

SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

MAY 2020

Post 111, Squadron 111, and Legion Riders Chapter 111, PO Box 281, Healdsburg, CA 95448

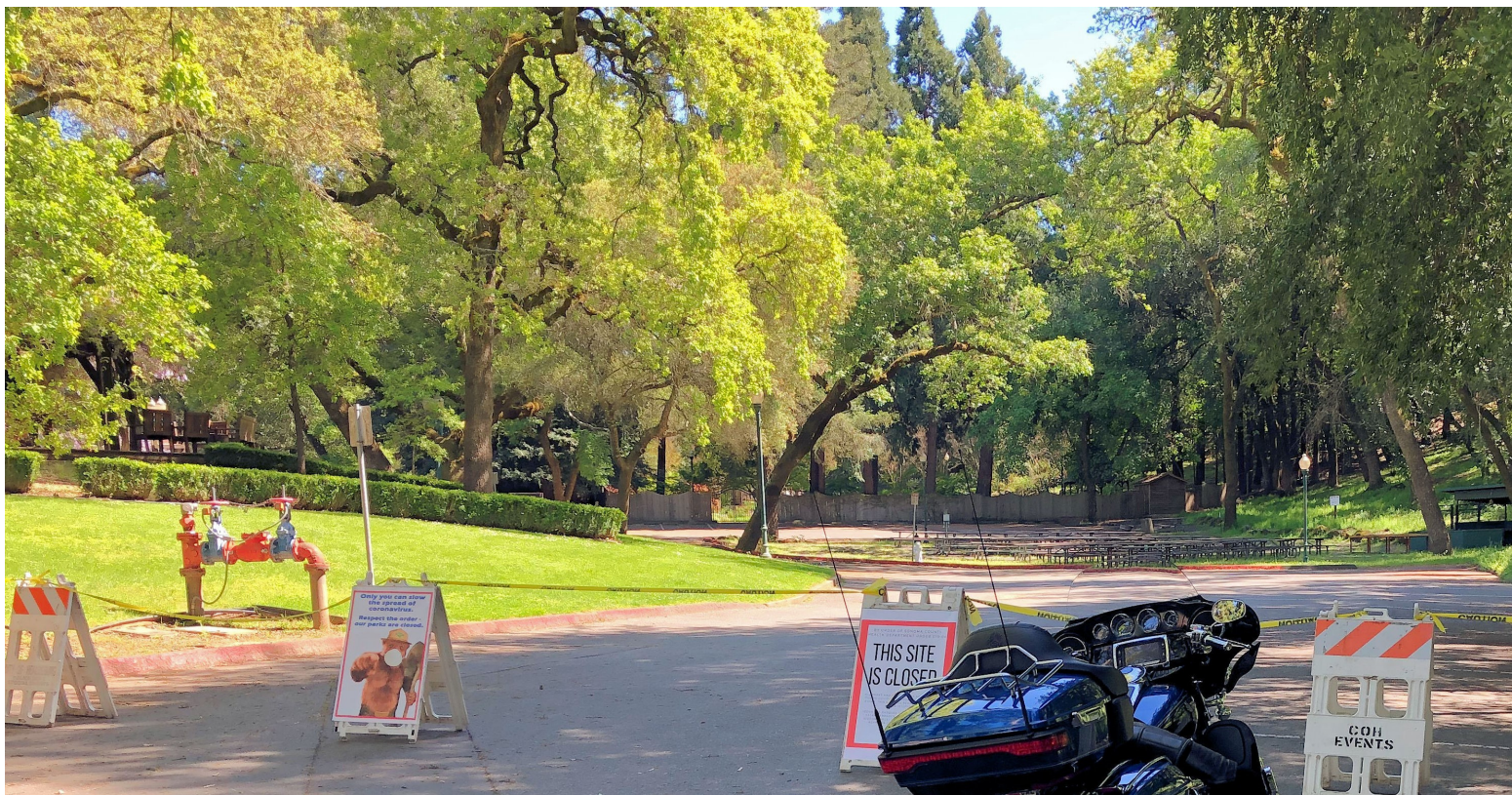
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 111, P.O. Box 174, Healdsburg, CA 95448

Visit our Website at <http://www.healdsburgamericanlegion.org/>

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Volume 88 Issue 5

Post remains closed and inaccessible during shut down order



SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS

American Legion: May 14th @ 6:00 PM

Executive Board Meeting: May 4th @ 6:00 pm

SAL: May 14th @ 5:00 PM

AL & SAL meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex

Auxiliary: May 20th @ 10:00 AM
(Eddy's House in Windsor)

Legion Riders: May 5th @ 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
WHOLESALE 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



