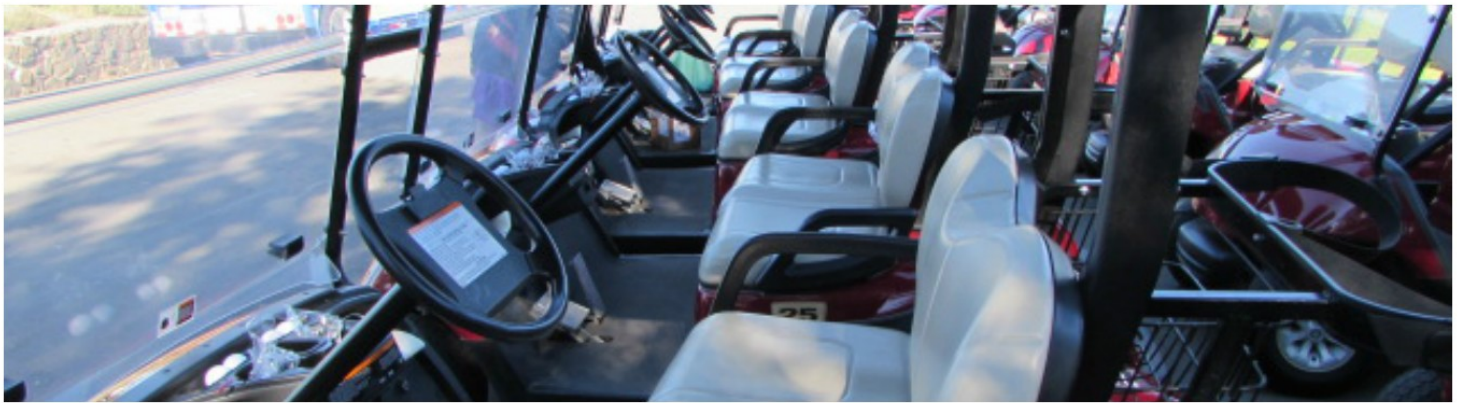


**MIAP briefing at Pleasant Hills Memorial Park in Sebastopol, October 12th  
Chapter 111 American Legion Riders & PGR**



## First Annual American Legion Post 111 Golf Tournament

The Golf Tournament held on October 21st in Healdsburg, was deemed a success. There were 52 players who entered and participated in the event and silent auction. Post 111 in partnership with the Healdsburg Golf Club, netted over \$5000 for the Fireworks and other Legion sponsored programs. There are plans in the works for next years tournament.. It should be noted that Ahlborn Fence and Steel Company of Santa Rosa was a major sponsor of the event.





November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> <b>ALR Meeting</b> <b>6 PM Windsor</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>VFW</b> <b>7 PM Annex</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Hometown</b> <b>Heroes</b> <b>Practice</b> <b>10:00</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Windsor</b> <b>Hometown</b> <b>Heroes</b> <b>1:00</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Board Meeting</b> <b>7 PM Annex</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Post meeting</b> <b>7 PM Annex</b> <b>Honors Team</b> <b>5:30 PM Annex</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Veterans Day</b> <b>Rotary</b> <b>Breakfast</b> <b>7:00</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Jr. Shooters</b> <b>Annex</b> <b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>United Vet</b> <b>Counsel</b> <b>7 PM SR</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Input due</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.



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## Memorial for Harold Richardson

The funeral was held on September 14th at the Stewarts Point store that Harold and his family owned.



### Sotoyome Post 111 Honors Team

Pictured l to r: **Grant Noah, Dave Richey, Frank Jerins, Ken Cody, Linda Clary, Dave Meyers, and Eddy Sauers.**  
Photo by Rick Tang



### **The Sotoyome Newsletter**

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