

Cruisin' News

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 03

MARCH 2009

Looking Down The Road...

It's March, and according to the calendar, winter will officially end and spring will begin, sometime towards the end of the month. Now is the time to give our bikes a good going over, starting with safety and maintenance checks. Then after we are sure that they are in perfect operating condition, we can clean them up and go out for a ride. I know that we are all anxious to get out and ride, but PLEASE make sure that safety is your primary concern. Get out there and learn the conditions of the roads that you plan to travel. It seems to me, that there are more potholes than ever out there, and the Governor isn't in any big hurry to fix them. Also, beware of BLACK ICE, March is famous for it's quick changing weather and the thawing and re-freezing of the roads can be very dangerous. So please, enjoy the weather and the rides, but be careful. I want us all to have a long and safe riding season.

I just attended the Post 32 ALR meeting in Livonia, with the Directors from many chapters throughout the region. We let each other know about what rides and fundraisers we are all having, so we can get to know and support each other in our endeavors. We are planning a Regional ALR Picnic to be held on Aug, 2nd. Info on location and other details will be coming in the near future. Our chapter com-

mittees have also been busy trying to set up the Texas Hold-em fundraiser and the 15th Anniversary Party. We also have to start thinking about our Poppy sales.

I also want to take a moment to welcome all our new members to the Chapter. It seems like we are getting a few new members each month. I want to encourage them to get involved with the chapters rides, events, and fundraisers. We are a Veterans organization with the purpose of helping our Veterans and our Community. Some of the things we do can be a lot of work, but the more volunteers we have, the easier things will be. Not only is charity work or community service very rewarding, we also can have a lot of fun while doing it. You are not obligated to participate in all functions, but PLEASE try to help out when you can.

SEMPER FI and GOD BLESS THE VET,

JOHNNY B.



Secretary Notes

POPPIES

I would like to thank the Auxiliary for their support of the American Legion Riders poppy sale. Poppy Sale weekend will be the weekend of May 1st through the 3rd, there will be a sign-up sheet at March's meeting.

The Desert Angel

"Changing Our World... One Box at a Time!" Please be at March's meeting to see what this is all about....

Texas Hold-Em

We need more volunteers for the Legion Riders Texas Hold-Em being held May 11th - 14th, sign-up sheet will be at March's meeting.

Diane

Secretary



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MILE MARKERS

ALR General Membership meeting 5-March 7:00pm

Ladies Night Out 19-March

BIRTHDAYS IN March:

Bob 'Dr.Bob' McAdams 4 Mar
 Robert 'Tattooman' Stabenow 4 Mar
 Stephen Barnard 10 Mar
 Dion 'Camp' Campbell 17 Mar
 Jeffrey 'Intern' McAdams 21 Mar
 Jerry 'Grouper' Wozny 24 Mar
 Deanna Spiteri 25 Mar
 Bob 'Buffalo' Smith 25 Mar
 Michael 'Bert' Holbert 27 Mar
 Bill 'Fuzzy' Fuss 27 Mar
 Roger 'Truesdell' 28 Mar
 Shawn 'Pitbull' Babcock 30 Mar

Editors Rant

March is here and the weather is improving???. Well that's what they tell me anyway. I hope everyone is doing well. If you haven't already, now is the time to start getting that scooter ready for some road time. With that thought in mind, here are some spring cleaning tips I got from Gary Moore's web page.

- Check battery terminals (clean, if necessary, with baking soda and water).
- Check, charge, or install the battery (**positive** lead first).
- Check oil and other lubricants.
- Check cables and lube with specified lubricants.
- Check tire pressure and wear.
- Check drive belt, chain, or shaft.
- Check all lights, and operation of each.
- Check brake fluid level, and pads/shoes for wear.
- Wash or apply a pre-wash, and then thoroughly "bathe" your ride.

- Dry or apply an **after wash product** (there are several available), then dry.
- Apply leather treatment to leather components.
- Polish and wax all chrome and painted parts.
- Add "octane" booster (if desired) according to directions... never too much!
- Write down **beginning** mileage.
- Review any notes written before putting your motorcycle in Winter storage.
- Attend a **Biker Blessing** to start the riding season off right.

We need volunteers for our poppy sales, this is one of our main fund-raising events, . We are also putting together a poker committee, and a 15th anniversary committee. Please help us out by signing up for these functions at our next meeting.

Porky sent me some info about VA health care that I have posted below.

Thanks for the info Pork.

Also, if you know of anyone or anything that you would like to mention in the news letter, please drop me a line at newsletter@americanlegionriders.net

I can always use help filling up these pages.

Don't forget to remember our soldiers and vets , past and present in your prayers

Robert  Shaw



VA To Offer Health Care to Previously Ineligible Veterans

January 8, 2009

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today plans to re-open enrollment in its health care system by July 2009 to about 265,000 veterans whose incomes exceed current limits.

