

Cruisin' News

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

APRIL 2005

Looking Down The Road...

A letter from the Director...

This will be my first article as Director for our Chapter. It's a strange feeling, putting words where I'm so used to seeing Bill's! As your new Director, I promise to do my best to continue moving the Chapter forward, putting new ideas and activities in place while preserving those things which have become our traditions.

I want to thank Bill, Pam, Crazy Bob, Rob, and Dianne for their service to the Chapter last year, and over the years. We have a lot to be proud of in our Chapter, and these and all the fine folks who have served us as officers and active members have played a "starring role" in getting us to where we are now. Shoot, yeah!

I also want to thank Donna, Stormy, and Doreen for coming back for another year;

and Dr. Bob, J.D., Mo, Tony, and Bobcat for stepping up to pick up the load. I look forward to working with this bunch.

Don't forget that we'll be coloring Easter Eggs at Penrickton Center March 22nd at 6:00pm. If the weather is fine, please ride your bike—the kids get a real kick out of feeling vibrations of our bikes as we roll in.

Finally, don't forget about the boxes at the Post for donated items to be sent to some of our fine soldiers in Iraq—including the children of two ALR members! They appreciate personal toiletries, Girl Scout cookies—things that remind them of home. The packages will be shipped the week before Easter.

Ride safe!
Porky



Membership Directory Planned...

Over the years there have been requests to put together some means for members to get in touch with each other outside of the meetings and events. In light of this, the current officers would like to propose that we publish a contact list, including each of the Chapter's members, that would be made available only to members, only at regular Chapter Meetings, and only upon request (they won't be left on the table for just anyone to grab).

This contact list can be something as simple as a Phone List, or can be as elaborate as a "yearbook" including member photos, bios, address, and phone number—we're going to leave that up to you!

If it is decided that we make the list, each member will have the opportunity to opt in or out of the project—we don't want to make your contact information available if you don't want it made so. And, if we decide on a "yearbook" format,

we'll set up a time where we can meet to get the pictures done. (Pictures would be great for those of us—ok, for ME—whose memories for names and faces are, shall we say, less than optimal...)

But, before we can do anything, we need to know what YOU, the Chapter members, want us to do!

Therefore, on Page 3 of this newsletter, you'll find a "ballot" of sorts to let us know your thoughts on such a project. Please fill it in, clip it out, and either return it at the next meeting, or mail it to:

ALR
PO Box 871309
Canton, MI 48187-6309

If mailing, please allow enough time for it to arrive prior to the April meeting. We'll tally them up at that meeting, and that will tell us how you want us to proceed.

Thanks!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

You're Late!	2
Safety First	2
Don't Call Me "Ed"	2
Election Results	3
Contact List Ballot	3
Marketplace	3



MILE MARKERS

•ALR General Membership Meeting 7 April 7 pm

BIRTHDAYS IN APR:

- Rob Shaw—5 Apr
- John Long—7 April
- Bob Wyatt—12 Apr
- Bill "Billy D" Daluisio—15 Apr
- Bob "Ornry" Ross—18 Apr
- Randy "Grizz" Ferguson—19 Apr
- Animal Reynolds—25 Apr
- Ken Panek—26 Apr
- Bernie Diehl—27 Apr
- Lisa Runyan—28 Apr

You're LATE!

If you haven't yet renewed your ALR membership, you're no longer a member! Typically, the grace period on renewals extends to the end of January. It's April, folks! **You may have just received your last newsletter.**

Here are the instructions to fix this:

Step 1: Take your '05 Legion card and your bike's registration to the local copy center and make a copy of them (you can make them both on one sheet—I don't care!).

Step 2: Complete a Member Data Form—from here on out, no renewal will be processed without one! You can download it from our website or get one from me at the next meeting.

Step 3: Allocate cash, write a check, or get a money order in the amount of \$12. Please make checks or money orders payable to "ALR". (*Don't mail cash!!!*)

Step 4a: Place all of the materials assembled in Steps 1 through 3 into an envelope, affix a first class stamp, and mail it to:

**ALR Membership Chairman
P.O. Box 871309**

Canton, MI 48187-6309

Your card will be mailed you, and all copies will be destroyed.

