

SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

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/>

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Volume 88 Issue 4

Coronavirus shelter in place directive impacts Legion activities.



SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS

American Legion: Postponed

Executive Board Meeting: Postponed

SAL: Postponed

AL & SAL meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex

Auxiliary: Postponed

(Eddy's House in Windsor)

Legion Riders: Postponed

Mary's Pizza, Safeway Shopping Center Windsor



THE AMERICAN LEGION

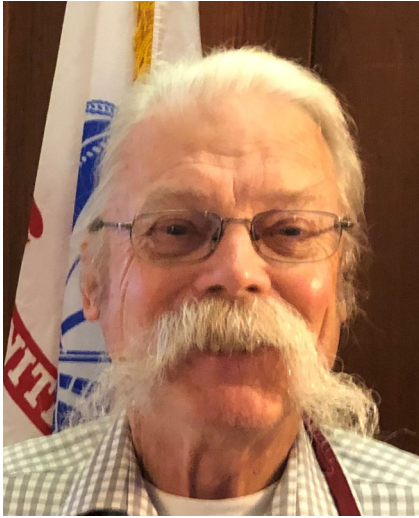
WAR-TIME VETERANS AND MILITARY MEMBERS
DEDICATED TO A STRONG NATIONAL SECURITY,
COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES; COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND THE
WHOLESUME DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH.

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE
SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
TODAY!

Government is run by
people who show up.

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Commander Tim Madura



Spring has brought a new way of living to all of us. The Coronavirus, Covid-19. Staying home. Keeping our distance. Being aware of washing our hands more. Having the kids out of school. Sonoma County just announced that they have extended schools being closed to May 1. Sorry parents. I wish the best to all of us to get through this time with our health and sanity. Please reach out to me if you know of any veterans, or anyone who is in need due this crisis. Many are out of work and many could be out of money soon. We are the American Legion, Veterans helping Veterans. Please check in with your friends and relatives to make sure they are handling this okay and let them know we are all in this together, to help each other.

Keeping with the requirement to avoid crowds and to shelter in place, I have cancelled the Executive Board meeting on Monday, April 6th at the Annex and the Post meeting on April 9th at the Annex. I am checking into doing the meetings by way of a computer program where everyone can call in and listen and talk. I will provide more information on how this works later when I set up the call with the company. It is easy. You call a number and then enter a PIN that is provided with the information and then you are connected with everyone who has signed on. You can also be on your computer with the link that is provided. I do ask that you leave your phone and your computer microphone on mute until you have something to say. Otherwise everyone hears the background noise of the dogs barking, the cats fighting, the TV, people talking, family arguments, embarrassing conversations, etc. It is very distracting and hard for everyone to hear what we all have to say.

Most important for this month's meeting are the nominations for next year's officers. Please email or call me with any names that you think would be good for a position. Step up yourself for a position. I, and the past officers, will still be around to provide support for new officers to keeping Post 111 the great Post that it always has been.

Nominations so far are: Commander, **Dave Meyers**; 1st Vice, **Charles Whitmore**; 2nd Vice, **Joey Gogue**; Adjutant, **Sarah Rafal**; Finance, **Miguel Correa**; Sgt at Arms, **Joel Defreitas**; Chaplain, **Jerry Jaramillo**; Historian, **Harold Bagdonas**; Judge Advocate, **Ed Doitteau**.

There is a push for blood donations due to people self-isolating at home. The local supply is dangerously low. IF you are healthy and can donate blood or platelets, please check into doing this. It is always like getting a mini physical because they check your blood to see if anything is going on with you. Help save someone's life, maybe your own.

