

American Legion, Department of Indiana American
Legion Riders
Minutes of State meeting minutes Jan. 12, 2019

Mike Brady, incoming Director called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Incoming Sgt. At Arms, Tony James, secured the room.

The Pledge of Allegiance and Riders Response were recited. Chaplain, Lee Berry offered a prayer of thanks, safety and guidance.

Roll call of 2018 officers present were: Director, Charlie Whelchel absent, Northern Director, Ron Boyd, absent, Southern Director, Mike Brady, present, Secretary, Mary Lou Melton, present, Finance/Membership, Dina Long, present, Sgt. At Arms, Bruce Shepherd, absent, Chaplain, Lee Berry, present, Historian, Danny White, present, Run Coordinator, Brian Hawkins, absent, Communications Officer, Tammy Salonko, absent.

Sign in: 26 chapters present.

Minutes: Mike Jacob, chapter 65 made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Doug Hershberger chapter 308. Passed by vote.

Mike Brady, incoming Director and acting Director of this meeting, appointed Tony James as Sgt. at Arms for the 2019 year. Ride coordinator position is still open.

Dina Long, Chapter 500 made a motion to suspend the meeting for installation of new officers for 2019. Seconded by Shannon Kueisco, chapter 66. Passed by vote.

Director Brady introduced Ed Trice, Past Dept. Commander, National Executive committeeman and Legion Rider to be the installing officer.

2019 officers installed are, Director, Mike Brady, Secretary, Mary Lou Melton, Treasurer/Membership, Dina Long, North Director, Ira Glover, South Director, Jim Cole, Sgt. at Arms, Tony James, Chaplain, Lee Berry, Historian, Danny White.

Motion to resume meeting: by Dina Long, Chapter 500, seconded by Shannon Kueisco, chapter 66. Passed by vote.

Treasurers report, Dina Long, Beginning balance \$5462.50 ending Balance total available \$1525.09 Motion to accept treasurers report for audit by Doug Hershberger, chapter 308, Second by Shannon Kueisco, chapter 66, Passed by vote.

Membership: Dina Long, we have 1600 paid members at this time. With a possibility of 3300. If a person hasn't paid their dues, at this time, they have no vote. They are a guest at this time. Before you process their Riders dues make sure that their legion family membership is current. We now have 121 chapters and next quarter one new Chapter Chesterton; Chapter 172 will get their charter. Sellersburg is in process also. Waiting on paid roster.

Introduction of Special Honored guest: James Wallace, National Vice Commander, From Michigan was introduced by Director, Brady. Charter member of his Post Riders group since 2009 at Pinckney Michigan. He briefly spoke of our duty to help veterans and family. Also active duty members and their children.

By-Laws: T.J. Small, working on changes to them. Patches and rockers are ok, still addressing objectionable patches as inappropriate. Changes are on pages 3-5 on by-laws and 5-8 on constitution. New by- laws will be presented at April meeting.
To answer the question of who is in charge of the riders at the Post level, it is the Post Commander who has the final decision.

Northern Director and Southern Director now have Job description for their positions. New constitution and by-laws will address organizing by district.

Will have wording changed from shall to may organize by Districts. We can add to the by-laws and Constitution and make them stronger but can't take anything away that will make them weaker. A draft of these proposals will be at the sign in table at Spring Conference, in April. 1st reading in April 2nd reading and vote will be in July at Convention. If this passes by vote it will be passed on to the legion committee for ALR and then to DEC for vote after end of conference.

Cliff Weikel, chapter 409, wanted clarification, after second reading, in July it goes for approval after membership approves, to ALR committee consisting of each District ALR rep and the chairman. Kurt Pheiffer, chapter 351 Elberfeld, clarified, Districts meaning American Legion Districts not ALR Districts.

State Rally: No State Rally for 2019. Too late to try to get it organized at this late date. No one Stepped up.

Suggestion to attend the National Romp, as a group this year. It's the last weekend of June at Elizabethtown, Ky. Chapters organize and ride in as a group from a central location, considered, New Albany or Floyds knobs, or Sellersburg. Forms are online with camping options and hotels, etc. Golf carts are also permitted. Make online reservations through National Romp site. We need to Coordinate meeting up on I-65 South at Sellersburg, Hardin Post, Chapter 113, by the deadline for the Romp. Payment and forms need to be filled out and turned in. Dates for the Romp are June 27, 28, 29 and 30th.

T. J. Small, Chapter 409, fined \$20 for not having his phone turned off during the meeting as directed in the opening. Funds were turned in to Dina Long, finance officer.

