

**SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY  
SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**



# **THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 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 1



Honor guards, from left, **Ken Cody**, **Eddy Sauers** and **Dave Meyers** during a ceremony that is part of Wreaths Across America which honors the lives of departed veterans held at Santa Rosa Memorial Park in Santa Rosa, Calif. on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019. (Photo: Erik Castro/for The Press Democrat)

## **Important!!!!**

If you can 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.

## **SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS**

**American Legion:** Thursday January 9th @ 6:00 PM

Executive Board Meeting: Monday, January 6th @ 6:00 PM

**SAL:** Thursday January 9th @ 5:00

**AL & SAL meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex**

**Auxiliary:** Tuesday January 21st @ 10:00 AM  
(Eddy's House in Windsor)

**Legion Riders:** Tuesday January 7th @ 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



January 2020, the start of another year of challenges and rewards. Our first challenge? Writing the year 2020 instead of 2019 when we write checks, letters, etc. As we close out the 2019 year, we can look back at the challenges we have faced and met head-on.



We had the Kincaid Fire, the blackouts, and a presidential impeachment. I am looking forward to a peaceful new year and the development of new ideas and solutions. During the past year our post grew with a lot of new members, but we also lost a few. Please keep recruiting new members into our AL Family. We always need to grow our membership in the American Legion, the AL Riders, the Sons of the AL, and the AL Auxiliary. Don't forget to mention to people all the ways one is eligible for membership. We continue to

get great comments from the state and national members about the great work our post does for Veterans and the community.

Please renew your membership. We are getting close to 100% renewal, but we need each and every member to renew.

Our last meeting/dinner was a nice success. Thank you to all who attended and enjoyed good food and good company. A HUGE thank you to the members of the Auxiliary who decorated the tables, organized the auction items, and help with food preparation and service. It is the dedicated volunteers who are the backbone of our success.

Our annual Crab Feed will be held again at the Villa Chanticleer on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The No Host bar will open at 3 PM, dinner will start at 4 PM and end at 7 PM. Tickets cost \$70 per person and only 500 tickets will be sold. They go FAST, so hurry and order yours by calling Steve at 707-322-9245 or Miguel at 707-291-1096. We have the best crab feed around, serving all-you-can-eat crab, salad, garlic bread, beer, wine, water and coffee. We will again offer the shuttle service van to transport guests from the lower parking lot up to the Villa Chanticleer. Come early to get upper parking spots. The van and the driver Harold were very much appreciated last year.

Also, I want to remind you that the American Legion Riders group has established a scholarship fund at SRJC in the name of fallen warrior **Ryan Connolly**. This scholarship is for Veterans and dependents of Veterans. If your children or grandchildren attend or plan to attend SRJC have them check into the qualifications required. They may be eligible for some of this annual scholarship money.

Be safe and have a great new year.

~Tim



### ALR President Ron Krudop



On December 7th Saturday morning, Post 21 in Santa Rosa held a Pearl Harbor Remembrance day. **Chris Smith** of the Press Democrat opened the ceremonies. Post 111 Honor Guard presented the colors. The tolling of the bell this year was for 145 deceased Sonoma County Pearl Harbor survivors.

Ninety-eight year old Pearl Harbor survivor **Lauren Bruner** was the second to the last man to escape the burning wreckage of the USS Arizona. This week divers will place his ashes inside the battleships wreckage.



On December 14th at 09:00am, Wreaths Across America ceremonies are held across this Great Nation. I attended Cloverdale's 8th annual Wreaths Across America. The event begins at the Cloverdale's Veterans building where mounted Rider's lead Fire Engine #81 to the cemetery. Last year the event was rained out, so the ceremony was held at Post 293. Our ALR 111 brother **Gary Greenough** told the story of Wreaths Across America.

~Ron

### ALR Vice President Sarah Rafal



Greetings Legionnaires,  
I hope you are all enjoying this holiday season with family and friends. I have been leading the planning for our upcoming annual crab feed. We have had two meetings so far and have made lots of progress. However, I am still looking for more legion members to volunteer to help either before, during or after the crab feed. If you are interested in assisting us on February 1, 2019, let me know! If you are unavailable to work the event, but, you can sell tickets, let Steve know you want to help sell crab feed tickets. I will be discussing our crab feed during our January Legion meeting. So come and participate!! See you soon and happy holidays.

~Sarah

### Reminder!

**If you have not paid your American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, Auxiliary, or Legion Rider dues, please do so now.**

**If you are having financial or other difficulties, please let the Adjutant or any officer know. At this point we are approximately 84% of membership.**

### Auxiliary President "Fast" Eddy Sauers



Well ladies, we made it through the year. Thanks to all of you ladies that sent in your renewals for your membership. If you haven't, you have until the end of the month.

You missed a great Christmas dinner. Would have loved to have seen more of you at our last dinner of the year. The Auxiliary had a Christmas Silent Auction and you missed out on that and I want to thank the people that gave us donations.