Please stay safe and observe the guidelines that we are all under to protect all of us so we ALL can make it through this. Be Safe. ~**Tim**

Adjutant Update

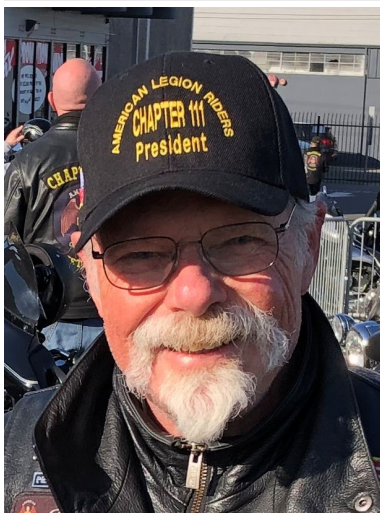
At the present time Post membership is approximately 95% . If you have not renewed your Post or Sons membership you can either renew online at: <https://calegion.org> (click the Membership tab), or you can mail a check made out to the American Legion to Post Office Box 281, Healdsburg, CA 95448. Auxiliary dues can be mailed to Post Office Box 174, Healdsburg, CA 95448. If you are experiencing a financial hardship, let us know.

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: **Padre Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Auxiliary: **Mary Matthews** 707-688-6554
Squadron: **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Riders: **Father Ed Howell** 707-292-8033

ALR President Ron Krudop



Saturday March 7th was the Past Commanders and Past Presidents Dinner. My wife and I had a great time seeing all of our friends and sharing good times. After that night no one knew how our world was going to change. Our meeting in April is cancelled as were events all over the Bay Area. I think about all of you and our troubled times as we are unable to meet or even ride. I very much miss our meeting's, it's very hard times now. Reach out to help a neighbor, friends and be helpful to one another.

~Ron



ALR Vice President Sarah Rafal



I sincerely hope everyone is staying quarantined and positive in this time of crisis. For those that do not know, I am an active duty National Guard Soldier assigned to the 223rd Military Intelligence Battalion, stationed in San Francisco. At the request of Governor Newsom, the California Guard activated resources to support the Governor's priority efforts. My Brigade was activated on 20 March 2020 for Emergency State Active Duty in response to COVID-19. Many food banks are currently experiencing a decline in volunteers due to COVID-19 and the shelter in place order. So, on Saturday, 21-22 March 2020, Soldiers from my Battalion assisted food distribution warehouses in Sacramento County and on 23 March 2020 we went to San Jose to assist in making emergency food boxes and delivering food to vulnerable populations. Keep in mind this mission is strictly humanitarian and know the CAL GUARD STANDS READY TO SERVE OUR STATE. More than 19,000 Airmen, Soldiers, and State Guardsmen have been alerted and stand ready to support the Governor and the residents of California.

Practice social distancing, wash your hands, and ensure you check on each other! ~Sarah



Auxiliary President "Fast" Eddy Sauers



March has been a swirling month for all of us. My heart goes out to everyone and stay strong. The Auxiliary did not have a meeting this month because of the virus. So as soon as we can, let's plan for our new officers nominations for 2020-2021. Of course we are canceling all meetings until further notice.

A **Thank you** goes to the Windsor Culinary Students again for serving us at the Past Presidents and Commanders Dinner. They are such a great help to us. The Birthday Dinner went well. Thanks to the Auxiliary for setting the tables with help from the Post, Sons, and Riders. Of course, the Coast Guard putting the heavy items away. Thanks to **Mary Matthews** for the decorations and the corsages she made for the President and Past Presidents

of the Auxiliary, which was **Rose Sandoval** and myself.

I had a Windsor Senior High School student ask me if I would be her Mentor with the Auxiliary for her 30 hours community service which is requirement for graduation. She came and spoke to us at our February meeting and we agreed to assist. She was one of our Girls State candidates last year, **Emma Mc Masters**.

Emma made care packages for soldiers deployed overseas and took all the donations to OPERATION CARE and COMFORT in Fairfield. She planned her whole project out before she started and when ran into a situation, she backed up and approached in a different way. It was just amazing what a great job she did. Emma told me that when she got the idea from attending Girls State. Our Auxiliary needs to do something special for her for doing a great job.

We will be sending the Poppy Letters out this coming month. I'm pretty sure we will not be doing the Poppy set-up at Walmart, because of the virus. I'd rather be safe for my ladies and for our Post, SONS, and Riders, which always help us every year. Well I shall sign off and go do some spading in my garden. Everyone don't eat too many Easter Eggs. Cook a few and than color few and hide few but remember where you hid them. Remember it's April 12th. Get your goodies before people realize Easter is around the corner.

