

ALR Indiana State Chapter Meeting April 4, 2009 1pm

TJ called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer and Riders Response were recited. Roll Call was taken.

The Candidate for National Commander, Clarence Hill, from Florida, was introduced. He spoke of the ALR being the fastest growing segment of the American Legion Family. Clarence is a rider and ALR member. He has introduced a resolution at the National level which will, by the final reception have four Emblems on the cap cover: Legionnaire, SAL, AUX, ALR. He said, "There are good things going on because of our fund raisers for the homeless Vets, the vets, lots of press. He is on board with the riders. His Chapter in Florida has the blessing of their Commander." They are selling special pins for the Legacy Ride and has a few with him today.

There is a Bill #1277 to change the name of the Soldiers & Sailors Children's Home. We are in hopes the bill dies. We need the Line item funding put back into the budget. The Legion set up a dinner and hand delivered the invitations to the Legislators. There was no response to the invite. There are phone and e-mail banks set up today to call the Legislators about Knightstown.

State Rally - The Director from Jonesboro give a run down of some of the planned events of the weekend. There are motels, groceries, etc. close by. The location is just off I-69. There is primitive camping, no showers but there is McGuire truck stop next door. They will have grills set up Friday night for cooking on. Breakfast will be available each morning. Bike runs, show, games, music. Dates for the Rally are June 26, 27, 28, 2009.

There was nothing to report from the Indiana Veteran's Home committee meeting.

Mike stated there were no Applications coming in for the National Rider of the Year award. Mike wants e-mail addresses from Kim to send out a reminder and application to each director.

The Historian passed around the Historical Book today for everyone to have a chance to look at it.

Bob our State Ride Captain announced that we would be riding into the Closing of the Books on June 14th. He would like a ride coordinator to set up the Northern part of the State and someone from the Southern part to set their area up with a place to meet, ride into Post 492, then proceed to the Home.

For the National Romp he wants Jim Hamilton's help to set up a meeting point for the Chapters to meet and ride onto Willaird Ohio.

Rick stated that there is a calendar to post events and happenings. He needs a contact name, address, and phone number when they are submitted.

Patch Issue- Mark stated that there are still patches on vests that need to come off as they are offensive. Please police your Chapters! Also the only Cap allowed into the State Committee are the official Legion hats. All others must be removed for the meeting time.

TJ asked for the reading of the January State Minutes to be waived. Hard copies were mailed to each director and copies available today for the new chapters.

The Treasury Report was given by Mike Fathman. Membership Report- 72 Chapters now.

Challenge Coins- There are 200 plain coins being ordered. Each coin will cost \$5.00 plus S&H. They should be to Mike in two weeks.

New Business

TJ presented the new chapters with their Charters and Response Posters: Portland Post 211, Wheatfield Post 406, Riley Post 328. There will be 4 more new Chapters at the July Convention.

The Legacy Ride will go east to Virginia then back to Louisville, KY. After the ride Louisville area Chapters will be having activities for the Legacy riders on Saturday. There will be a parade on Sunday in Louisville. Meeting at Post 64 on 8-17 for briefing and late registration. Depart on the 18th. Check out the National website for more details.

Rolling Thunder Post 28, Triangle Virginia is supporting the event and has a huge camping area for the 4 days. More info at: www.alpost28.org

Blue Stars Rally - 139 troops returning from Iraq.

Teresa is on the Golf Tourney Committee and is looking for Golf Hole Sponsors. See her after the meeting if you are interested.

Dawg - The Department Convention in July has a \$15.00 fee has to be paid to attend. All Legion members have to pay to attend.

Tom Emerick asked where the ALR Awards are being kept. TJ asked Mike Miller if there was a place at the State Corporate Building to put them on Display. He said to ask Hugh about Hallway wall space.

Cliff stated that anyone can put event dates on their website calendar. Talked about the expansion of the Fort Wayne VA Hospital. Mike Shirley from Chapter 492 mentioned that events can also be put on Facebook for promotion. Many rides announced for these next few months.

Operation Pull Over by the State Police targeting Bikes this summer. They will be checking endorsements and for sobriety.

TJ reminded the District Chairman that they need to organize their District Chapters and have meetings as soon as possible.

TJ get fined for laying Charters on the POW Chair.

The Chaplain was fined for leaving his cap on during prayer.

Mike Miller, Internal Affairs Commission Representative, spoke about the ALR's growing pains and how well we are doing, we are doing a super job. We should always remember we are all Legion members first. The ALR has worked through the problems very well. Keep up the good work.

There is a Knightstown phone bank for everyone to make phone calls to the legislators today.

Dawg announced that in 2011 Indiana will hold the 10th Annual National Romp.

Pat needs funds to keep the National Website up and running. Please send him a small donation from your Chapter to help fund it. Even \$25.00 would help keep the site together for the next 3 or 4 years. Chuck from Garden City, MI visited with Dawg and is very proud of Indiana's accomplishments.

Dawg made an announcement that NO BEER OR ALCOHOL IN THE MEETING ROOMS OR HALLWAYS. Stay in the hospitality rooms or outside.

A motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Dan Becker from Wheatfield, seconded by Cliff. Passed by vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Kim Dietz

ALR State Secretary

04/4/2009