As we start this month of May, I hope all of you remain healthy and safe. We are all having our patience tested while we practice the shelter at home requirements. It is nice to see so many people I didn't know lived in my neighborhood. They are walking their dogs, spending time with their kids, and whole families are riding bicycles together. The required wearing of a mask when we go inside of a building or are not able to have an at least 6-foot distance from each other, takes some getting used to. Here are some tips for mask wearing from health experts. The mask should cover your entire nose, not just the bottom and not below the nose. It should cover your chin snugly, not loosely or dangling openly. It should be tight against your cheeks. Tighten the straps so that it is snug. If it feels uncomfortable, it is probably doing its job. I use a bandana that is folded in layers and have elastic hair ties that go around my ears. It works great. I felt funny going into the bank last week with it on. If someone did that during normal times it would cause some heartburn with the bank employees. Masks are to

keep the airborne cooties from entering our system and to prevent you sharing your cooties with others. If your mask is the washable type, wash it every day that you wear it. And also, wash your hands often.

For those who missed the April Post meeting, we held a virtual meeting by Zoom. This month will most likely be by Zoom, too. An email was sent out to all with the information on how to get on with your computer or by phone. You can choose to just listen and not be seen, or you can be seen by all who are signed on. It is not quite like a meeting with all of us present, but during these times of the Coronavirus, this is what we can do to hold our meetings. Watch for the email and put it on your calendar for May 14th at 6 PM. We are still accepting nominations for next year's officers. Add your name or nominate someone that you think would be willing to step up.

Fire Works update - I attended a call-in meeting with the City of Healdsburg staff about the American Legion providing the 4th of July Fire Works this year. As you all know, this is not the best time to be with a lot of people. We decided to wait until next week's meeting to hear more information to make the final decision. Personally, I do not see the show happening with all that is still coming out. I will have to cancel by May 1st to get our deposit returned. I expect that is what I will do.

Please let me know if you know of any members or Veterans who are not doing well during the coronavirus shelter-at-home. We are Veterans helping Veterans. The Post donated money to the Redwood Empire Food Bank, Windsor Food Bank and the Healdsburg Food Bank. They really need the money to feed all of the folks who are out of work and out of money. Help them if you can.

Boys' State was cancelled this year in Sacramento. Our seven delegates still get the credit for being selected for Boys' State, but they do not get to experience how our government works.

Donate blood if you can. The blood bank's supply is low because people are staying home. Be Safe and Stay Well.

~Tim

ALR President Ron Krudop



As I sit hear writing, being sheltered in place 30 plus days, I have polished, checked and cleaned every inch of my bike. Followed Greenough's advice and went on short rides. Yesterday I rode from Petaluma out Lakeville Hwy to Hwy 37 to Vallejo. I took Hwy 29 to Hwy 121 to Petaluma. Hour and a half ride, great for the soul. We need to stay sharp on our riding awareness. I have seen a few riders with the traffic low riding like there's no tomorrow. Please ride with safety in mind at all times. We'll get through this and we'll get together like old times and ride together. I would like everyone to attend the next Zoom ALR 111 Riders meeting, May 5th at 6 o'clock. It's very important as we are voting on

our new officers. I hope to see you all soon.

~Ron



ALR Vice President Sarah Rafal



Greetings Legionnaires,
I hope everyone is doing well and staying sane while in quarantine. I've been a busy bee working long hours seven days a week in support of food bank operations through-out the bay area. With that said, if you or someone you know needs assistance, please reach out! The Redwood Empire Food Bank is located in Santa Rosa and can assist in finding resources. Check them out here:

<https://getfood.refb.org/>

Don't forget to reach out to one another to buddy check our members. Resources and articles can be found on the American Legion website at: <https://www.legion.org/publications/248650/buddy-check-coronavirus-pandemic-assistance>

I hope everyone has the opportunity to log into our next Zoom call and vote on important matters relating to our post. See you then!

~Sarah

Auxiliary President "Fast" Eddy Sauers



April has been moving fast maybe because I've been so busy at home here. Been keeping in touch with my ladies either by email ,text, or phone calls. Spoke to **Jan Shusda** and she said that her and Stan are doing OK.

Linda Clary been busy with her Dad (**Bill Stiles**).

Mary Matthews has been making masks for her family plus making masks for the ladies at the bank in Healdsburg and also for Luciana's Pumps who she works for in Healdsburg. **Shirleen Perry** was busy making masks also. I hope I haven't missed some of you ladies as I'm trying to remember everything.

Well we agreed to do some donations to help out during this hard time for people. Redwood Empire Food Bank, Windsor Alliance Food Bank and also credit cards from Costco to veterans that needed help. Shirleen is going to write up a little note that will go with the checks and credit cards, some of which will go to the Veterans Service Officer.

