

SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

JUNE 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/>
"Friend us on Facebook" Search for Healdsburg American Legion Post 111
Volume 88 Issue 6

Flags placed on Vets graves at Santa Rosa Memorial Park for Memorial Day May 22nd



Ron Krudop

SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS

American Legion: June 11th @ 6:00 PM

Executive Board Meeting: June 1st @ 6:00 pm

SAL: June 11th @ 5:00 PM

AL & SAL meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex

Auxiliary: June 17th @ 10:00 AM

Legion Riders: June 2nd @ 6:00 PM

Mary's Pizza, Safeway Shopping Center Windsor

Meetings will be virtual via Zoom



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!

**Government is run by
people who show up.**

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Outgoing Commander Tim Madura



I hope everyone who is reading this is still healthy during this coronavirus pandemic. Please keep up your social distancing and wear a face covering to safeguard yourself and the people around you. We are still in this crisis and will be for some time more.



At least some of our local merchants are able to do a modified sort of business to help their finances. Please try to support them and anyone who has become unemployed during this time, in any way that you can. It will still be a long road for some of them to find work. Look out for them if you can.

This is my last newsletter as Commander of Sotoyome Post 111. After three years as Commander I am stepping down and **Dave Meyers** will be stepping up from 1st Vice to Commander. Thank you, Dave. Please give your support to Dave as Commander, **Charles Whitmore** (active Coast Guard) as 1st Vice, **Joey Gogue** (active Army National Guard) as 2nd Vice, **Miguel Correa** (active Army National Guard) as Finance Officer, and **Joel DeFreitas** (active Army National Guard) as Sergeant at Arms.

These nominations were voted on and the positions accepted at our May Zoom meeting. Thank you to our new officers, who will be sworn in at the June meeting, which will probably be held via Zoom.

It has been an honor serving as Commander of Post 111 and I thank all of you for the support and advice that you have provided. It will be different to sit in the assembly again when we are able to do that safely.

I want to say thanks to the outgoing officers for all of their dedication the last three years. **Dave Meyers** as 1st Vice, **Terry Perry** as 2nd Vice (thank you for all of the food after the meetings), **Steve Bowne** as Adjutant and Finance Officer, and **Tony Grado** as Sgt. at Arms. Great job, everyone.

~Tim

Harold Bagdonas will no longer be able to function as Boys State and Scholarship Coordinator and we need someone to step up and take over this vital and rewarding position. Harold will mentor and train the person as needed. Please contact Dave Meyers and Harold for further information. Thanks.

Outgoing ALR President Ron Krudop



I became an American Legion Rider in 2014. At that time I only wanted to be a member of a motorcycle organization involving Veterans. And since my wife's family were member's of Post 111, I decided that this was an organization I could be proud of. So I became a member of Post 111 and in 2014 joined the riders group. I never had intentions of becoming an officer. I became a Vice President under command of **Ron "Campy" Dillow** in 2016 and stayed VP



for two years. In 2018 I became President of the Riders group. My intentions were to be President for one year only because my wife and I were going to travel. Life takes strange turns. My mother-in law passed away and we stayed around to pick up the pieces. My wife was in a full depression and I decided to be President for one more year. I have

enjoyed my two year term as your President. I have made many friends in this time. I would like to acknowledge and give thanks to **Steve Bowne, Ron Collier, Gary Greenough** and Post Commander **Tim Madura**. Your guidance has been invaluable during my time as President of the American Legion Riders. Sarah is now the President of ALR Post 111. Please reach out to her and give her a warm welcome. And I would like to say to Sarah, anytime you need advice, I am just a message away. Riding off into the sunset on my orange bike, truly yours, ~**Ron "Horseshoe" Krudop**.

Incoming ALR President Sarah Rafal



Greetings Legionnaires,

Four years ago when I walked into my first Riders meeting at Mary's Pizza I never imagined where it would lead. I was nervous and a little intimidated by being the only female in the chapter. But, everyone in our chapter made me feel so welcome and I was excited about being a part of something that helped veterans. I never imagined I would hold an officers position within the riders or be as involved with the post. This past year I've had the pleasure of serving as the Vice-President for our Riders and it has been amazing working with Ron and all the other officers. I've learned a lot from all our members and I

look forward to learning and contributing even more as our Chapter President.

