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## Indiana ALR State News JANUARY 2019

### RIDERS RESPONSE

We Your American Legion Riders,  
Ride For God & Country, The  
American Legion Family & Allied  
Veterans Everywhere.

Protect Those That Protect Us  
Amen

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Conference April 5-7, 2019  
National Romp June 27-30, 2019

*For more information about any of these  
events, please visit our website:  
[Www.indianalegionriders.org](http://www.indianalegionriders.org)*

## STATE DIRECTOR

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Director for 2019.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Charlie Whelchel for his dedicated service and leadership for that last 2 years. If you see him around, Please give him a pat on the back for a job well done. I wish to also thank the 2018 officers for their service.

**Game plan to 2019 to improve the ALR statewide** Website Revisions and updates. Some of you may have noticed some changes and a lot more are coming. Dina and I spent a day with our website administrator to get some needed changes made and more are in the plans. He will be attending our Spring Conference in April to take input and suggestions directly from our members on how we can improve the website. One change we made immediately was to include and email subscription for NEWSLETTER delivery. Please take a moment to input you (and your members) email addresses. When a newsletter comes out, everyone subscribed to it will receive it.

I am calling on all Chapter Directors in the Department to appoint three of your members to attend and liaison with the three closest chapters by attending each other meetings and to report back to their home chapters as far as ride schedules, fund raising activities and good old fashioned camaraderie. My hope is this program can help cut down on schedule conflicts and increase cooperation between chapters.

Please instruct each Chapter & District (if applicable) Treasurer to report any and all donations for 2018 calendar year to Dina Long (BEFORE April 1<sup>st</sup>). Please report any funds provided in the following categories: Donations to

the Post, donations to ANY and ALL charitable organizations, and any special financial assistance provided to Chapter members. I would also like to be able to report on ceremonies, parades and funeral honors our chapters have participated in during 2018. We need to make sure the American Legion ALR Committee and the American Legion leadership know exactly how much support & GOOD the ALR is doing out there. Thanks in advance for cooperating.

### Appointments

I have asked **Tony "Outlaw" James to Serve as Sergeant at Arms** for the upcoming year. I feel he is uniquely qualified to fill this role. On this note, no alcohol is allowed in our meetings or in the Atrium area. There were a few doing this at the last meeting and it was brought up afterwards. Please refrain. While wearing an appropriately marked ALR vest is preferred, it is not required to be worn to attend meeting or to vote. A current ALR Membership card is required. Outlaw will be checking for membership cards at the door at each meeting. I have also appointed **Rocky Baize to be the State Ride Coordinator**.

By laws....**TJ Small, Jim Hamilton, Ira Glover, & Jeff Bickle have been appointed to by-law committee** to draft new by-laws. We will have a "first reading" of the draft at the Spring Conference meeting April 6, 2019. Hopefully, we will have the required "2<sup>nd</sup> reading" at the Convention meeting in July and then they will be taken to the ALR committee for approval and then to the DEC on Sunday for their blessing. I ask all ALR members & chapters to be present at the meeting to show the American Legion delegates that we take our role in the organization very seriously.

### State Rally

Since we have had no Chapter or District step up to spear head the State Rally in 2019, I am proposing that we, as a Department, fully participate and in and go, as a group, to the National Romp this year. It will be held June 27 – 30 in Elizabethtown Kentucky. The new Ride Coordinator will be organizing a rally point for June 27<sup>th</sup> near New Albany, IN so we can ride in as a group.

### Communication

As we prepare for the upcoming riding season, please forward ride schedules and events calendars to the Secretary and myself. We will be creating a special RIDES AND EVENTS Facebook page to create a single source reference for anyone and everyone to use and refer to. Also, when you put an event on Facebook page, be sure to "create an event" instead of just posting about it or putting up a picture of the event flier. Creating an event allows more people to see and share it. It also allows anyone to "INVITE" others. It will also allow us to PUT YOUR EVENT ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE.

Chapter Directors please email me directly @ Brady8622@msn.com with your upcoming events, Rides, Meetings, etc.

Please shake the trees of our existing members and make personal contact to renew their membership and get those dues into Dina at Chapter 500 as soon as possible. Also, challenge each chapter member to recruit one new member each.

Please communicate ALL your events and scheduled rides to me directly. I will attempt to participate in as many as I can over the next year.

Let's remember that we exist to promote American Legion Programs (especially veteran's assistance) and to encourage membership participation at post, district, and Department level. When you're making your plans for the upcoming season, please make sure those plans include a way to do that.

We have some new Chapters and more forming every day. There will be Charters presented at the Spring Conference on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Michael "Irish" Brady  
State Director



### Chaplain

Riders as the warm weather approaches and you get on 2 wheels, be ever mindful of road conditions and traffic.

When you're wearing your ALR vest you are representing the Legion and its family. Please be the example as you are always being watched.