I got a hold of the person in charge of the Windsor Veterans Village and we will do a donation to them. We talked about it sometime ago and sat idle. He is going to send me all the breakouts on this Village so I can present it to the ladies. Also he mentioned to me about veterans that lost their jobs, so he is going to get me info on this also. These guys are hurting. I did talk to Tim the Commander of our Post, So as soon as I hear anything, I will notify Tim and my ladies.

I don't know if you ladies all know that the Girls State has been canceled as well as the Convention for this year. Shirleen and I were talking about maybe doing something for the three girls that signed up for the girls state And now can't go. Also while we're on the subject, I would like to do something for **Emma McMasters** who did a great job for our VETERANS and never asked us for anything but our support.

Don't forget everybody, May 22, 2020 is National Poppy Day for our poppy sales. In fact there is a POPPY WALL, so go on line and enter "Poppy Wall". The poppy was adopted in 1920 after World War I. Well ladies I shall close. Have a Happy Mother's Day to all you ladies out there on May 10th. And also have a nice Memorial Day weekend. I know it's going to be tough this year, hang tough we'll get through it.

~Eddy

Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers



Well we had another quiet month for the Honor Team. We had a Military service the 16th of April for a Merchant Marine **Mike Kazarian**, who was also a police officer in San Francisco and Santa Rosa. My Honor Team couldn't do the service because of the distance factor. I called the mortuary to let them know that we could not perform because the safety of my Honor Team was paramount. So Honor Team, keep yourself busy or try to. And if you can't find something to do, buy a coloring book and do some coloring or Scrabble or crossword and sit out on your patio, enjoy the weather and listen to the birds sing. All right team. I'll be talking to you and there is no practice until further notice. I know I've been busy putting in the garden rearranging my garage and eliminating things while making masks. Have a nice MEMORIAL DAY weekend. Remember everyone, get your Memorial stuff now before people start thinking about it, then you won't be able to find anything. ~Eddy



SAL Commander Duke Callahan



Members of the sons, we can't let COVID-19 virus stymie our duties or interfere with our elections of new officers. I will continue to be your commander through 2021 and I'm asking current officers to stand in place, till we get a all clear and then back to our normal duties. I'm asking members who have not paid their dues to pay them please. The address is American Legion PO BOX 281 Healdsburg, CA 95448.



Getting back to COVID-19, In these days of creeping totalitarianism, when frightened Americans, manipulated by fallible technocrats and political motivated media, are surrendering their birthright and their future for a mess of fake security, let us remember the words of the 14th

Amendment; "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or Immunities of citizens of the United States" facing COVID -19 virus, "let our government suggest guidelines." Let our citizens determine how best to follow them, let each one decide for himself. We're not cattle, herded along by our masters. We are Free Born Americans. Don't forget to pay your dues. The spaghetti dinner on May 16th has been canceled.

~Duke

Post and Auxiliary make significant donations



l to r: Chaplain **Jerry Jaramillo** donates \$3,000 check to **Major Rio Ray** of the Santa Rosa Salvation Army Corp and **Wendel Nordby**, Executive Board member on April 30, 2020.

Thanks to action taken by the Executive Board, Sotoyome Post 111 has been able to assist the community and especially Veterans impacted by the pandemic crisis. Cash donations were made to the Redwood Empire Food Bank, Healdsburg Food Pantry, and Windsor Food Pantry in the amount of \$1K each. \$1K in Costco gift cards were provided to the Veterans Service Officer for Veterans in need. To help offset costs associated with providing meals to Veterans, \$6,000 was donated to the Santa Rosa Veterans Resource Center.

Email to Auxiliary:

“There are so many people in need. I have heard that the Post has decided to donate \$1,000.00 each to three local food banks, and \$1,000.00 worth of \$50.00 gift cards to Veterans. It has been suggested that we mirror their donations. I would like feedback and suggestions from our current members. I suggest we seek ways to help any of our Auxiliary members who may have lost a job, or have had their hours cut due to the Shelter in Place. They may need financial assistance during these tough times. Should we be reaching out to our local Home Town Heroes featured on the banners that line our downtown streets? We could be assisting them and their families. Please share your ideas on how we can help. Keep in mind that food and monetary donations aren’t the only ways we can help. Many of our seniors shouldn’t risk exposure even to pick up essentials. I encourage you to reach out to anyone who may need items delivered and definitely make phone calls to those we know are alone. Let’s stick together during these isolating times.”

Submitted by **Shirleen Perry**.