OR

Step 4b: Bring the materials assembled through Steps 2 and 3 to me at the next regular ALR Membership Meeting (first Thursday of the month at 7pm, unless that's a holiday...), **SHOW** me your 2005 Legion card and your motorcycle registration. If I've already made your card, I'll provide it to you on the spot; otherwise, I will mail your card to you.

REMEMBER: The membership you save might be your own!



Save Our Stamps!

This newsletter is available electronically, saving your ALR \$\$\$.

Get your email address to Bobcat and get on the electronic bandwagon!



Safety First

It's time again to start getting the ol' hoss ready for the riding season.

Besides the "usual suspects" - tires, cables, fluids, lights, side stand, and controls—pay a little extra attention to the condition of your bike's frame.

Pay particular attention to anywhere where the paint on the frame looks abnormal—this could be a sign of rust underneath! And trust me: few things will ruin your day faster than having the steering head break from the rest of the frame while out for a scoot.

A good practice is to inspect the frame members whenever you wash your bike (more often, if you're like me...). Pay attention to any areas that might be struck by debris kicked up from the road. If you see scratches, touch them up to keep the frame sealed from the environment. And if you see bubbled paint or perforation, have the bike inspected, then, if it's still sound, clean the rust from the frame and repaint the affected areas.



ALR
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

...And Don't Call Me "Ed"

Good Lord! The year is racing by! We're already talking about Memorial day events!

With all the snow we've had this winter, we had better have a warm, dry summer! Particularly after the cool-wets that the past two summers have been!

I'm looking forward to the warm weather. My scoot is dying for the oil change I never got around to this winter, and she's looking a bit dusty due to my never having gotten around to putting her cover on, either. I know the death knell will come when I find myself stacking

things... on the seat... and... Luggage... rack... Damn!

I know Porky is having fond thoughts of me getting She Who Must Be Obeyed's bike out of his garage, too. He gets this far-away look in his eyes whenever the possibility is mentioned...

Lots of fun things in the works for this year! First on the list, for the new members and those who have been living in a vacuum, is the annual ALR Party will be held the 4th of July weekend in Fowlerville, MI this year! Go to the National ALR Information Center at NAL-RIC.com for more info. The plan-

ning committee has been working long and hard at it, and I know they've done it up proud! Get your reservations in early—ensures you get what you need, and let's them have an idea of how many will be there, which helps attract vendors, get volume discounts, etc, etc.

Finally, for those who won't be making the Run to The Wall this year, I've already been contacted regarding the Wayne/Westland Veteran's Parade, 29 May. This year's route takes us from the Wayne-Ford Civic League to Westland City Hall. And I'd be damned proud to have you support it again!



Elections Results!

Elections for the officers to serve during the 2005 Membership year are complete! You have spoken, and this is what you have said:

Director:
Al "Porky" Spiteri

Assistant Director:
James "J.D." Dean

Secretary:
Donna Spiteri

Treasurer:
Judy "Stormy" Reynolds

Membership Chairman:
Pat "Bobcat" Babcock

Historian:
Bob "Dr. Bob" McAdams

Chaplain:
Mo Price

Run Coordinator:
Tony Hancotte

Store Keeper:
Doreen McMahon

We wish the outgoing officers — Bill "Polka Bill" Kaledas (*Director*), Pam "Harley Lips" Globke (*Membership Chair*), Di-
anne Kaledas (*Historian*), Rob Shaw (*Run Coordinator*), and The Right Reverend Crazy Bob Squires (*Chaplain*) — all the best and thank them for their service to our Chapter.



Contact List "Ballot"

Member Number: MI-

Name: _____

Check one below:

A contact list is a bad idea. Do not include my data!

I'd like to see a contact list! My data is below!

I'd like to see a yearbook!!! My data is below!

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____


Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Other Info: _____


Clip and turn in at April meeting, or mail to ALR PO Box 871309 Canton, MI 48187-6309

ALR MARKETPLACE


Your ad here helps produce the monthly newsletter (Ads are \$10 each/\$120 for 13 months)



Pat Squires—Remerica—Integrity Realtors
16172 Middlebelt Livonia, MI (734) 525-4200x43
Pager (734) 566-6428 Email: csquires2sell@aol.com
Web page: www.remericaintegrity.com



Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 396
Active in YOUR community!