Last quarter we lost thirteen riders,  
Paul Briner, Chapter 330, New Haven  
Brad Sweat, Chapter 313, Fairmount  
Mike Keane, Chapter 261, Cedar Lake  
Dickey Coffey, Chapter 42, Floyd's Knobs  
Ed Bishop, Chapter 152, Knightstown  
Larry Chase, Chapter 64, Holt Rd. Indianapolis  
Ruth Smith, Chapter 495, Indianapolis 38th St.  
Roberta Maloney, Chapter 468, Berne  
Jerry Littles, Chapter 502, South Haven  
Helen Moss, Chapter 502, South Haven  
Bob Cagle, Chapter 502, South Haven  
Jon Lyberger, Chapter 44, Newburgh  
Cole Cummings, Chapter 89, Seymour  
Peace be to their friends and family.

Elder Berry

### Northern Asst. Director

Good day to all. I'm looking forward to working with everyone this year to make our ALR group a wonderful success. I know that as we continue through the year and get to know one another we will be able to accomplish our goal our families first, legion family, ALR as all are working as one common goal our veterans. I feel that when all are working together harmoniously, we can move mountains for our veterans. I want you to know that I'm here to help make that happen and to work with all ALR chapters to make this happen. I would like to extend my email Bigi2869@yahoo.com as a way of contacting me. I'm also on Facebook instant messenger (I usually respond faster too. Lol). For those who have not made meetings please come on down in April to see what's new and to learn how we're moving forward as a group for are legion family's , ALR. Thank you again.

Ira Glover, Northern Assistant Director

### Ride Coordinator

Hello riders I would like to introduce myself. My name is ROCKY BAIZE I am the new state ride coordinator. I am a member of CHAPTER 463 TENNYSON INDIANA. A couple of things I am working on is getting a ride together for the National Romp the last weekend of June. Also maybe meeting the Legacy ride somewhere in southern Indiana and riding the last leg with them. if anyone has any input I would be glad to talk to you. I will be trying to attend several different

chapter meetings to get to know how each chapter is doing things and hopefully to learn from the many experienced riders.

Rocky Baize State Ride Coordinator

### Secretary

Fellow Indiana American legion Riders, as we embark on another year of Supporting our American Legion members and programs, I'm proud to have been selected as your Secretary. Being a positive public group, in support of our proud tradition of service not self.

Whether were riding in a Parade, taking part in a Group benefit ride or honoring our fallen veterans, we must make our State and communities proud and present a positive image for the American Legion and all it stands for.

I will do my best to help in any way possible to support any efforts towards that goal.

I truly believe, if we all work together for this purpose, we will be successful and be part of an outstanding group of Riders. I am always willing to step up and do my part and will aid anyone who has questions or concerns. I'm a charter member of Post 250 Mitchell Riders and have held several offices and chaired many special projects.

I would love to share my experiences and lessons learned during my tenure.

We are your American Legion Riders!

Respectfully

Mary Lou Melton, Secretary

## FINANCE/MEMBERHIP

As we closed out 2018, we had 3,325 paid State members. We only have about half of our 2018 members paid for 2019 as of this writing. As of January 1, 2019, anyone who has not paid 2019 dues is a guest – not a member. Please collect 2019 dues from your members now and send \$3.00 for each renewal to me. Also, Please insure that all of your ALR members have paid their respective 2019 Legion, Auxiliary and SAL dues. The ALR membership card is only valid if they have their current membership card.

Only memberships that are paid / postmarked by “Close of Books” will included in the head count for voting at the October, 2019, State meeting. You can check with me before the meeting to see how many votes you have. Your Director gets one vote. You get one “at large” vote. Then you get 1 vote for every 10 members. If you paid no dues by Close of Books (June 9, 2019), you get no votes.

At the Fall conference, the membership approved and donations of \$3,700 went to 10 different Veteran support organizations in 2018.

Close of Books is June 9, 2019. Members who have paid State dues by June 9 will automatically have a 2020 card printed. 2020 cards will be available for pick up at the July 2019 State meeting.

Please include your contact info, list of who you are paying for and Chapter number with all

paperwork you send me! I still need LEG, AUX or SAL membership numbers from several

chapters. Legion Family memberships must be current to join or renew ALR memberships. Check these membership dates and record the membership numbers for our records.

Each new / returning member must fill out their own membership application. Spouses do not share an application. Each member has their own individual Legion Family membership number. Members do not share membership numbers. Please do not send me State dues for members until they have paid their Chapter dues. Pre-paying skews your records and mine.

Please be careful when you make out checks. I receive many checks that have bad dates on them. Also, many times the amount of the check is unreadable. Make checks payable to Indiana State ALR.

Chapter Directors – it is your responsibility to be sure your Membership Officer is doing his/her job!

Please work toward getting your Chapter computerized! This saves time and mistakes and makes it much easier to hand off to incoming officers. Please consider this when nominating for your next election.

### **NEW - - - WE ARE TOOTING OUR HORN!!**

**Please send me a list of your Chapter activities/charitable events for 2018. I also need a list of all charitable donations you made for 2018. (Who to and how much - with dates if you have them...)**

We will combine all this info and present it at Spring Conference in the Legion General Session. This will let them know what all we have been doing. Thank you for your support with this project!!

If you have any questions, please call me!!

As always, if you have any questions or issues, don't hesitate to call me!

*Dina “RED” Long*

*Indiana ALR State Finance/Membership Officer*