Tip Toe Through the Night

by Kim Crumb

Sitting on wooden benches, two men and two women in civilian clothes looked up as I entered Fire Base Bastogne's otherwise vacant mess hall. "Good afternoon," one of the women smiled at me. "Your name please. Your company, and what you plan on singing for us."

Word had come down that the USO was looking for soldiers who might qualify as entertainers for their 'In Country' shows. Those who were chosen by the people in front of me would be reassigned from their units to the USO, effectively getting us out of the field for the remainder of our tour. Unlike several who had sung in school or church choirs, my singing experience consisted of a Voice Class taken when I'd attended a junior college, and lately hanging out with a couple of my buddies who played the guitar when we were off duty. I had been the eleventh in line of about thirty of us who hoped we might have a chance.

While the soldiers before me had sung songs from pop and country artists we heard over the Armed Forces Radio every day, I had a plan of my own. I smiled back. "Sp4 Kim Crumb, with Echo Company's Fire Direction Center. My song is a combination of Tiny Tim's, Tip Toe Through the Tulips, and Sinatra's, Strangers in the Night. But, with my own lyrics based on my experiences over the last five months." After looks were briefly exchanged, I was told to go ahead. I cleared my throat and began.

"Tip toe, through the mine field; Past the trip flares; To the bunker line

And tip toe, through the mine field

With me...

Oh, oh, we're scared out of our wits

Oh, oh, that we'll all be blown to bits

And we're just...

Strangers in the night

Exchanging fire

Wondering in the night

Just whose desire

Got us to this place

We know as Vietnam...

With a wound or worse

Just a round away

A to whom it may concern

Away...

And so... just tip toe

Through the mine field

With me."

At the end of my 'song', their reaction caught me totally by surprise. One of the women was looking away as she wiped at her eyes with a handkerchief. The other three judges just sat for a moment, then began to clap. "And you rewrote that yourself?" One of the men asked.

"Yup, that's what comes from long nights on radio watch."

"Well, you have a great voice. And a nice presence." The woman who had been wiping her eyes got to her feet, came over and gave me a hug. "We will definitely be in touch."

After a few questions about my background before the Army, I was back outside. My buddy Bill Riffle, who had been ahead of me in the line and done a nice job with his rendition of the Beach Boys' Little Deuce Coupe, gave me a slap on the shoulder. "We heard the applause. What did they say?"

"They'll be in contact with 'our' CO." I grinned back.

"Our' CO?"

"I told 'em that we'd like to work together."

Two mornings later, Riffle and I slid out of the Huey delivering us, along with a load of c-rations and ammo, to a tiny OP near the edge of the Ashau. With help from guys from the hill's two mortar teams the Huey was quickly unloaded and on its way.

"Nice of you two to take time from your busy schedule to hang out with us low lifes." Shipley grinned at Riffle and me as we dropped our packs next to the small FDC bunker. Shading his eyes with one hand he looked past us. "Where's your band?"

While the people from the USO had contacted our CO as promised, because of our jobs in the Fire Direction Center for Echo Company's eleven mortar teams, their request had been denied. And as any news traveled fast over the company radios, everyone knew the story.

"Food allergies." I shrugged as I handed over the mail bag. "They were all allergic to c-rations."

"But Sergeant Martin thought you could use some USO approved entertainment out here, even if it was just us." Riffle offered with smile and nod of his head. "So, here we are."



American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2019-2020

Post 111 American Legion

Commander **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
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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

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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
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Tom Garske 707-695-2334

Chapter 111 American Legion Riders

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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

MAY BIRTHDAYS

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



1st— ***Tom Boylan***
2nd— ***Harold Bagdonas, David Kahn,
Ron Krudop***
4th— ***Jonathan Black***
8th— ***Cody Andrade, Ron Arata, Sam Arent,
Terry Wilson***
10th— ***Emily Titus, Blayne Reinhardt***
14th— ***Richard Cerasoli***
16th— ***Dave Meyers***
17th— ***Ryan Raffaini, Will Hinckley***
19th— ***Ken Cody***
20th— ***Paul Buzanski, Leigh Mateas,
Jan Shusda***
22nd— ***Ed Micheli, James Schettler***
23rd— ***Brian Miller***
24th— ***Gary Greenough, Reuel Miller***
26th— ***Bill Barnes***
27th— ***Tom Kemper***
28th— ***William Phillips II***
29th— ***Rand Dericco***
30th— ***Stephen Duggan***

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Post/Unit Board Meetings 6:00	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 canceled	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

June 2020

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	22	23 Auxiliary 10:00 AM	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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POST EVERLASTING

Mark McKamey
Vincent T. Jones

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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Jim Costa

The Sotoyome Newsletter

The Official Monthly Publication of the
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