

Cruisin' News



VOLUME 4 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2007

Looking Down The Road...

A letter from the Director...

Wow, the holidays and winter have sure come fast. I'm writing this article prior to the holidays, but you probably won't get to read it until after they are past. So even though it has not happened yet, I want to thank everyone for all your help with the Goodfellows and the Santaland Parade. I know that you have made the Legion Riders proud, by doing what we do best, and that is by helping others.

The Michigan- Ohio State party was a huge success, I personally want to thank all that came and welcomed our fellow riders from Willard, Ohio. I was very impressed by the number of riders from our chapter that showed up to represent us. I want to thank the Post and the bar staff for all their help and hospitality. I also want to thank all that made and brought food, everything was delicious. All had a good time and many promised to return the favor and go to Willard for the game next year.

Now, moving forward into December. We have the UPC Santaland party coming up, and as always we need as many volunteers as we can get for that. It really isn't that much work, but it really is a lot of fun. So please come on down and help us help others! We also have chapter Christmas Party coming up, and let us not forget the Wayne County Light Show through Hines

Park.

One very important thing that we need to take care of at our December meeting is the nomination of officers for next years Board of Directors. We are in GREAT NEED of someone to step up and volunteer to be our Membership Chairman and Newsletter Editor. Hopefully the same person can do both jobs, and I don't believe that Bobcat is going to leave the new chairman hanging; I'm sure he will help you through the rough spots. Unfortunately he has other responsibilities that have higher priority and require a great amount of his time. In advance I would like to say THANK YOU Pat, for all that you have done for the chapter and the entire American Legion Riders Program. You will be surely missed and hard to replace.

Last but not least, I'd like everyone to say a prayer for any of our members or members families that are sick or distressed. The holidays are not happy days, when someone that you love or care for is hurting.

May GOD bless you all!

SEMPER FI, JOHNNY B.



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MILE MARKERS

- ALR General Membership Meeting 6 Dec 7 pm
- Chapter Christmas Party—8 Dec
- Christmas Lights Run—11 Dec
- Ladies Night Out 20 Dec

December Birthdays:

- Richard Amenson—9 Dec
- Peggy Chassman—14 Dec
- Richard Delisle—14 Dec
- Dave "Hagrid" Spiteri—14 Dec
- Berry "Soap" Soper—22 Dec

Don't Call Me 'Ed'...

Christmas and New Years will soon be upon us.

What a year it has been. We've seen many changes around us—not the least of which was Resolution 35 which made the American Legion Riders—a concept invented right here—a national program of The American Legion! Wow!

Next year will be challenging for the ALR as it struggles to maintain its identity through all of this. I know it remains the goal of the National ALR Advisory Committee to keep this “new” program true to the original vision, but it is going to be a challenge. In a group comprised of so many voices, it will be difficult at times for National to clearly hear the voice of the majority. That is what our role will be on the NALRAC—to ensure that we keep them mindful of what that majority voice has been calling for of the ALR, and to help them forge the constitution and bylaws reflective of that desire.

Know that National's heart is truly “in the right place” on this. They are not out to remake the ALR in their image, and are truly making an effort to get it right. Give them a chance, folks. There have been a few missteps along the way; however, they have demonstrated a willingness to work through those issues to ensure minimal upheaval within the ranks.

Once again, I must echo the situation I currently find myself in: I am back in a position at Ford which requires quite a bit of travel—prolonged travel—and can no longer commit myself to the requirements of newsletter editor and membership chairman for our Chapter.

Therefore, it is imperative that someone step up for each of these roles. The shoes I'm leaving behind will prove a perfect fit for whom-ever chooses to fill them. You can make of the positions whatever you want. No-one ever said that the newsletter has to be more than a

page providing dates of upcoming events and a word form the Director, if s/he so chooses. The membership chairman's job does not have to be computer-based.

The point I'm making is that the Chapter needs YOU; not me. YOU can devote the time to get a newsletter out. YOU can devote the time to ensure membership records are complete and members receive their cards. If YOU choose to use some of the tools I've brought to the task over these past few years, that's great—but it's a CHOICE; not a REQUIREMENT! So, please: if you have the desire to pitch in, please step up. The sooner someone takes on the newsletter, the smother that particular transition will be. Membership chairman does require an election, and that can't be helped, but if someone has it in mind to run for that office, let me know now, and we can discuss what I have in my bag of tricks, and see whether you want to carry on with them, or blaze your own trail!



It's Renewal Time!

It's that time of year again: That happy time when Bobcat nags you to renew your membership!

With the availability of Legion/SAL/ALA cards for 2008 comes the availability of the newly designed ALR cards for 2008. Once you've renewed your Legion family membership, you can renew your ALR membership as well. Neat!

