

ALR Meeting March 9, 2024

Meeting called to order at 9:00AM

Started with the Pledge of Allegiance

Followed up by a prayer by Brad

In Person: Myron, Elsie, Bruce, Vig, Wilber, CJ

Online Tom, Brad, Richard, Rich

Director: Tom Pike

No new members

No comments, changes, or additions to meeting minutes.

Director's report, Tom still has raffle tickets for the Virginia legacy run and gun raffle. He will bring it to the next meeting since he was not at the meeting in person.

Asst Director: Mark Davis

Not present

Treasurer: Elsie Mersereau

We started off with \$3887.94, collected dues \$150 in dues giving us a new total of \$4,037.94. We did not have any expenses but have two pending expenses, one payable to the Fairfax little league for \$600.00 and is ready to be sent. The other pending expense is the Southern Virginia flight to the Auxiliary 177 for \$250.00. That will give us a new balance of \$3187.94. She is collecting dues of \$25.00. If you need to mail your dues, let her know and she will send you, her address.

Sargent at Arms: Wilbur Scales

Nothing to report.

Secretary: Daniel Vigil (Vig)

Nothing to report.

Road Captain/Safety Officer: Bruce Mersereau

As it is almost riding season, just a reminder to check those critical points like tires, batteries, lights.

Bruce asked for ideas for rides, other than the normal favorite rides.

Tom challenged us to come up with one ride, someplace you like to go and willing to lead the group. Tom and Bruce will be there for support on how to lead a group. Look to pick some favorite place you'd like to go if you don't want to lead it. Tom and Bruce will help us plan a good route.

Vig suggested going on a long-distance overnight weekend ride in the summer.

Tom suggested to plan ahead, pick a destination and do it. Back of the Dragon was a thought and reminded us that the Virginia legacy run coming up in June.

Rich Miller reminded us that when he plans a HOG chapter ride that he makes it available for us to join. He and Rich Miller are planning an overnight ride to Gettysburg, Pa for the bike week. We would go up on a Friday and come back on a Sunday. When he is done planning, he will go ahead and send us details but will be about a 3 day, 2 nights ride in July.

Bruce brought up the Virginia legacy ride, on the 13th through the 15th of June. If we have enough riders from ALR177, maybe we could join ALR176 and make our own group. There is a hotel with a group rate and has a lot of nice amenities.

Brad spoke about another pretty good ride to the Flight 93 National Memorial. It's about a two-day ride and there is a nice American Legion Post there and if we connected with someone at the post, they might host us for a dinner. It's a nice ride up and back.

Historian/Photographer: Tim Park

Not Present

Old Business:

Tom reminded us about the legacy run gun raffle tickets, and he will have them next month if we want to get some.

The Houston Honor Flight to deliver lunches on the 20th and will be a lot of fun.

New Business:

We should speak with the auxiliary and see if we can run another raffle through them like we did for the Christmas raffle and raise some more money. If someone has a thought for a theme, maybe we want to start planning for July 4th or a Memorial Day.

Brad suggested raffling off a cooler full of booze and having people donate bottles like we've done in the past.

Bruce wanted to let us know that one of the longest standing members of our post died earlier this week, John Price. He's been a Sergeant at Arms, Post Commander, a District Commander, and has served in just about every position that the American Legion has to offer. The Post will have a celebration of life on the 21st. Bruce would like to have a lot of motorcycles parked out in the parking lot for the celebration. John was a member of the post for 50 years.

Bruce brought up a great story about the day his son, Jim Price commander of the SAL was born. While taking Jim home from the hospital, instead of going straight home, they stopped at the Post! Because some of John's friends wanted to see the baby.

John was always supportive of ALR and the post, and really dedicated a lot of his life to the American Legion. We will miss him dearly.

We plan on meeting around 12-12:30 and we will wear white shirts, dark pants and our vests and block off some parking spaces with cones. We will start at one of the shopping centers nearby and ride in as a group. and pull in and park.

Rides and Events:

Post breakfast tomorrow at 9:30 for \$13 bucks.

Next general membership meeting will be the 13th of March. Dinner starts at 1830 and then the meeting starts at 1900. There will also be a zoom link.

The Combat Warriors incorporated are having their activity at the post on the 8th of June from 1100 to 1600.

Forrest

On 12 April, the missing in America project will have a mission at Culpeper National Cemetery at 1100 hours to lay to rest the previously unclaimed cremains of nine veterans and currently 4 spouses. They come to us from the Helen Wood Funeral Home in Charlottesville. So, we're going to be meeting up in at the Helenwood Funeral Home with kick stands up at 0930 hours.

The 11th of May we start the American Veterans Disabled for Life memorial cleaning at 07:30.

6 April the Honor Flight systems are coming to the Washington, DC area with two missions.

Myron Wong

The Quantico Marine Corp base will have a couple of motorcycle classes that are free for military retirees. The classes normally cost more than \$300.00, but they're free for retirees. The first one is the Yamaha champion riding School on May 17th as well as September 6th. Both of those days are Fridays and are all-day class. The other one is the Motorcycle Safety Foundation circuit rider course on July 20 (Wednesday) and you don't have to have a sport.

Rich Miller took the course in the past and learned a lot about that. He endorses it.

Vig asked if everyone was aware of the slow riding, cone maneuver training on Sunday morning at the Fairfax County headquarters parking lot. Also, a good refresher.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:39AM

Brad led us in a final prayer