Greg Price—The Realtor Who Makes Things Happen
Century 21 Americal
Office: 734-946-9040 Cell Phone: 313-550-0847
Email: grinnerman@msn.com

Dial Drugs
Your neighborhood pharmacy and drugstore!
8226 N. Merriman Westland, MI 48185 - (734) 427-2850

Place your ad in **Cruisin' News!**
Contact
newsletter@americanlegionriders.net

Support The ALR

This Space Available

This Space Available

This Space Available

Only \$10 per month!

Place your ad in **Cruisin' News!**
Contact
(734) 397-9758

Place your ad in **Cruisin' News!**
Contact
PO Box 871309 Canton Township, MI 48187-6309

Print ads are listed in first-come, first-served order; left to right, top to bottom. Web ad presentation is in random order. Ad proceeds fund copying, folding, tabbing, labeling, and mailing costs.

The American Legion Riders

c/o The American Legion Post 396
6860 Middlebelt Road
Garden City, MI 48135

Phone: 734-397-9758
Fax: 734-397-9758

Email: newsletter@AmericanLegionRiders.net

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Contributors:

Al "Porky" Spiteri—Director

Sanity note: NALRIC.com and
www.AmericanLegionRiders.net both
go to the same site...

**Is this newsletter correctly ad-
dressed?** Contact the editor if *any-
thing* is wrong—name as displayed,
address, etc. *Thanks!*

Read this online at
http://americanlegionriders.net/gc_mi_alr

Advertise With Us!

The *Cruisin' News* gives you the opportunity to get the word out to a group of motorcycle enthusiasts dedicated to the support of Veteran's issues. We're a hellatiously loyal group, well known to support those who support us. Your \$10 ad helps to produce this newsletter, getting ALR info—and your ad—to members via both mail and the web. Please advertise with us. *The ALR is a program of The American Legion— a non-profit Veterans' organization*



THE
AMERICAN
LEGION RIDERS

Still serving - And Riding!

www.AmericanLegionRiders.net/gc_mi_alr

T O :



Happy Easter

The Runs...

Biker Events In and Around our Area...

As in the past, be sure to follow up on these events before attending. We do our best to ensure the dates, location and contact info are accurate, but mistakes are easily made and hardly corrected...

22 Mar—Easter Egg Coloring at Penrickton—6:00pm Taylor, MI Contact (734) 946-7500

3 Apr—Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet—Delta-plex Grand Rapids, MI
Contact 800-968-4242

17 Apr—Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet—State Fair Grounds Detroit, MI
Contact 800-968-4242

20-14 Apr—Laughlin River Run—Laughlin, NV
Contact 800-357-8223

24 Apr—Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet—Birch Run Saginaw, MI Contact 800-968-4242

1 May—ALR Blessing of the Bikes—St. Dunstan, Garden City, MI Contact Crazy Bob

7 May—Bikin' For Burns—Pirani's Event Center Flint, MI Contact abateregion20.tripod.com

12-15 May—Myrtle Beach Bike Week—Myrtle Beach, SC Contact www.MyrtleBeachHarley.com

15 May—Blessed in Hell—Hell, MI
Contact 517-540-6572

20 May—Warlocks Fish Fry—\$1 for a plate of food—8pm—Detroit, MI Contact www.warlocksmc-detroit.com

21-22 May—Moving Wall—Selfridge Air National Guard Base, MI

26-30 May—Rolling Thunder—Washington, DC Contact Bill "Polka Bill" Kaledas

28 May—ALR Presentation at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—Washington DC Contact Bill "Polka Bill" Kaledas

29 May—Wayne/Westland Veteran's Parade—Westland, MI Contact Pat "Bobcat" Babcock

4 Jun—Ride For Life—Berkley, MI
Contact 248-593-5150

5 Jun—Ride for a Reason—Dundee, MI
Contact 734-947-4647

11 Jun—Operation Uplink Ride—Lapeer, MI
Contact 810-664-9222

