

SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
HEALDSBURG - GEYSERVILLE - WINDSOR



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 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

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Volume 85 Issue 11

Boy's and Girl's State Recognition Dinner

October 11, 2018



L to r: Luis Casas, Harold Bagdonas, Andrew Corcoran, Jackson Whiteley, Zane Shatnawi, Eddy Sauers.

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.

SEPTEMBER SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS

American Legion: November 8th @ 6:00 PM

Executive Board Meeting: Monday November 5th @ 6:00 PM

Auxiliary: November 8th @ 6:00 PM

SAL: Monday December 10th @ 6:00 PM

**All meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex
in Healdsburg**

Legion Riders: Tuesday November 6th @ 6:00 PM

Mary's Pizza, 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
WHOLESDOME DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH.

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE
SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
TODAY!

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Commander Tim Madura



November 6th is **Election Day**, so be sure to get out and vote. If you have mail-in ballots get those in the mail. If you do not use your given right to vote, then you have nothing to say about the outcome of the elections. There are always issues and candidates that we agree and disagree on, so use your voice in this election by voting. If someone needs a ride, let me know and I can arrange for you to get to your polling location.

For those of you who had something better to do (or not) for our October Post meeting (2nd Thursday of every month), you missed hearing from the students who attended Boys' and Girls' State in Sacramento and a free dinner. Post 111 sponsors these students to attend Boys' and Girls' State and it has a life changing effect for them. It is great to hear their stories of what they learned and how they feel it will affect them in the future.

Friday October 19, we held our annual Golf Tournament at Tayman Golf Course in Healdsburg. All of you who helped out, thank you as always. A big thank you to those who provided donations for the silent auction that brought in some additional funds. Thank you to Frank and Jason from Tayman at for all their hard work getting the event arranged with golfers and donors. Tayman donates most of the proceeds back to us to use for the fireworks and other Veterans projects. This year's event was a great success and much better than last year. At the after party we enjoyed a catered dinner that included salmon, paella, bread and salad. Those of you who were not there missed some great food, a beautiful day for golfing and just hanging out with some good company.

The American Legion Riders Memorial Run scholarship continues to grow past our original goal, due to the generous contributions by many in the community.

Thursday, November 8th, (second Thursday of the month) is our monthly meeting. It is the early bird dinner meeting and a chance to pay your dues. Have an enjoyable time by attending, eating some good lasagna, salad, bread and drinks, and socializing. Please try to attend and if you think you can make it, let me or Eddy know so we can have some sort of head count for how much delicious food to prepare for your enjoyment.. If you need a ride, let someone at the Post know.

Sunday, November 11th, is Veterans day. There will be a ceremony in the Healdsburg Square at 10 am and in the Windsor Town Green at 11 am. Please try to support the Post and the Honor Team by attending both or at least of the events. The Petaluma Veterans Parade is also on Sunday. Let people honor you and enjoy all the free meals that are provided to Veterans. Please thank those who have given you this honor and support their businesses in the future.

Happy Veterans Day. See you at all the November events. Be Safe ~Tim

Remember: Crab Feed is February 2nd, get tickets now. Please renew your membership.

SAL Commander Ken Cody



Unfortunately, there were not enough members present at the October meeting to have a quorum. Members that were present discussed possible fund raising activities for the year and scheduling another car show is in the works. Send in your membership dues for 2018-2019 now. Mail to Steven Bowne, 221 Christina Lane, Santa Rosa 95403. Dues are \$15. For dual members and those under 18, dues are \$10 per year. The next SAL meeting is December 10th mark your calendar and please attend and bring a friend who may be interested in SAL ~Ken



Auxiliary President Eddy Sauers



My goodness October was busy and still going. We had a great Boys and Girls State dinner with a nice outcome. I want to thank the Post for helping set up tables and also helping the Auxiliary with table covers. I took over Girls State that night because Melanie left me a message that she was ill. Hope you're better. I was delighted to do it for her. I only had 1 girl to introduce and other two had other commitments and couldn't make it. Zane was a bubbly and delightful young lady. She will go places with that great attitude she has. The Americanism Essay student and parents couldn't make it because of other commitments. Thelma Frey and myself will meet up with the student and school to give him a check that he won. I will see if I can get him to come to one of our dinners and read his essay to us. Thelma said it was a very good Americanism Essay.