Here are the requirements to renew:

- If you're a *SPECIAL CLASS LIFE MEMBER*, or a *SUPPORTING MEMBER*, you need only complete a Member Data Form (enclosed, available on the website, or ask Bobcat for one) and show your 2008 Legion/SAL/ALA card.

- If you're a *SPECIAL CLASS MEMBER* under bylaws paragraphs IIA1 or IIA2, you need to complete a Member Data Form, show your 2008 Legion family membership card, and submit \$12.00 dues.
- If you're a *REGULAR MEMBER*, you need to complete a Member Data Form, show your 2008 Legion family membership card, show your motorcycle **registration** (if you are a member's spouse, the spouse owning the motorcycle must renew as well in order for you to renew), and submit \$12.00 dues.

If you need an additional Member Data Form, they are available on our web site, or see Bobcat at the next meeting.



Dual Membership Notice

Per the amendment to our bylaws voted in at the 3 February 2005 meeting of our Chapter, you will not be allowed to renew your membership with our Chapter if you intend to hold membership in any other Chapter of the ALR.

Note that revocation of your membership in our Chapter will occur if dual membership is disclosed or discovered following renewal. This revocation will not precipitate a refund of dues paid for 2008.



Be sure to visit
http://AmericanLegionRiders.net/gc_mi_alr
 for Member Data Forms,
 Newsletters, and more!



Descriptions Of Offices

The following description of offices is derived from the bylaws and from observed performance of duties at our Chapter. It is intended to guide those who would nominate someone or pursue office.

Director: Serves as Chief Administrative Officer of the Association and presides over all meetings. The Director has general supervision over the affairs of the Association. The Director also performs such other duties as directed by the general membership.

Assistant Director: Assumes the duties of the Director in his absence. Assists the Director in the performance of his/her duties when called on to do so by the Director.

Secretary: Keeps a full and correct record of all proceeding at Chapter meetings. The Secretary also gives detailed minutes at each regular meeting.

Treasurer: Has charge of all finances of the Association. Has charge of disbursing funds as directed by the general membership. Gives detailed financial reports at each regular meeting. Also fur-

nishes copies to the Post if requested.

Sgt at Arms/ Run Coordinator: Serves as the logistics person in charge of organized runs of the Association. Determines dates, times, routes and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity. Appoints assistant road captains or takes any other measures s/he may feel necessary to help insure the safety of the group during a run. Also helps to maintain order during chapter meetings. Traditionally publishes and distributes the Chapter newsletter.

Membership Chairman: Responsible for maintenance of membership records. Collects membership dues as determined by the Chapter bylaws, and provides same to Treasurer on a regular basis. Reviews and/or collects eligibility documentation as required by the general members, sponsoring Post Executive Board, Department, or State and Local laws. Provides detailed membership reports at regular meetings of the Chapter.

Elections On The Horizon!

It's time to start thinking about who you would like presiding over our meetings during 2008! Nominations will be accepted at the January meeting.

All offices are available to any nominees having held membership within our Chapter for a minimum of one year.

Nominations will be entertained at the 3 January 2008 meeting, with elections to be held by written ballot at the 1 February meeting.

Members will be required to be recognized (verified as Chapter members for 2008) to nominate another member for office and/or to vote.



American Legion Riders

**Still Serving...
And Riding!**



The American Legion Riders

For ticket information, contact:
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Is this newsletter correctly addressed?
Contact the editor if *anything* is
wrong—name as displayed, address,
etc. *Thanks!*

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



Sick Call

Stormy Reynolds: Animal said that
Stormy is doing well and can now have
visitors. She is at Heritage Hospital
(Telegraph and Wick), Room 271. Visiting
Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



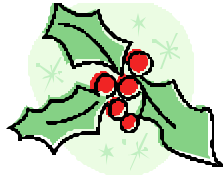
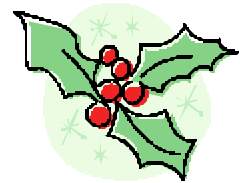
THE
AMERICAN
LEGION RIDERS

Still serving - And Riding!

www.AmericanLegionRiders.net/gc_mi_alr



TO:



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!



The Runs...

Biker Events In and Around our Area...

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

1 Dec—Santaland Party—
Maplewood Center 8 am

6 Dec—Regular Meet-
ing—Post 396 7pm

8 Dec—Chapter
Christmas
Party—Post 396
7pm

11 Dec—Christmas Light
Run—Meet at the Post at 6
pm to ride the Hines light dis-
play

20 Dec—Ladies Night Out

15 Dec—Needy Family Setup—Maplewood
Center 8 am

16 Dec—Needy Family Distribution—
Maplewood Center 8 am

1 Jan—First Ride O' The Year—The in-
trepid among us will meet at the Post at
noon for the first ride of the year...