This past Memorial Day wasn't how we would have liked to honor the fallen, but, thanks to **Gary Greenough**, our chapter continued the tradition by riding to a few cemeteries in Sonoma County. We started in Healdsburg, then rode to Geyserville and then Windsor. Then the main group continued on to Sonoma. I thank Gary for continuing the tradition and for all the riders that came. I hope to see all your faces on our next Zoom call!!

"And if words cannot repay the debt we owe these men, surely with our actions we must strive to keep faith with them and with the vision that led them to battle and to final sacrifice."

- Ronald Reagan

Ride Safe, ~**Sarah**

Outgoing Auxiliary President Eddy Sauers



Well ladies this is it, I'm retiring as President. I have been President for the past two years, 2018 to 2020, and Past President from 2015 to 2016. Went up the ladder since I joined in 2011. Not bad for a nine-year newbie member. So now it's time for me to enjoy myself.

I want to thank everyone in the Auxiliary for helping in my years as President and past President. Also want to thank the Post, the Sons and Riders and that I've enjoyed every activity I did with everyone. Remember everyone, that's including the Auxiliary, that I am only a phone call away for helping on activities.



Mary Matthews got the poppies notice out and did an excellent job on the letter

to everyone. I know it's a tough time to give donations for the poppies, but do what you can as we all understand. However, we did want to get these poppies out before Memorial weekend, and if you have a computer, go online and look up the Wall for the Poppies, it is very interesting. I hope the Auxiliary gets the donation in for the Windsor Veterans Village and also to the Veterans Resource Center. Many of our veterans lost their jobs during this epidemic and they need the help, so ladies let's get this done.

So, I shall sign off and hope everybody had a good Memorial Day weekend.

Retiring Auxiliary President, ~Eddy

PS: Ladies, if you do not vote for a new President, the first vice moves up and takes over as President until one is voted in. You have until the end of June.

SAL Commander Duke Callahan



Honor guard: Closed until further notice: We can't let this go on. United we stand divided we fall. As I was boarding a plane for Basic Training in the Air Force in 1959 my father pulled me aside and told me that a winner never quits and a quitter never wins. That has been my motto my whole life. As of our last meeting I want to thank all who have served as Squadron Officers. Thank you all for all your hard work. Moving on we have vacancies. I will continue as your SONS Commander. Call me if interested in becoming one our new Squadron Officers



(707)291-9418.

A good lesson with the coming of Memorial Day to honor our Military who have served and gone onto being with the Lord...Sadly we don't teach this to our children in school or at home.

I do not remember ever being taught this in school. or Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts or Explorers, the meaning of the flag-draped coffin. All Americans should be given this lesson. Those who think that America is an arrogant nation should really reconsider that thought. Our founding fathers used GOD'S word and teachings to establish our great nation and I think it's high time Americans get re-educated about this nation's history.. Pleas pass it along and be proud of the country we live in and even more proud of those who serve to protect our GOD -given rights and freedoms. I hope you take this time to read this and to understand what the flag draped coffin really means... Who of you wants to stand up with me and teach this sacred flag folding ceremony? Call me. ~Duke

Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers



Well our Honor Team has been very, very quiet even the Memorial Day Ceremony was canceled. I always put up flags on my fence every Memorial Day. This year I also put a Poppy Wreath up in remembrance of our Veterans that have passed. I had **Mary Matthews** make the wreath for me and it's beautiful!



Well team I hope everybody is doing OK. I know a few of you had some episodes or I should say minor accidents, but hope you are all getting better. I know it's tough trying to find things to do but I know I've

been busy. Worked in my house, eliminated things and went to the little barn, reorganized that, and still working on the garage. I've been getting rid of rusty nails, slightly bent nails and other things that I cannot use anymore or why am I keeping this. I came from the old-school where you saved things no matter what. Maybe things will get back to normal one of these days.

I have called a lot of the mortuaries to let them know that down the line if they would like military honors, we would be honored to do it for them, even if it's been months since their loved ones passed. Thought I'd let you guys know I did that.

Well Honor Team, I shall sign off and hope you had a nice Memorial Day weekend. Try to behave yourselves Honor Team. That's an order.

As always, **Eddy**



Memorial Day Preparation

On May 22nd, members of Chapter 111 arrived at Santa Rosa Memorial Cemetery at 11:45 am, joining a large group of volunteers. **Steve Bosshard** led the group meeting and laid out the plans for placing the flags on veterans graves. ALR President **Ron Krudop**, along with fellow ALR riders **Cliff Elver** and **Steve Heidorn** set out to the far back area where the annual Memorial Day Ceremony is usually held. There were families and other groups of veterans placing flags on the headstones of Veterans. All together, over 50 people volunteered and in 90 minutes it was all completed.