Also want to thank the Windsor High School Culinary students for stepping in and helping us again with preparing and serving the dinner that night. Of course our Auxiliary ladies you were great. Everything went like clock work and with helping the students.

Well, next month is the Early Bird Dinner, then Christmas Dinner in December.

HEADS-UP Ladies, don't forget our DISTRICT MEETING on December 02, @10:00 a.m. in Petaluma. We can carpool also. Look in your folder for the District meeting schedule for 2018 to 2019, it has the address. Thanks ladies. ~Eddy

Auxiliary Vice President Linda Clary



Thank you to those ladies who have renewed their membership for 2019, so far 30 have paid which is great! Thank you. November 8th. is "Early Bird" dinner night and is free to those who have paid for this year. Please come and enjoy dinner and visit with friends. All of us are counting on you for your support. Hope to see you there. Thank you. ~Linda

ALR President Ron Krudop



I road on two escorts this past month with Bill Nay, our V.P., and Steve Bowne our Treasurer. The first escort was a Korean Army Veteran. We road from Petaluma to Dixon Sacramento Valley National Cemetery. The second escort was from Greenbrae to San Rafael. On that escort Steve and I had finally worked out all the bugs in getting our Bluetooth helmets and short wave radios to connect. We discovered the factory antennas limited our range to a quarter mile. New longer antennas have been ordered. I can't wait to see the results of the new antennas. Sunday October



14th twelve riders and one truck met at Johnny Java's and rode to Point Richmond for a pancake breakfast aboard the U.U.S. Red Oak. The U.S.S. Red Oak is a WWII victory ship. V.P. Bill Nay and Ride Captain Gary Mc Lerran did a great job in putting this event together. We all had a great time on board the Red Oak. On October 30th at 1:00pm the Riders will be presenting the check to the SRJC scholarship Director to start the Ryan Connolly Scholarship. I encourage all ALR Chapter 111 Riders to attend this new beginning of our Chapter on behalf of The Ryan Connolly Tech/Trade Scholarship. ~Ron



Red Oak Victory, October 14, 2018

ALR Vice President Bill Nay



This past month we had quite a few escorts and flag lines. Many of the Veterans were from WW II and served in the Pacific near where my father served. It made me reflect on the pride of being his son. Yes, I sent in my application to Ken to become a member of the Sons of the American Legion. Many of us are both Veterans and "Sons". While I was at it I signed up my two sons and my Grandson Brayden Michael William Nay. I plan to head east in the spring and take Brayden with me to "Rolling Thunder". He might as well do it is a member! I am the family historian and have been documenting my Father's service. I will be conducting a Genealogy Merit Badge workshop for the local Scouts. Each of our stories are a part of History

and needs to be captured and documented for the next generation. If anyone would like to learn more about family history and how to preserve just ask me, I love to share history

~Bill

History of Cub Scout Pack 21

Many of you may know, or have heard, that Post 111 sponsors a Cub Scout Pack. Yes, we are the Chartered Organization for Pack 21. Each Chartered Organization must have a Chartered Organization Representative (COR) that approves the applicants for Pack Leadership positions. It is our responsibility to provide resources and leadership for the Cub Scouts.



For the past 8 years the COR has been Robert Taylor. Robert recently transferred the COR responsibility to me. The Pack meets periodically at the Villa. The Cub Master is Sean McKenzie. The Pack has 49 registered cub scouts, 12 adult leaders, and a host of parents and family. I plan to post some of their events in the future and your are encouraged to

drop by and see the great work they are doing in building the character of our young citizens.

