SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
HEALDSBURG - GEYSERVILLE - WINDSOR

THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018
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 84 Issue 5

ALR & Post member Joe Manning

Attention!!!!
If you do not drive and need a ride to a meeting or any Legion function, please contact any Legion team member and we will arrange transportation for you.

MAY SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS

American Legion & SAL: May 10th @ 6:00 PM
Legion Board Meeting: Monday May 7th @ 6:00 PM
Auxiliary: May 10th @ 6:00 PM
Auxiliary Board Meeting: Monday May 7th @ 6:00 PM
All meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex in Healdsburg

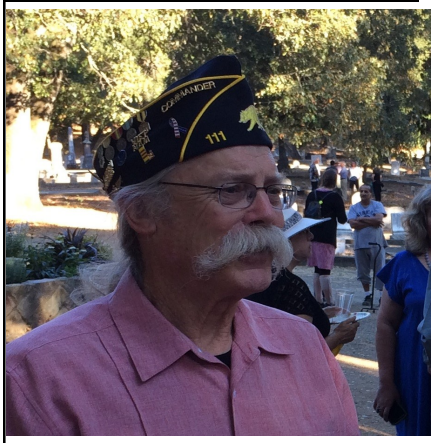
Legion Riders: Tuesday **May 1st** @ 6:00 PM
Mary's Pizza Shack, Safeway Shopping Center, Windsor

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 WHOLESOME DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH.

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

Commander Tim Madura



On April 18, 2018, at our quarterly MIAP mission to Dixon and the National Cemetery, Allen Martin with CBS Channel 5 news was at the site to interview our own **Ron Collier** for the Jefferson Award. Ron has received this award for his tireless dedication on behalf of Veterans whose cremated remains have been unclaimed. Ron spends many hours researching the names and locating the remains of Veterans who have not, for whatever reason, been claimed by their family. Due to Ron's efforts, our fellow Veterans get a full military burial in the National Cemetery for their final farewell. We can all thank **Steve Bowne** for nominating Ron for this award. The news network saw the value in the cause and Ron's efforts. Hopefully, it will provide more attention to MIAP and our unclaimed Veterans. The program will be aired on Channel 5's 6 PM newscast May 23, 2018, so mark your calendars to watch the broadcast. We are planning a pizza party at the annex for all to watch as a group. Please try to attend and have some free pizza and celebrate Ron. **It is imperative that you RSVP so we know how much pizza to buy!**

For those who are not aware of what MIAP is, there are approximately 70,000 unclaimed Veterans across the country sitting on shelves of mortuaries, morgues, and funeral homes, unclaimed by family. Some do not have any remaining family. MIAP claims these Veterans' remains and provides a proper and deserved military burial for their final farewell. Ron is responsible for seeing them laid to rest properly.

I attended the ALR Department of California convention in Oceanside, CA. on April 20th - 22nd, riding down with **Ed Doitteau**. It was a great riding experience for Ed, a new motorcycle rider. There is nothing like riding on the Los Angeles freeways to gain a lot of knowledge riding in traffic. The convention was a success with about 350 riders attending. The American Legion Riders throughout California rode more than 1.1 million miles last year attending different Veterans events, raising awareness of Veterans' needs and raising over $100,000 to help fill those needs.

June 16, 2018, the Rohnert Park-Cotati ROTARY CLUB will be hosting "A Day of Fun" for Sonoma County Veterans and their families, from 12 noon to 4 PM at the Cotati Veterans Memorial Building. There will be a BBQ, games for adults and kids, Veterans information booths, speakers, and fun. Please try to attend.

The 20th Annual Yountville Veterans Home American Legion Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, July 27, 2018. Please check your email for information. Golfers, we look forward to your support of this event.

The American Legion Convention will be held June 21st to June 24th, 2018, in Sacramento. Decide if you are planning to attend and make your own arrangements.

On April 26th I presented **Patrick Tappin**, on behalf of the American Legion Post 111, a scholarship check for $500.00 at the Windsor High School Awards Night. Good luck to Patrick and all the Windsor High Seniors. Thank you to **Harold Bagdonas** for all his work on behalf of the Boys State Program. Congratulations to the seven young men who will be attending Boys State this year, sponsored by Sotoyome Post 111.

Please keep up the effort to bring new members into the Post, the SONS, the Auxiliary, and the American Legion Riders. We always need new members for fresh ideas and the survival of Post 111. Please pay your dues on time and always mail your checks to our PO Box 281, Healdsburg, 95448 and <u>not</u> to National.