Also you missed the District Meeting in San Anselmo which had very good attendance. We had a great luncheon for \$10.00 with everything being home made including the dessert. San Anselmo provided an excellent lunch for the outside members. Remember

ladies if you would like to go to District meetings, meet at my house in Windsor.

Don't forget our meeting every month. We are changing our meetings to the 3rd. Tuesday of each month. So that will be 21st. of January at 10:00 at my house. Ladies have a great **CHRISTMAS** and bright **NEW YEAR**. Hope to see more of you in 2020.

~Eddy



### SAL 1st Vice Commander Gary McLerran



When is Duke coming back? He's been gone for 3 meetings so far. I can't wait to hear his many new travel stories.

I think it was Duke that told me he once worked on a large commercial fishing boat and made more money by holding down two positions on the same trip.

Well like others in the American Legion he's holding down two positions as President of Sons of the American Legion and as a Chaplain at Large for the American Legion.

Unfortunately this is all for free as a volunteer. So when he returns we need to welcome him back twice as much and listen to his stories twice as intently.

~Gary



Cloverdale Fire Department Honor Team



## Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers



Well to start off, we had a Color Guard ceremony on October 21st. for the California Emergency Services Association's annual training/conference in Rohnert Park at the Double Tree Hotel that I forgot to mention in the last Newsletter. We were asked to do the Color Guard because their Color Guard backed out at the last minute. **Harold Bagdonas, Dave Meyers** and myself stepped in and they were thrilled for us doing this.

I received a beautiful bouquet of flowers in thanking us. I took a picture of flowers, to show the guys. Okay now onto December.



December was another busy month for the Honor Team. We were scheduled on December 12th to do Military Honors for **Harry J. Morse**, but we were asked to stand down because the family declined the Volleys.

On December 7th we were the Color Guard for PEARL HARBOR DAY at the Santa Rosa Veterans Building. Six of our Honor Team members were present to help.

On December 13th, we rendered Military Honors for **Bill Merian**, one of our Legion and Legion Riders member.

On December 14th we were scheduled to do Military Honors for Colonel Louis **Pete Peterka**, but the Army Honor Team called and said they have enough military personnel to perform Honors. **Ken Cody, Dave Meyers, Ron Collier, Tim Maloney** (Chaplain) and myself attended his service. At 12:00 P.M. after Pete's service, we went up to Santa Rosa Memorial Park to do the Color Guard for Wreaths Across America for the Santa Rosa Exchange Club. People in attendance placed 1,000 wreaths on graves of Veterans. **Gary Greenough** did an outstanding job with his speech. Of course we missed our Cloverdale Wreaths Across America ceremony. **Al Delsid** is in charge of Cloverdale's program and hope some of our members went up there. Then at 1:30 P.M. several Post, Auxiliary, and Riders went to the Potters Field to lay wreaths for those 17 Forgotten Veterans, which will never be forgotten. Oops, can't forget Sandy, she did a lot of this work finding information about each Veteran buried there.

Well I shall sign off and wish everyone a **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GREAT NEW YEAR**. See everyone in 2020. Also want to wish my **HONOR TEAM** a Great Holiday.  
~Eddy



Frank Jerins being consoled by Honor Team members while becoming overwhelmed with emotion shortly after meeting Congressman Mike Thompson on December 7th.



## Pearl Harbor Ceremony

December 7, 2019

On Saturday, December 7th, the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony was held at the Santa Rosa Veterans Building. In addition to the many individuals who attended the event were Chris Smith of the Press Democrat, Congressman Mike Thompson and Captain Steven Ramassini, Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Training Center in Petaluma (Two Rock).



l to r: **Congressman Mike Thompson, Harold Bagdonas, Frank Jerins, Dave Meyers, Ken Cody, Tim Maloney, Eddy Sauers, Tim Madura.**

Photo by Ron Krudop

**These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.**

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## Yountville Christmas Party

The Sons of the American Legion sponsored annual Christmas Party and District 5 meeting at the Yountville Veterans Home was held on December 12th. Squadrons from the district provided gift cards and a Round Table lunch to the residents and staff of K Wing.



## Wreaths Across America December 14, 2019

Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at more than 1,600 locations across the United States, at sea and abroad.

The eighth annual Wreaths Across America ceremony held in Cloverdale, was well attended by members of the community. The Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 283, fund raise and provide the wreaths for this important ceremony. Notable attendees were the Cloverdale Fire Department Honor Team, American Soldier Freedom Riders and ALR Chapter 111 President **Ron Krudop**.





## Wreaths Across America December 14, 2019

The first annual Wreaths Across American remembrance ceremony by the Exchange Club of Santa Rosa was held at the Santa Rosa Memorial Park. Posting of the colors, flag folding and withdrawal of the colors was performed by the Sotoyome Post 111 Honor Team composed of **Eddy Sauers, Ken Cody** and **Dave Meyers**.