While at the meeting I chatted with a number of the parents and scouts. In particular, I had the pleasure of meeting Dorian Niaki. He is a Webelos 2 scout. Dorian told me he is the third generation in his family to be a member of Pack 21. That is Dorian in the picture holding the Pack Flag.

This has me thinking about the history of Pack 21. I talked to Robert Taylor and he tells me Pack 21 was formed about 1949. I am going to do a little research and see if we can capture some of this rich history of the support of Pack 21 by Post 111. If anyone has any old records, pictures, or recollections of Pack 21 please send them to me at bill.nay@comcast.net.



Sean McKenzie & Dr. Bill



Dorian Niaki

Chapter 111 - Escorts and Flag Lines

9/24 Korean Army Vet – Petaluma to Dixon – Bill N.-Tim M.-Steve B.
10/6 WWII Navy Vet – Pleasant Hill – Bill N. – Johnny D.
10/10 WWII Navy Vet – Greenbrae to San Rafael – Bill N.-Steve B.-Ron K.
10/11 WWII Merchant Marine Vet – San Leandro – Bill N.
10/15 WWII Navy Vet – Daly City to Colma – Bill N.
10/15 WWII Marine Vet – SF Presidio – Bill N.

Chapter 11 had a busy month for Missions in support of the fallen. Most of our rides were with Dick A., Road Captain for Warrior Watch Riders. We had a Korean War Vet and a number of WW II Veterans, mostly those that served in the Pacific. In talking to the families about their service it was reminiscent of the famous “Island Hopping” campaign. The pacific islands they helped recapture included: Tinian, Saipan, Peleliu, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, and the Philippines. My father was in the Navy in WWII and supported many of these campaigns. Going to these escorts was an honor knowing many of them probably crossed paths with my Dad.
~ **Bill Nay-VP**



Veterans Day Ceremony

American Legion Sotoyome Post 111 Honors Team
will present honors for Veterans



Healdsburg Plaza 10:00 AM
Windsor Town Green 11:00 AM

Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers



The Honor Team did two Military Honors at the beginning of the month on the 1st. and 6th for two well know families in Sonoma and Yolo Counties. We are getting ready for VETERANS DAY which is Sunday, November 11th.

The ceremony will be in Healdsburg at 10:00 at the Plaza and Windsor Town Green at 11:00 where the Farmers Market is held. The manager was so delighted to hear that we are doing the VETERANS DAY the same time their market is going on. We are putting flyers ahead of time so everyone is aware of our presence and getting more people at our Ceremony.



Also let everyone know there will be a VETERANS BREAKFAST on Wednesday the 14th of November at the Annex. Also let you know it is 100 YEARS since WORLD WAR I. Other events coming up is PEARL HARBOR DAY the 7th. of DECEMBER on Friday which always been at SANTA ROSA VETERANS BLDG. usually around 8:30 a.m.

Oh yes, I had a great time on the ship SS RED OAK VICTORY and breakfast. If you get a chance go visit it in Richmond. Rosies did the welding on this ship and it's still holding after 60 years.

ANCHORS AWEIGH EVERYONE. ~Eddy

Post 111 Golf Tournament huge success

There were approximately 46 golfers signed in for the Healdsburg American Legion Post 111 Golf Tournament on October 19th at the Healdsburg Golf Club.

Members of Post 111 who volunteered at the event were Eddy Sauers, Ken Cody, Dave Meyers, Tim Madura, Steven Bowne and Bill Nay. Golfers from the Post included Harold Bagdonas, Doug Newton, Jerry Jaramillo, Ron Collier and Steve Bowne.

Doug Newton was the Chairman for the event.

Funds received from the event, which were substantially higher than last year, will be used for Fireworks and other Veterans programs and services.

It is anticipated that the tournament will gather more support and entries for next year.