~Tim

Auxiliary President Linda Karnstedt

A special thanks to all the members that attended our last meeting. There were 10 of us so with the election of officers coming up at the May 10th meeting I hope to see many more of you. Nominations for officers for the 2018-2019 year are as follows: **Eddy Sauers** for President, **Linda Clary** for 1st Vice, **Mary Matthews** and **Judy Chavez** for 2nd Vice, and **Shirleen Perry** for Secretary/Treasurer. Although the Chaplin is not an elected officer, if anyone would like to be the Chaplain for the coming year please let us know. Again, if you need a ride to the meeting please let the board know. Meeting will be at 6pm May10th.

May is our Poppy month and we will have a table outside the Windsor Walmart from 10am to 1pm on Friday, May 11th, 18th, and 25th. We'd appreciate it if any Auxiliary or Post members could man the table for even a few hours on any of those days. If you can help out, please call **Judy Chavez** at 867-0024 to let her know to expect you. If you have Auxiliary logo or patriotic apparel please wear it. On Saturday May 12th our unit will be hosting the Girl's State Delegates Orientation Luncheon and could use help to prepare the salad buffet fixings on Friday the 11th from noon till done at the annex. We will be setting up at 9 on Saturday so any help then would also be appreciated. A head's up – June 14th will be installation of officers and a potluck dinner so let's kick off the "new year" with great attendance.

Sincerely, **~Linda**

Auxiliary 1st Vice, Shirleen Perry

I would like to Thank the Auxiliary members that attended our April 12th meeting, it was great to see you all and see more members step up to our officer positions. Please continue to come out and be active in our Auxiliary. The more active members we have the better we can serve our veterans and assist our post. Our next meeting is **May 10th, Thursday evening at 6pm at the Annex,** See you there.

Congratulations to our own **Ron Collier** winner of the Jefferson Award for his wonderful commitment to bringing our veterans to their final resting place with the Honor they deserve.

May is Poppy month, our letters have been sent out. Anyone interested in volunteering to collect for poppies, our days at Wal-Mart are May 11th, 18th & 25th, from 10am to 1pm.

May 12th is our Girl's State luncheon, held at the Villa.

See you May 10th,

~Shirleen

Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers

I want to give everyone a heads up as we changed our Honor Team practice to Thursdays ONLY from 3:00 to 4:30 at the Annex the third week of each month. This will combine both the flag and rifle practice. April started slow which was good, but by the end of April we were busy doing Military Honors for a least four veterans
We did our flag and rifle practice in April on one day instead of two and voted to change it to the same Thursday of each month.
Well coming into May is our busy month with parades. We will be limited because many of our Honor Team members have injuries and medical problems which limits their ability to walk for extended periods of time.
On May 26th there is a PATRIOTIC ASSEMBLY at the Mattie Washburn Elementary School in Windsor. It is so amazing what these young children can do for acknowledging Military Servicemen and Servicewomen. Also the teachers that work with them are remarkable.
Of course our last event is Memorial Day on the 28th of May. We do ceremonies in Healdsburg, Geyserville and Windsor in which we Honor every Veteran at each of these cemeteries.
Before I sign off, I would like to say a SPECIAL FAREWELL to a great lady that past away in APRIL who was a long time member with the Auxiliary, VIRGINIA WALLACE. I had many great visits with her.
~Eddy

Allen Martin from KPIX Channel 5 News was at the staging area for the April 18th MIAP ceremony in Dixon. Allen interviewed and taped Ron Collier for receiving the Jefferson Award.. The segment will be televised on May 23rd. 1 to r: **John Leary** from Elks 901, **Ron Krudop**, **Allen Martin**, Cameraman **Chris**, & **Tim Madura**.

"Family First" 2018 National Theme

Submitted by **Bill Nay**

I recently spent 17 days in Maryland, and the nearby areas, with my children and grandkids. An early stop was to Arlington National Cemetery to pay our respects to my wife Karen's folks. Her father **GySgt Raymond Latocki**, USMC, was laid to rest after surviving service in WW II, Korea and Vietnam. He made it home without any immediate injuries, but contracted brain cancer directly attributed to exposure to Agent Orange and died in 1992. Her mother Phyllis passed away at age 91 and in November 2017 joined him. We were there with "Family" to honor her and his service.