~Eddy



Emma McMasters

Eagle Scout Project 2019-2020

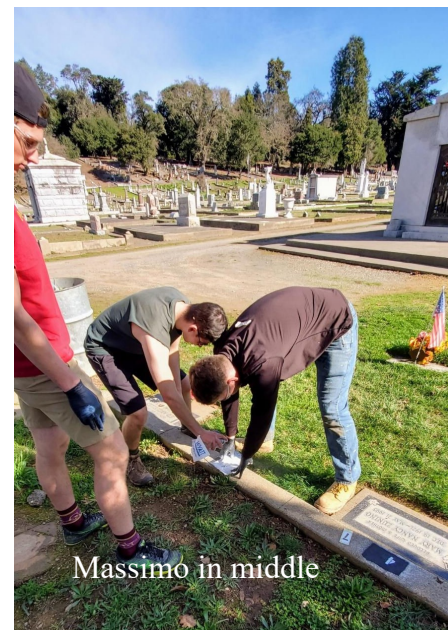
In September of 2019, Auxiliary member **Linda Clary**, was approached by Healdsburg Troop 21 Scout member **Massimo Tuscany** to help him with his Eagle Scout project at Oak Mound Cemetery in Healdsburg. Linda, eager to make this an Auxiliary Project, outlined the ideas, and the ladies unanimously agreed to sponsor Massimo with his project. Upon approval from cemetery owner's, Scout Council, the Scouts, leaders and parents got busy.

The work consisted of marking out the rows of the graves and stenciling the numbers on the curbs for easier identification of grave sites.

The project provided a great service to the community, leadership skills, and the opportunity for the Scouts that helped them to get their Merit Badges and best of all, the highly esteemed **Eagle Scout Award**.

However, due to COVID19 virus the Eagle Scout Project, awards and ceremonies have unfortunately been postponed until further notice.

Linda is currently working on an idea for another Eagle Scout Project for 2020-2021.



Massimo in middle

Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers



It has been a quiet month for us. We had two Color Guard ceremonies that were canceled because of the virus. I'm glad for the safety of my Honor Team and everyone else involved. On March 20th we performed Military Honors for the following veteran who was 101 years old.

The Veteran's name was Jack Orville Miller, U.S. Army. He spent 1942 to 1944 in the service and received the following Medals:

American Defense Service; American Campaign; Asiatic Pacific Campaign; Good Conduct; and Victory. His rank was Technical Sergeant.

The Army Honor Team came up from San Jose to do the folding of the flag and taps. We had four members of the Honor Team doing the volleys for the family and presented the casing to the family.

I want to thank **Frank Teuschler**, **Tim Maloney**, and **Dave Meyers** for stepping up to Honor this veteran under circumstances caused by the shelter in place order. I also want to thank Tim Maloney for presenting the cases to the

family. We will not have Honor Team practice until further notice and I understand we will not be doing Military Honors until further notice as well.

I also understand the Windsor Parade has been canceled. Haven't heard anything about the Healdsburg Parade or Memorial Day ceremonies. Apparently the school is out until May so I don't think we will be doing the Mattie Washburn school event.

Everyone be safe, **wash your hands** and **keep your hands away from your face**.

Everyone try to have a nice Easter Sunday on April 12th. As always, ~Eddy



Jack Miller funeral
Santa Rosa Memorial Park March 20, 2020

Past Commander's Dinner
March 7, 2020



Nuts and Berries (another Vietnam story) By Kim Crumb

“That’s new!” The Huey’s door gunner gestured toward Fire Base Bastogne’s landing pad as we swung around to set down. In the twenty-one days since we’d left the base, someone had dressed up the entire paved pad with a large rendering of the 101st’s Screaming Eagle patch. “It was awfully nice of the Colonel to have this done for us.” Our packs shouldered as we watched the Huey lift off the pad and swing away toward Camp Eagle, Chris Shipley gestured with his rifle. “Though a bar with drinks would have been a nicer touch.” “Or, a couple of burgers and some fries.” I shrugged as we headed the short distance to the sandbagged 81mm mortar position where Sgt. Morgan gave us a wave. Soon we joined we joined Morgan, his gunner Nelson, and Nelson’s small pet monkey, Phred. Warm cans of beer appeared as we set aside our packs and rifles. As we made ourselves comfortable on the low sandbagged wall of the gun pit, Phred began his usual routine of picking at our bare arms; ‘grooming,’ Nelson called it. Missing most of his tail, which had been cut off by his captor to help prevent his escape from a cage, Phred was a small monkey with short tan fur. Nelson had purchased him for fifteen dollars in Military Pay Currency at one of the local villages along the road between Camp Eagle and Bastogne. The little guy now wore a tiny collar carrying one of Nelson’s dog tags. Smart and friendly, he had soon become the squad’s mascot.