Comments.

There was extensive discussion about the State Rally.

Rider of the Year nominations need to be turned in to your District ALR chairman before April 1st. Applications can be found on the website.

National Rider of Honor, nominations are due March 1st, to Alan Schulte for Indiana applicants.

Tony James spoke about the Legacy run will be in August; It starts in North Florida and goes through North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and then to Indiana. This year is the last year for the parade to be a part Of the National Convention, which is in Indianapolis. With Department of Indiana hosting, so we want to have a great turn out. The Legacy Run and Parade are separate, but one follows the other.

Outlaw, Tony James, Chapter 200, stated we need to have an outstanding effort to raise funds for the Legacy Run and make Indiana proud. Contact corporations, Businesses and riders groups for donations for this 100 Anniversary event.

Chaplain, Lee Berry stated how sad it is that we lost 13 members of our Rider members in the last quarter, from Fall Conference till Mid Winter Conference, the most we have had pass away at one time. He recited their names and Chapters:

Paul Briner, Chapter 330, New Haven, Brat Sweat, Chapter 313, Fairmont, Mike Keane, Chapter 261, Cedar Lake, Dickey Coffey, Chapter 42, Floyd's Knobs, Ed Bishop, Chapter 152, Knightstown, Larry Chase, Chapter 64, Indy, Holt road, Ruth Smith, Chapter 495, Indianapolis, 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, New Burgh, and Cole Cummings, Chapter 89, Seymour. Chaplain Berry asked that we stand in memory of these fellow riders and offered prayer.

Northern Director and IVH rep, Ira Glover, Chapter 502, said census at the Veterans home is at 198 which is one less than last quarter. Activities Director, requested donations of money, easy crafts, wood craft items would be greatly appreciated.

Tom Smith, communications Direct said they will be putting a screened enclosure up starting April first and hope to have it completed by June. If anyone can share a day or two to help build this, they Would be happy to have your help.

The veterans at IVH would like crackers, snacks, 3X to 6x sweatpants, PJ's new please because of issues With bugs, No socks at this time, they have plenty.

They have a program or service plan, that lets homeless veterans stay for up to 120 days to get back on their feet.

Southern Director, Jim Cole: I plan on being at as many of your special events as possible, it's 200 miles from my home to Evansville, if you have any problems or issues let me know. I'd like to get an idea of

The number of active members you have for your post group. Looking forward to working with all of you.

Historian, Danny White: Stated we need to utilize the legion and riders web page. We need to learn how to use face book to

Promote our activities and events. Use the legion web page on our site. Look for info towards the middle or last of next week Submit your event pictures to me by e-mail.

Director:, Brady: we need specific suggestions of web site. Newsletter articles You will need to subscribe to the newsletter that way it can be e-mailed to each subscriber. Chapter data form needs to be updated

Info so the information can be sent to the current chapter director, not two or three years back. We will Be working on specific ideas our board is working on updates. The website address is indianalegionriders.org all lower case letters.

Every chapter appoint member of three closest chapters to your post to share info with and improve inner chapter communication, ride dates, benefits, special events.

All chapters finance officers need to draft a list of donations to legion programs. This report will be Taken to the legion to show them what our rider chapters do for the legion. Get this info to Dina Long Add benefit rider or escorts or parades, etc.

Danny Price, Chapter 79 asks if this info isn't included in consolidated reports. Yes but not in the detailed info that we are asking for to specifically show what we as a riders group do to enhance the Programs of the legion. We would have to write a resolution, get it approved and forwarded to National to have this added to consolidated report.

Director Brady: everyone get their phones out now! I won't fine you while we are doing this. Here is my phone number 812-341-7577, call me with problems or issues that we need to address.

Next Conference is April 5-6-7. We will have a new starting time for our meetings, at 2pm, except for Convention in July, which can't be changed. The ALR committee meeting will be directly after our meeting.

The meetings will be held at this same hotel as usual, contrary to the rumors going around.

Good of the Riders: Legion at Osceola Post 308, is facing financial hardships due to mismanagement of Post funds, they owe the IRS \$5000. They are raffling off a side of beef at \$25 a ticket. Contact the Post for tickets or info.

The Rolling thunder, Run to the wall will cease after this year's 2019 ride. Due to logistics concerns. They always line up at the pentagon parking lot and for some reason that's become an issue. So if You've always wanted to do this, now's the time.

With no further business to come before this group, chaplain led us in prayer and meeting adjourned at 2:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Lou Melton,

2019 State Secretary
January 12, 2019