Submitted by Ron Krudop



Dr. Steve Heidorn



Cliff Elver



Members of Chapter 111 (which included **Cliff Elver** and **Jim Arnold**), Chapter 28 of the American Legion Riders, and Squadron 28, Sons of the American Legion, conducted a Memorial Ride and Flag line for WWII Veteran **Albert Smith** USAAF on May 9th in Concord.

Photo by **Bill Nay**



Memorial Day 2020

“I believe our flag is more than just cloth and ink. It is a universally recognized symbol that stands for liberty, and freedom. It is the history of our nation, and it’s marked by the blood of those who died defending it.”
– John Thune

On this Memorial Day Chapter 111, informally continued the tradition of honoring the fallen in Healdsburg, Geyserville, and Windsor, by playing TAPS and rendering a salute.



Memorial Day 2020



POST ELECTION RESULTS

AMERICAN LEGION

Commander: **Dave Meyers**

Adjutant: **Sarah Rafal**

1st Vice: **Chuck Whitmore**

2nd Vice: **Joey Gogue**

Finance Officer: **Miguel Correa**

Sgt at Arms: **Joel DeFreitas**

Executive Board: **Luz Garcia, Frank Jerins, Frank Teuschler**



AUXILIARY

President:

1st Vice: **Linda Clary**

2nd Vice: **Mary Matthews**

Secretary/Treasurer: **Shirleen Perry**

Executive Board: **Helen Sager, Jan Shusda**



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

President: **Sarah Rafal**

Vice President: **Chuck Whitmore**

Treasurer: **Miguel Correa**

Secretary: **Jerry Jaramillo**

Sgt at Arms: **Joel DeFreitas**

Ride Captain: **Joey Gogue**



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander: **Duke Callahan**

Finance Officer: **Miguel Correa**



American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2020-2021

Post 111 American Legion

Commander **Dave Meyers** 707-481-1196
1st Vice **Chuck Whitmore** 702-305-4023
2nd Vice **Joey Gogue** 408-621-9114
Adjutant **Sarah Rafal** 707-322-9806
Finance Officer **Miguel Correa** 707-291-1096
Judge Advocate **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Sgt. at Arms **Joel DeFreitas** 539-518-9200
Service Officer
Historian
Bar Manager **Frank Teuschler** 707-431-2328
Chaplain **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Webmaster **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Jr. Past Comdr. **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
Executive Bd.: **Luz Garcia** 804-549-6554
Frank Teuschler 707-431-2328
Frank Jerins
2 vacancies

Unit 111 American Legion Auxiliary

President
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
2nd Vice
Adjutant
Finance **Miguel Correa** 707-291-1096
Chaplain Sgt. at Arms
Judge Advocate
Historian
Jr. Past Comdr. **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Executive Bd.:

Chapter 111 American Legion Riders

President **Sarah Rafal** 707-322-9806
Vice Pres. **Chuck Whitmore** 702-755-4692
Secretary **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Treasurer/Adj. **Miguel Correa** 707-291-1096
Sgt. at Arms **Joel DeFreitas** 539-518-9200
Chaplain **Ed Howell** 707-292-8033
Road Captains **Joey Gogue** 408-621-9114
Safety Officer **Gary Greenough** 707-484-6400
Past President **Ron Krudop** 707-765-0373

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



*from the
American Legion Family*

4th—**Paul Madura**
5th—**Joey Gogue, David Schleeter**
6th—**John Erla**
7th—**Terry Fry**
8th—**Richard Howell**
13th—**Ronald Bryant, Ed Robbins,
Owen Hillberry**
14th—**Jacqueline Nelson**
15th—**Ken Marshall**
16th—**Wyatt Vanfulpen**
19th—**Andy Devilbiss, Betty Stubbs**
21st—**Mike Stevens**
26th—**George Nieto, Simeon Scallon**
29th—**John Blackburn**
30th—**Richard Simondi**

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

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	

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Chris Johnson, CEO of the Veterans Resource Center in Santa Rosa, holding a donation check from Sotoyome Post 111 on May 13th.

Photo by **Joe Millsap**

SICK CALL

Harold Bagdonas

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

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