“Hey, check it out.” Sgt. Morgan gestured with his beer toward the unusually shiny Huey settling onto the landing pad. Oddly, the cargo doors, normally slid back in the open position open while hauling us around and allowing the door gunner to do his job, were closed. “Looks like someone important aboard.”

With a second warm beer in hand, the four of us watched as the helicopter’s engine shut down and the rotor blades began to slow. “Must be some heavy brass.” I looked down at the rough looking jungle fatigues I’d been wearing for nearly three weeks, then over to Shipley, who had been on the same tiny observation post. During our time spent on O.P. Sandy in hundred degree-plus temperatures, there had been three opportunities to wash up. Once, during a brief rainstorm, and twice when down at small creek while on a water run for the hill.

His fatigues as dirty and ragged as mine, Shipley grinned. “I hope we don’t offend them with our casual look.”

“What are they going to do, send us to ‘Nam?” Grinning back, I tapped my beer can against my buddy’s.

“Uh, oh.” Sp4 Nelson gestured to the Huey as the door facing us slid back. Out stepped two khaki clad officers. But what happened next was the real surprise. Flanking the doorway, they extended their hands to three beautiful young women in flowing ankle length gowns as each emerged and stepped down from the Huey. In a few moments the five of them were heading up toward us. One of the women’s smiles was accompanied by a little wave of her hand

“We really are in Disneyland.” Morgan muttered as we all stared.

Wrinkling his nose, Ships looked over at me. “If the wind shifts, we’ll really wish we’d taken a shower as soon as we got here. Being the senior enlisted among our little group, Sgt. Morgan stepped forward as the girls and their escorts, a captain and a major, came up to us. “Welcome to Fire Base Bastogne, home of the 327th.” Nodding in our direction, he introduced us.

Not put off by our long in the field uniforms, the girls returned our smiles. After more smiles and “Hi’s”, there was an awkward moment following the introduction by the major of the three girls, each a contestant in the Miss America Pageant.

Then Phred, who had been sitting behind Nelson on the low sandbagged wall of the gun pit, suddenly did a quick hop into view.

“Oh, is that your monkey?” Miss Virginia giggled. “He is so cute.”

Pleased with their attention, Nelson grinned broadly. “Yup. This is Phred. I picked him up a while back in a Ville down the road. He’s also our company mascot.”

Hearing his name, Phred rubbed his little hands together, his eyes checking the out newcomers.

“Does he know any tricks?” The other two young women blurted the question out at the same time and we all laughed.

“That’s affirmative.” Nelson suddenly pointed at the captain. “Watch him, Phred!”

Phred’s usual response to that command was to dash over to the object of Nelson’s gesture. He did not disappoint. Shaking his little fists and chattering away, he circled the officer whose initial look of surprise quickly turned to a broad grin.

Soon the girls had moved next to the four of us, exchanging smiles as we all laughed and called out, “watch him, Phred!” I was thinking how the little monkey was really earning his keep when I caught a small movement out of the corner of my eye. Standing next to me, Shipley also spotted the large shiny green Bamboo Spider hurrying away from us along the edge of the gun pit wall.

“Phred!” Shipley’s voice carried over everyone else’s.

Having a pretty good idea of what was about to happen, I yelled, “Ships, no!”

But it was too late. Shipley pointed at the fleeing fist-sized spider. “Phred! Watch him Phred!”

Phred’s attention turned from the captain to the spider. In one swift motion he bounded to the sandbagged wall, leaped to the top and grasped the shiny green spider with both hands. In a moment he had stuffed most of the creature’s body into his mouth.

When he turned back to us, we all had the clear image of the struggling spider’s legs protruding from his mouth while a pale green liquid dripped down.