"We're pleased to be able to offer what has been called 'the best care anywhere' to many more new veterans," said Dr. James B. Peake, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "We'll be able to provide these newly enrolled veterans with the kind of timely, high quality health care veterans who already use our system are accustomed to." The change affects veterans whose incomes exceed the current VA means test and geographic means test income thresholds by 10 percent or less. Congress provided funds in VA's fiscal year 2009 budget to support the new enrollment. In 1996, Congress established a priority-based enrollment system for VA and a uniform package of medical benefits for all enrollees. The legislation opened enrollment in VA's health care system to all eligible veterans and required that each year the Secretary of Veterans Affairs assess veterans' demand for services and determine if the necessary resources are available to provide timely, quality care to all enrollees. Enrollment for the lowest priority of the eight groups-veterans who are not being compensated for a military-related disability and who have incomes above a set threshold-was suspended on January 18, 2003,

although veterans in that priority group who were already enrolled for care were permitted to remain enrolled. VA originally suspended enrollment for Priority 8 veterans because it was unable to provide all enrolled veterans with timely access to its health care due to a tremendous growth in the number of veterans then seeking enrollment. VA now plans to reopen enrollment for a portion of these veterans without compromising the Department's ability to provide high quality health care services to all enrolled veterans who are eligible for care. VA's computer systems are being modified to accommodate the changes, and the Department is preparing communication and education materials to ensure that Congress, veterans service organizations, and the public are aware of the coming changes. "The rule will take effect by June 30, 2009, if the regulatory process proceeds smoothly," Peake said. "We look forward to welcoming these newly eligible veterans into the VA system. VA will continue to monitor wait times to ensure the quality of care is not adversely affected."

This was put into effect by the 110th Congress that convened in 2007.

VA to Begin Enrolling Category 8 Veterans: The VA announced plans this week to begin partially opening up the health care system to new Category 8 veterans by increasing the income thresh-

old by about 10 percent. New Category 8 veterans -- those with incomes above a geographically adjusted amount of approximately \$29,000 -- have been prevented from enrolling in the VA system since January 2003. The 110th Congress gave VA an extra \$375 million in funding to begin opening up the system. VA is expected to begin enrolling these veterans in June. To read the VA press release, go to: [http://www1 <http://www1/ .va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1641](http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1641).



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



Lips Corner



Stay tuned for updates in future news letters



CHILLI COOK OFF

**GARDEN CITY
POST 396
FEBRUARY 28
12-5 PM
5.00 PERSON**

**CAN YOU BEAT THE REIGNING CHAMPS
JOHN AND NANCY BOWMAN**



Rolling Thunder 09

30 rooms have been blocked at the Marriott Residence Inn for the above event.

Residence Inn
8125 Gatehouse Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

1-800-331-3131 or 1-703-573-5200

Dates: Thursday, May 21st through Monday, May 25th.

Price: \$114 for single or studio room

Name of Event: American Legion Riders

Wreath Presentation: Saturday, May 23rd (I believe the time is 3:15 pm)

Stay tuned for more information as memorial day draws near



Blessing of the Bikes

Sunday May 3, 2009
1:00pm
St Dunstan Church
Garden City
Meet in the church parking lot



2009 ALR ROMP

**2009 Buckeye Romp!
The 2009 National ALR
Gathering (Romp)
July 17 - 19, 2009
Willard, OH**

Post 514

Hotel info and registration forms are available on-line at

<http://www.willardpost514.org/2009-Romp.html>

There is also limited camping on the post grounds, first come first serve



Dual Membership Notice

Per the amendment to our by-laws 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.



STORE NEWS

The store is no longer carrying any Rider clothes. .

The store still carries hats, flags, rockers and patches. .

See you at the meeting,

Donna



THE AMERICAN LEGION
RIDERS

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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



THE
AMERICAN
LEGION RIDERS

Still serving - And Riding!

www.AmericanLegionRiders.net/gc_mi_alr

TO :

«Name»

«Spouse»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«City», «State». «Zip»

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
rarely corrected...*

5 Mar—Regular Meeting

19 Mar—Ladies' Night
Out

2 Apr—Regular
Meeting

16 Apr—Ladies'
Night Out

1-3 May—Poppy sales

3 May—Blessing of the bikes

7 May—Regular Meeting

11-14 May—Texas Hold-em

21 May—Ladies' Night Out

21-25 May—Rolling Thunder—Washington,
DC

4 Jun—Regular Meeting

18 Jun—Ladies' Night Out

2 Jul—Regular Meeting

16 Jul—Ladies' Night Out

17-19 Jul—Buckeye Romp—National ALR
Gathering in Willard, OH

6 Aug—Regular Meeting

20 Aug—Ladies' Night Out

3 Sep—Regular Meeting

17 Sep—Ladies' Night Out

19 Sep—Michigan Remembers Run

1 Oct—Regular Meeting

15 Oct—Ladies' Night Out

5 Nov—Regular Meeting

19 Nov—Ladies' Night Out

3 Dec—Regular Meeting

17 Dec—Ladies' Night Out