On this trip I had plenty of time to read and had brought with me a book by Michael Archer, "The Long Goodbye". My sister had worked with Michael in Nevada and I had met him a few years ago and read his fist book, "A Patch of Ground – Khe Sanh Remembered." During my service with the USMC I spent time in 1969 at Quang Tri, Viet Nam only 60 miles from Khe Sanh. While I did not see as much action as Michael did during the siege of Khe Sanh, his description of the camp life between attacks rang a familiar note, so I bought copies for all of my kids and Michael signed them. I enjoyed the book and had decided to read his new one, "The Long Goodbye – Khe Sanh Revisited". It is well written and chronicles Michael's efforts to find out what happened to his friend and fellow Marine that did not come home. The saga brought up the complication of Missing in Action (MIA) versus Killed in Battle but body not recovered. A tragedy of significant proportions for the "Family" due to all the unknowns.

I finished the book and began thinking about my Father's service in WW II. I happened to be in a thrift store with my daughter and found a copy of "Flags of our Fathers" by James Bradley. I had seen the movie but had not read the book. The author is the son of the Navy Corpsman that was one of the 6 to raise the flag at Iwo Jima. Much like in 'The Long Goodbye', he takes us through the lives of the 6, which includes their service before and after that iconic moment in time. He also does a great job documenting the contribution of families and the impact on the collective community. He wrote the book after his father died, in part because he had not known much about his Father's service until he started going through his father's memorabilia stashed away in boxes. All this peaked my interest and curiosity about my Father's service in WW II. About all I knew is that my father served in the Navy in the South Pacific and repaired diesel engines on boats. I had a copy of his DD 214 which gave minimal information but I found a number of his ship assignments on Ancestry.com. As I dug further I found that he had served with the Seventh Amphibious Force, most notably known by the famous quote by General MacArthur, "I Shall Return". During my search I found a book written by Vice Admiral Daniel E. Barbey, " MacArthur's Amphibious Navy – Seventh Amphibious Force Operations 1943-1945". My Father was assigned to the "Seventh" for most of this period. In reading this book I now have a clearer picture of where my father was and what he was a part of.

Yes, I have bought several copies of the book and given them to "Family" to read, with special attention to chapter 7, 'Planning First Combat Operations'. It is important to acknowledge the role of the "Family" as it relates to military service. Our fore fathers, those that are serving now, and those that may be called to service. It is never too late to acknowledge and document this service. A Memorial is not much without the details of the memories.

ALR Convention 2018 Oceanside

There are moments in one's life where anxiety, excitement, wonderment and fear all come together! That moment was realized when I fired up my Harley for the southbound journey to Oceanside, San Diego!

The air was chilling but exhilarating as I rode off to meet with Tim Madura our Legion Commander. The guidance from a seasoned rider was invaluable and reassuring... until; **"Go ahead Ed lead the way"**! Yikes! So, inside I mustered the courage and WILL to take on the challenge. As I once read, ***"Fear is the brains way of saying that there is something important for me to overcome"***!

I knew that heading down to this event symbolized more than just a ride, but it would represent everything that I stood for in support of our veterans and our Post 111. As a delegate, it was important for me to represent us and the values we stand for.

The ride for over 690 miles into LA County was uneventful; it seemed as if God had sent Angels to surround us from harm as we trekked into the 405 even as we maneuvered our way through uncharted paths as nightfall came upon us.

We finally made it to our first leg of our journey to Chadsworth where Tim's family greeted us with open arms as if coming home from a battle. They had no idea that the battle of fear was within me. As it turned out, the convention was very regimented and choreographed just as I experienced during my tenure in the Navy twenty-five years ago.

The greatest take away from this whole experience was the one on one conversations I had with many of the veterans of various branches of services. I gained more understanding, respect and privilege knowing that these men and women were among us. There was a raw sense of patriotism that only a room full of warriors and veterans can exude.

I am so grateful to be part of the American Legion Riders and I encourage more people to openly share what lies within your heart; even if it's fear.

- Ed Doitteau

American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2017-2018

Post 111 American Legion

Commander	Tim Madura	707-874-1951
1st Vice	Dave Meyers	707-481-1196
2nd Vice	Terry Perry	707-838-9790
Adjutant	Steven Bowne	707-322-9245
Finance	Bob Taylor	707-894-0857
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	707-480-5379
Bar Manager	Frank Teuschler	707-431-2328
Chaplain	Jerry Jaramillo	707-239-1811
Jr. Past Comdr.	Lance Ballenger	707-481-0003
Executive Bd.	Frank Teuschler	707-431-2328
	Lorraine Plass	707-953-6016
	Doug Newton	707-217-6309
	Eddy Sauers	707-838-9429
	Harold Bagdonas	707-480-5379
	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	Melanie Taylor	707-894-0857
Treasurer	Melanie Taylor	707-894-0857
Chaplain	Nancy Grimes	707-529-2271
Jr Past Pres.	Eddy Sauers	707-838-9429