American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2018-2019

Post 111 American Legion

Commander **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
1st Vice **Dave Meyers** 707-481-1196
2nd Vice **Terry Perry** 707-838-9790
Adjutant **Bill Nay** 707-235-1900
Finance **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Judge Advocate **George Sager** 707-433-2044
Sgt. at Arms **Tony Grado** 707-527-8233
Service Officer
Historian **Harold Bagdonas** 707-480-5379
Bar Manager **Frank Teuschler** 707-431-2328
Chaplain **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Webmaster **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Jr. Past Comdr. **Lance Ballenger** 707-481-0003
Executive Bd.: **Frank Teuschler** 707-431-2328
Ken Cody 707-536-5562
Harold Bagdonas 707-480-5379
Doug Newton 707-217-6309 **Frank Jerins**

Unit 111 American Legion Auxiliary

President **Eddy Sauers** 707-620-8683
1st Vice **Linda Clary** 707-433-5800
2nd Vice **Mary Matthews** 707-838-8702
Sec/Treasurer **Shirleen Perry** 707-838-9790
Executive Bd.: **Nancy Grimes** 707-529-2271
Linda Karnstedt 707-529-1243
Helen Sager 707-696-2691

Squadron 111 Sons of The American Legion

Commander **Ken Cody** 707-536-5562
1st Vice **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
2nd Vice **Mitch Laing** 707-975-1541
Adjutant **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Finance **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Chaplain **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Sgt. at Arms **Terry Perry** 707-838-9790
Judge Advoc. **Doug Newton** 707-217-6309
Historian **Harold Bagdonas** 707-843-4790
Jr. Past Comdr. **Duke Callahan** 707-291-9418
Executive Bd.: **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
Tom Garske 707-695-2334
Gary McLerran 707-526-4786

Chapter 111 American Legion Riders

President **Ron Krudop** 707-765-0373
Vice Pres. **Bill Nay** 707-235-1900
Secretary **Doug Newton** 707-217-6309
Treasurer/Adj. **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Sgt. at Arms **Terry Perry** 707-838-9790
Chaplain **Ed Howell** 707-292-8033
Road Captain **Gary McLerran** 707-526-4786
Safety Officer **Gary Greenough** 707-484-6400
Past President **Ron Dillow** 707-753-0575

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



**Happy Birthday
from the American Legion Family**

2nd—Dick Bugarski, Hudson Brewer
3rd—Travis Senneff
10th—Roy Caporale, Gerald Strong
11th—Nick Parsley
12th—Edgar Smith
13th—Lorraine Plass, George Sager
14th—Chris Bingham
16th—Bob Bertolucci, Angelo Catelani
17th—Koop Ferwerda
19th—Lance Ballenger, Duke Callahan
20th—Richard Pellegrini
23rd—Richard Bebbber
25th—Wayne Fogelman
28th—Daniel Holbrook
29th—Sean Mendoza

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 VFW 6 PM	2	3
4	5 Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM	6 <u>VOTE</u> ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	7	8 Post meeting 6 PM Annex	9	10
11 Veterans Day	12 Veterans Day (observed)	13	14 Rotary Veterans Day Breakfast	15 Honors Team 3 PM Annex	16	17
18	19	20	21 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM	4 ALR Meeting 6 PM	5	6	7	8
9	10 SAL Meeting Annex	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	20 Honors Team 3 PM Annex	21	22
23/30	24/31	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29



American Legion Riders Chapter 111 Sgt Ryan James Connolly Memorial Scholarship

On October 30th at 1:00 pm we will ride through the "Legion Gate" at Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) dedicated by the Theodore Roosevelt – American legion Post 21 in 1935. It will be fitting that we ride through this arch to deliver our Check to establish the Sgt Ryan James Connolly Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship will be open to Veterans and/or their family members that are full or part time students at SRJC in the Industrial Trade & Technology discipline.

Taken from Sgt Connolly's obituary; "He enjoyed all things mechanical, including working on cars and motorcycles.

While in Afghanistan, Ryan rebuilt an old Soviet motorcycle in order to ride around camp."

