
THE SOTOYOME

American Legion, Post 111 Newsletter

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



Visit our Website at <http://www.healdsburgamericanlegion.org/> or Healdsburg American Legion Post 111 on Facebook.



The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service-members and veterans.

On July 4th, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence.

Post Commander: Dave Meyers



Hello Everyone,

My name is David Meyers and I have been elected to be your new Commander for Post 111. Our newly elected officers have decided to do a little biography so you know a little about us and what we have done. I was born and raised in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. In June 1969, just barely 18 years old and less than two weeks after graduating from High School, I went into the US Marine Corps. I actually joined the US Marine Corps on a 120 day delayed entry program back in February 1969 at the very young age of 17 but they would not allow us to enter until we were 18 years of age or older! Bummer

huh!! Anyways after I was in and done my Marine Corps training at MCRD San Diego and Camp Pendleton California for what seemed like eternity, I received orders for MCRD San Diego Sea School to prepare me for my next duty station. That was this fabulous hunk of steel ship, a city in a city called the USS MIDWAY CVA-41 (Carrier Vessel Attack) as it was called at that time which was an Aircraft Carrier. Yep 2 solid years as a Sea going US Marine with multiple duties assigned.

I could go on but one of the three most interesting duties I had on this Aircraft Carrier was the job I had to do while in the Gulf of Tonkin off the Coast of Viet Nam. That was working with the US Navy ordinance crew assembling those weapons/bombs that were dropped in Viet Nam. Some of those times were very hairing experiences as were others but you will have to ask me as I may be limited by space here. After finishing with the Navy, oh sorry I almost forgot I am a US Marine I went back to Camp Pendleton to do what Marines do best and that is march up and down Old Smokey Mountain, 29 Palms Desert training to eat sand, back to march the Old Smokey again, repeat, repeat and repeat for about four months. I was put up for NCO of the month by my very young Lieutenant and be damed if I made it to place 2nd in the entire Division. Missed one question from those four mean looking Sergeant Majors but got me the hell out of Camp Pendleton for being such a good Marine. Off to Treasure Island, San Francisco to work as a Confinement Release NCO of the notorious jail/brig of the US Navy. Dam couldn't getaway from that dam Navy again!! After about 13 months of that, total time 4 years in the US Marine Corps, I had enough and got out in June 1973. I did get to visit some nice places like Hawaii, Korea, Hong Kong, Philippines, Yakuska, Japan (then new home port for the USS MIDWAY) and Okinawa. Met my ex-wife in Walnut Creek, I got married, had two great kids and started with the US Postal Service.

I started with the US Postal Service October 15, 1973 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota as a Distribution Clerk working my way up thru the system to Supervisor, numerous acting positions to finally Postmaster. After I had started with the US Postal Service, I started to miss the military and tried to find US Marine Corps unit that was close to town in

Sioux Falls but none availed. I found an Army National Guard unit right in town that was only a few miles away that fit right in so I joined them in September 1976. They were the 1st of 147th Field Artillery and my job there was an Air Defense Redeye Gunner, Surface to Air Missile.

I transferred to Santa Rosa, California by July 1, 1978 due to complications from my marriage and joined the HHC 579th Engineer Battalion of Santa Rosa, California. At this station I started out as a general supplyman for the S-4 and done this for about 15 years or so taking over as the Senior Supply Sergeant for the S-4 as an E-7 (SFC). Oddly enough the position opened up for a full time position and I declined to take it since I was working full time with the US Postal Service. In 1989, I took on a temporary position that was Task Force Engineer thanks to Major Roberts and Captain Tarelton which was dealing with some of our soldiers building the fence and roads at the boarder by Tijuana, Mexico. My next assignment was filling in as the Food Service Sergeant which was still the same pay grade/rank as mine E-7/SFC since I need to stay in my slot to keep the rank I earned.

While in this position, I also volunteered to fill in for duty in Korea and Panama. In 1993 I got promoted to the S-2/MSGT E-8 and in 1994 about the end of August I decided to retire with approximately 20 years Army National Guard and 4 years US Marine Corps total 24 years. As far as my Postal Career went, on April 7 2011, I underwent surgery for two tumors on the outside of my left kidney and didn't know what time I had left to live, so I



decided to retire with the US Postal Service with over 38 years of service combined with the military is 42 years 10 months Federal Service. I joined the American Legion because my good friend Ron Collier was telling me that Eddy Sauers was needing help badly in the American Legion Post 111 Honor Team. He said at times she would be by herself and needed much help. So after putting it off for a time he convinced me to join the team with her and I have been there since 2013.

Post First Vice: Chuck Whitmore



I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe in these trying times. I would like to express my gratitude for voting me in as 1st Vice of the Post and Vice President of the Riders. In my first newsletter posting I would like to formally introduce myself in case we have not had the pleasure of meeting. My name is Charles Whitmore and I go by Chuck outside of work. I am currently an Electronics Technician First Class (E-6) in the Coast Guard. Over the course of my career I have been stationed on the CGC Midgett out of Seattle WA, attended ET A-School in Petaluma, attended MK-92 Fire Control System C-School in Yorktown VA, CGC Rush out of Honolulu HI, Electronic Systems Detachment San Diego CA and I am currently stationed at Training Center Petaluma as an Instructor. Unfortunately, I only have one year remaining on this tour and I will be transferring next summer. I joined the Legion after Mat Sagaser and Nick Parsley invited me on the Memorial ride. Since then I have gained a great respect for the organization and our Post because of what we do for veterans and the community. I look forward to serving in my new roles over the next year and if anyone ever needs anything let me know.