The Invocation and benediction was read by Post 111 member **Tim Maloney**. Speeches were given by several honored guests, most notably by Vietnam Veteran **Gary Greenough** known for his inspirational and moving speeches.

Approximately 1000 Wreaths were laid on Veteran's graves by all those in attendance.



**Gary Greenough**



l to r: **Dave Meyers, Ken Cody, Eddy Sauers**

(Photos: Erik Castro/for The Press Democrat)

At the Rural Cemetery adjacent to the Santa Rosa Memorial Park, members of Sotoyome Post 111 and friends, adorned seventeen Veteran's graves with wreaths in the Flander's Field later that afternoon.



l to r: **Will Meyers, Steven & Sharon Bowne, Dave Meyers, Eddy Sauers, Ken Cody, Harold Bagdonas, Sandy Frary, Ron Collier**



l to r: **Will, Dave, Ron, Eddy, Ken, Sandy, Cathy Zezza.**





**The American Legion Post 111 will be hosting the Annual Crab Feed on Saturday February 1st 2020.**

**Tickets are \$70**

**All you can eat crab, garlic bread, salad, beer, wine, water and coffee**

**Doors open at 3:00 PM with No Host Bar  
Crab served 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**For Tickets contact:**

**Steve (707) 322-9245**

**Miguel (70) 291-1096**

**Cash or check accepted. Credit Card purchases are subject to an additional 4% fee**

Non-profit organization 501.3(c) Tax ID# 94-1377252



## **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  
**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.: **Helen Sager** 707-696-2691  
**Jan Shusda** 707-838-4593

### **Squadron 111 Sons of The American Legion**

Commander **Duke Callahan** 707-291-9418  
1st Vice **Gary McLerran** 707-526-4786  
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 **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

### **Chapter 111 American Legion Riders**

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

## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

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

*may all of your birthday wishes  
come true!*



2nd—**Bill Stiles**  
7th—**Joey McNiel, Roy Sprague**  
8th—**William Kramer**  
10th—**Michael Gagliardo**  
11th—**Chris Hilton**  
13th—**Terry Perry**  
16th—**Daniel Conway**  
19th—**Bob Benson**  
20th—**Frank Hayes**  
23rd—**Isaac Bowne**  
25th—**Fredrick Smith**  
26th—**John Ballachey**  
28th—**David Budworth**  
29th—**Frank Teuschler, Bill Brown**  
30th—**Brendan Bono, Jack Martin,  
Doug Newton**  
31st—**Bob Rodgers**



| Sun       | Mon                                  | Tue                                     | Wed  | Thu  | Fri       | Sat       |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------|-----------|
|           |                                      |   | <b>1</b><br><b>New Years</b>               | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br>Post/Unit Board Meetings | <b>7</b><br>ALR Meeting<br>6 PM Windsor | <b>8</b><br>MIAP Escort<br>SVNC Dixon      | <b>9</b><br>Legion Meeting<br>6:00 PCAM<br>Hot Dog lunch | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> |
| <b>12</b> | <b>13</b>                            | <b>14</b>                               | <b>15</b><br>United Vet Counsel<br>7 PM SR | <b>16</b><br>Honors Team<br>3 PM Annex                   | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> |
| <b>19</b> | <b>20</b><br>Martin Luther King Day  | <b>21</b><br>Auxiliary<br>10:00 AM      | <b>22</b>                                  | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> |
| <b>26</b> | <b>27</b>                            | <b>28</b>                               | <b>29</b>                                  | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b> |           |

## February 2020

| Sun                       | Mon                                      | Tue                                     | Wed  | Thu  | Fri                                | Sat  |
|---------------------------|--|---|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
|                           |  |   |  |  |                                    | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>2</b><br>Groundhog Day | <b>3</b><br>Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM | <b>4</b><br>ALR Meeting<br>6 PM Windsor | <b>5</b>                                   | <b>6</b>                                     | <b>7</b>                           | <b>8</b><br><b>Five Star Training</b><br><b>Napa 10:00</b> |
| <b>9</b>                  | <b>10</b>                                | <b>11</b>                               | <b>12</b><br>Lincoln's Birthday            | <b>13</b><br>Post 111 Legion Meeting<br>6:00 | <b>14</b><br><b>Valentines Day</b> | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>16</b>                 | <b>17</b><br><b>President's Day</b>      | <b>18</b><br>Auxiliary<br>10:00 AM      | <b>19</b><br>United Vet Counsel<br>7 PM SR | <b>20</b><br>Honors Team<br>3 PM Annex       | <b>21</b>                          | <b>22</b>  |
| <b>23</b>                 | <b>24</b>                                | <b>25</b><br>Mardi Gras<br>Carnival     | <b>26</b>                                  | <b>27</b>                                    | <b>28</b>                          | <b>29</b>  |



## Bill Merian's funeral

December 13, 2019



### 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

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](mailto:hondokid1@yahoo.com)

### POST EVERLASTING

**Colonel Louis (Pete) Peterka**  
**Harry Morse**

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