Turning away with her hands covering her own mouth, one of the girls began to cough and gag.

“That is so disgusting.” Looking back toward their Huey, Miss Virginia was shaking her head.

“This way ladies.” Following a strong looks of disapproval, the major and the captain quickly escorted the three young women toward the main part of the base.

“Nice going, Ships.” I glanced at Phred, who pulled one of the legs free of his mouth as he chewed contentedly, the sickly green liquid now covering part of his belly. My attention swung back to the girls heading up the hill, their skirts swishing in the light breeze. None looked back.

“Ships.” Morgan sighed. “What the hell do you think monkeys eat in the wild?”

“Um, I don’t know.” His eyes also on the girls, Shipley gave a small shrug. “Nuts and berries?”

***Picture of Phred on back page**

American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2019-2020

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 **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Finance **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Assist. Finance **Miguel Correa** 707-291-1096
Judge Advocate **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Sgt. at Arms **Tony Grado** 707-527-8233
Service Officer vacant
Historian **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
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
Harold Bagdonas 707-480-5379
Luz Garcia 804-549-6554
Frank Jerins

Unit 111 American Legion Auxiliary

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1st Vice **Linda Clary** 707-433-5800
2nd Vice **Mary Matthews** 707-838-8702
Sec/Treasurer **Shirleen Perry** 707-838-9790
Executive Bd.: **Helen Sager** 707-696-2691
Jan Shusda 707-838-4593

Squadron 111 Sons of The American Legion

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1st Vice vacant
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.
Historian **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Jr. Past Comdr. **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Executive Bd.: **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
Tom Garske 707-695-2334

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President **Ron Krudop** 707-765-0373
Vice Pres. **Sarah Rafal** 707-322-9806
Secretary **Mitch Laing** 707-975-1541
Treasurer/Adj. **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Assistant Treasurer **Miguel Correa** 707-291-1096
Sgt. at Arms **Ron Dillow** 707-755-4692
Chaplain **Ed Howell** 707-292-8033
Road Captains **Chuck Whitmore** 702-305-4023
Matt Sagaser 305-923-1652
Safety Officer **Gary Greenough** 707-484-6400

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

***Happy Birthday
from the
American Legion Family***



1st— ***Frank Lazio***
3rd— ***Jerry Jaramillo***
4th— ***Mitch Laing, William Kassin***
6th— ***Tony Grado***
9th— ***Jacob Woodard***
10th— ***William Meyers, Bob Tingstrom,
Richard Nair***
13th— ***Jorge Madera, Michael Wistock***
15th— ***Gary Plass***
16th— ***Jerry Eddinger***
17th— ***Al Simao, Bill Gibson***
18th— ***Matt Sagaser***
19th— ***Jerry Neuschafer***
20th— ***Stan Shusda, Brian Penn***
22nd— ***Rilee O'Brien, John Reyes***
25th— ***Zaria Gibbs***
26th— ***Chuck Whitmore***
27th— ***Charles Witherell***

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Vietnam Vets BBQ PCAM Canceled
5	6 Post/Unit Board Meeting Canceled	7 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor Canceled	8 MIAP SVNC Canceled	9 Post 111 Legion Meeting 6:00 Nominations Canceled	10	11
12	13	14	15 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	16 Honors Team 3 PM Annex Canceled	17	18
19	20	21 Auxiliary 10:00 AM Canceled	22 Administrative Professionals Day	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2020

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

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SAL Commander Duke Callahan



My wife asked me this morning, when is "pride" month? I answered, the 1st of June, our Wedding Anniversary. also I'm proud to be your Husband, I'm also very proud of my "legion Family" I'm Honored and proud to be the SONS Commander, member of the ALR, MIAP, PG, WWR, and Chaplin of the Hap Arnold AMVET Post 55 in Sonoma. My AMVET Commander asked me to write a prayer. I was Honored to reply (under our stressful times).



Phred from page 7 story

Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

I'm asking SONS members for nominations for 2020-2021 officers. I'm asking you to step up and volunteer, I know you're not going to let me down. Remember, be proud of who you are.

~Duke

The Sotoyome Newsletter
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Sotoyome American Legion Family

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