Post Adjutant: Sarah Rafal

I would first like to thank our post members for the opportunity to serve as your adjutant. I didn't think when I joined a few years ago that I would hold any position within our post, but, I am glad that I do. I originally joined the post looking to serve our veterans and families outside of uniform. For those of you that don't know, I am active duty National Guard as a Sergeant First Class (E-7). I am currently stationed in San Francisco with the 223rd Military Intelligence Battalion as the Battalion Senior Supply Sergeant. Basically I deal with logistics on daily basis. I first enlisted when I was 17 years old and didn't think I was going to make a career out of it. I first joined the Healdsburg American Legion Riders a few years ago to be able to ride with veterans and support our local community. Now I find myself as the president of our riders chapter and adjutant of the post. I am honored and look forward to serving you all.

Post Auxiliary President: Linda Clary



Hello fellow Auxiliary members. Hope all of you are well and safe. Thank you to Eddy for her years of service as President of the Auxiliary. You did a great job! During this period of time I've stepped up to be your President. Thank you to all the officers and executive board members for temporarily retaining your positions. This will enable us to discuss further assessments to move forward. Thank you again for the support. Please feel free to call, text, or

email about thoughts, ideas, or Gripes to me at 707-494-8174 or lindaclary8@gmail.com. A meeting is being planned outdoors with all precautions in place in August or September. A Zoom meeting suggestion pretty much fell flat. Time, location and details will be in the Aug. newsletter. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please stay safe and well.
Linda

Boys State and Scholarship Program: Harold Bagdonas



Twenty years in the United States Air Force, 1959-1979. I have been a member for 29 connective years. I say that because I first joined in 1972 while station In the central valley but dropped membership of three years when I was assigned overseas. I renewed my membership at that same post 89 when I retired from the Air Force. I transferred my membership to Post 111 in 2009. I have always been active in the veterans origination's that I belong to. Life member in VFW Post 7792, chairperson for post functions; NCOA 65;

AMVETS 40, Commander 2013/2014; Scholarship chairperson 2014. As you know I'm Chairperson of Boys State, Scholarships and Past Historian for post 111. I took both positions in 2011 and had to do it without any guidance. We need to find a replacement for me as my health is prohibiting me from continuing as chair for these programs. I will work with whoever takes the positions until they are comfortable with the programs. I joined all of the above veteran ordinations to help veterans who are struggling in one way or another.

JULY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6 Post/Unit Board Meetings 6:00	7 ALR meeting 6:00 Mary's Pizza Windsor	8	9 Post 111 Legion Meeting 6:00	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Honors Team 3 PM Annex	17	18
19	20	21	22 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	23	24	25 Yountville BBQ
26 Yountville BBQ	27	28	29	30	31	

SOTOYOME MEETINGS

Meetings will be held via Zoom or Google Hangouts. Call-in information will be distributed through email so be sure to check our email from our new email address:

HealdsburgAmericanLegion@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Veterans may be eligible for payment or reimbursement for travel costs to receive VA medical care. For more information go to <https://www.legion.org/veteranshealthcare/travel>

Post 111 American Legion

Commander - Dave Meyers
 1st Vice - Chuck Whitmore
 2nd Vice - Joey Gogue
 Adjutant - Sarah Rafal
 Finance Officer - Miguel Correa
 Judge Advocate - Jerry Jaramillo
 Sgt. At Arms - Joel Defreitas
 Service Officer - Vacant
 Historian - Vacant
 Bar Manager - Frank Teuschler
 Chaplain - Jerry Jaramillo
 Webmaster - Ed Doitteau
 Jr. Past Commander: Tim Madura
 Executive Board: Luz Garcia,, Frank Teuschler, Frank Jerins, 2 vacancies



Unit 111 American Legion Auxiliary

President - Linda Clary
 1st Vice - Linda Clary
 2nd Vice - Mary Matthews
 Sec/Treasurer - Shirleen Perry
 Executive Board: Helen Sager, Jan Shusda

Squadron 111 Sons of The American Legion

Commander - Duke Callahan
 1st Vice - Vacant
 2nd Vice - Vacant
 Adjutant - Vacant
 Finance Officer - Miguel Correa
 Chaplain - Vacant
 Judge Advocate - Vacant
 Sgt. At Arms - Vacant
 Service Officer - Vacant
 Historian - Vacant
 Jr. Past Commander - Ed Doitteau
 Executive Board: Vacant

Chapter 111 American Legion Riders

President - Sarah Rafal
 Vice President - Chuck Whitmore
 Secretary - Jerry Jaramillo
 Adjutant/Treasurer - Miguel Correa
 Sgt. At Arms - Joel Defreitas
 Chaplain - Ed Howell
 Road Captain - Joey Gogue
 Safety Officer - Gary Greenough
 Past President - Ron Krudrop