Squadron 111 , Sons of The American Legion

Commander	Duke Callahan	707-291-9148
1st Vice	Mitch Laing	707-975-1541
2nd Vice		
Adjutant	Steven Bowne	707-322-9245
Finance	Bob Taylor	707-894-0857
Chaplain	Jerry Jaramillo	707-239-1811
Sgt. at Arms	Terry Perry	707-838-2432
Judge Advoc.	Doug Newton	707-217-6309
Historian	Harold Bagdonas	707-843-4790
Jr. Past Comdr.	Matt Foreman	707-340-0315
Executive Bd.	Mark Archambault	707-292-6746
	Ron Collier	707-239-6703
	Doug Newton	707-217-6309

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	707-322-9245
Sgt. at Arms	Terry Perry	707-838-2432
Chaplain	Ed Howell	707-292-8033
Road Captains	Ron Krudop	707-765-0373
	Sarah Rafal	707-322-9806
Past President	Mitch Laing	707-975-1541

MAY BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

1st—*Tom Boylan*
2nd—***Ron Krudop, Harold Bagdonas***
David Kahn
8th—***Terry Wilson,*** *Cody Andrade, Ron Arata, Sam Arent*
9th—***Linda Karnstedt***
13th—***Bill Nay***
14th—*Richard Cerasoli, John Logan*
16th—***Dave Meyers***
19th—***Ken Cody***
20th—*Leigh Mateas, Ollie Briggs*
22nd—*Wendy Aguilar, Ed Micheli*
23rd—*Brian Miller*
24th—***Gary Greenough, Reuel Miller***
25th—*Dave Lagos*
26th—*Bill Barnes*
27th—***Tom Kemper***
28th—*William Phillips II*
29th—*Rand Dericco*
30th—*Stephen Dugan*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	**2**	**3** VFW 6 PM	**4**	**5** **Ride to USS Hornet**
6	**7** Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM	**8**	**9**	**10** Post meeting 7 PM Annex	**11** **Poppy Sales Walmart**	**12** **Girl's State Luncheon Annex**
13 **Mother's Day**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17** Honors Team 3 PM Annex	**18** **Armed Forces Day** **Poppy Sales Walmart**	**19**
20	**21** **Veterans Town Hall** **SR Vet Mem. Building 6:00**	**22**	**23** United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	**24** Healdsburg Parade	**25** **Poppy Sales Walmart**	**26** **Mattie Washburn Patriotic Assembly**
27	**28** **Memorial Day**	**29**	**30**	**31**		

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	**2**
3	**4** Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM	**5** ALR Meeting 6 PM	**6**	**7** VFW 6 PM	**8**	**9**
10	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14** **Flag Day** Post meeting 7 PM Annex	**15**	**16** **Veterans Appreciation Expo, Cotati 12:00-4:00**
17	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21** Honors Team 3 PM Annex	**22** **American Legion Convention Sacramento**	**23** **American Legion Convention Sacramento**
24 **American Legion Convention Sacramento**	**25**	**26**	**27** United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	**28**	**29**	**30**

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.

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VETERANS APPRECIATION EXPO

Save the Date

On Saturday, **June 16**, the Rohnert Park-Cotati ROTARY CLUB is hosting a "A Day of Fun" for veterans in Sonoma County and their families. They are exploring ways to reach out to the veterans' community. This is designed to be a fun day for all, and a chance for veterans of all ages to mix socially with each other and the community at large. It's a FREE event, so come one, come all.

The event will be from **12:00 noon to 4:00 PM** at the Cotati Veterans Memorial Building, 8505 Park Avenue, Cotati. The hosts will provide a BBQ, games for adults and kids, displays and booths for veteran organizations, thematic speakers and break-out group discussions. This will be the first time this Rotary Club has hosted such and event, and they hope to make it an annual event.

If your organization would like to have a booth at the event, contact the committee chair, Bob Stewart, at stubobchev@gmail.com. There is limited space for booths, so contact him as soon as possible.

Dave Richey

CHAPLAINS CORNER

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.

Post:	**Jerry Jaramillo**	707-239-1811
Auxiliary:	**Nancy Grimes**	707-433-5800
Squadron:	**Jerry Jaramillo**	707-239-1811
Riders:	**Ed Howell**	707-292-8033

Commander Madura presenting Patrick Tappin of Windsor HS with $500 American Legion scholarship

POST EVERLASTING

Gilbert Delagnes
WWII Honorary Life Member

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