While we surpassed the original goal to reach \$10k, the minimum to open an endowment account, we need to continue working for donations to achieve the ultimate goal of \$30k to be able to sustain a \$1000.00 a year scholarship for perpetuity.

Feel free to send us your donation in any amount with a notation that it is for the Ryan James Connolly Memorial Scholarship.

Mail donations to:

American Legion Riders
P.O. Box 281
Healdsburg, CA 95448



These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.

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Neil Diamond in Vietnam

by Kim Crumb



In March of '71 our unit was participating in Operation Lam Son 719. Set up on a small Observation Post near the Ashau, there were two 81mm mortar teams, three of us running the 'Fire Direction Center,' and a rifle platoon from Alpha. One afternoon, one of the platoon's squads going out on a night ambush patrol came over to our FDC bunker to ask one of us to accompany them as the Forward Observer for the mortars. We'd been on the O.P. for a couple of weeks or so, not much had happened, and I was bored. I'd served as an F.O. on a couple of occasions, my two buddies weren't jumping at the offer, so, with Twenty-four pound 'Prick 25' radio, and my rifle in hand, I went along.

Just before dusk we set up near a small stream a klick or so from the O.P. The only thing that caught our attention that night were mosquitos, a small tiger (aka a 'Banana Cat') meandering by, and a little group of wild pigs. One of the guys in the squad, 'Tex', was a machine gunner from Texas. Raised on a ranch, he really wanted one of the pigs to supplement our c-ration diet. But, cooler heads prevailed. To keep things from getting interesting, at odd intervals I called in a half-dozen mortar rounds on defensive targets around us. An hour after dawn we headed back to our little hill for a c-ration 'breakfast' and some much needed sleep. Once we reached the base of the O.P., I volunteered to lead the way up the narrow little path to the two man Night Defensive Position protecting the hill from unwanted visitors.

A half-dozen or so meters from the NDP, one of the two guys softly called, "halt, who goes there?" I stopped, answering with the code name for our squad along with the day's password. The same guy replied with the backup password, to which I gave the correct backup response. Sometimes, there would be a follow up question to which only an American soldier would know the correct answer. In this case, instead of telling me to 'come on in', he asked, "who won the Series last year?"

This caught me by surprise. I had never been a sports enthusiast. The last time I had followed baseball, football, or basketball had been in high school. Squatting down at the edge of the trail, I thought for a moment. My lack of sports knowledge, plus what my 'rock and roll' loving buddies considered to be my equally 'odd' taste in music, was well known. Once again exhaling to keep my voice from hissing, I answered, "Neil Diamond." I heard a soft snicker followed by, "hey KC, come on in."

Neglected field, forgotten Veterans

On October 20th, members of Post 111, 579th Engineering Battalion, Sonoma County Sheriff's office and Shilo Cemetery, added and replaced the headstones of seventeen (17) Veterans who were buried in the Potters field of the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery.

Ron Collier initiated this project to recognize unclaimed Veterans buried at this site which has been used by Sonoma County since 1968.

There will be a public ceremony to honor these Veterans by the Sotoyome Post Honors Team which will be scheduled before the end of this year.



Petaluma VFW Car Show

On October 20th, members of Post 111 and AmVets Post 55 manned a booth set-up by **Bill Nay**. Proceeds from the event, hosted by Petaluma VFW, will benefit local Veterans. Post 111 members included **Tim Madura, Bill Nay, Ed Doitteau, Ken Cody, Steven Bowne, & Tom Garske**. We were able to sign-up two new Legion members and one new Auxiliary member.



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

NEW MEMBERS

Charles Whitmore
William Meyers
Roy Thomas Baldwin
Dale Rasmusen
Mary Wilson

Legion Members and Family, if you are in need of prayer or a hospital or home visit, my phone is open 24/7 (707)239-1811

Jerry Jaramillo

hondokid1@yahoo.com

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