



ALR POST 240

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2008

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP

Members Since 2003.....8
Members Since 2004.....3
Members Since 2005.....5
Members Since 2006...10
Members Since 2007...13
New 2008 Members.....17
Total Members: 56

BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

9.....John Weigle
11.....Cindy O'Bray
13.....Gary Crippen
23.....Dawn Harold

NOVEMBER

2.....Mike Sekulich
15.....Dennette Weigle
24.....James Mitchell
28.....Johnny Harold

DECEMBER

7.....Sandy Myer
9.....Melody Williams
10.....Ray Arnold
29.....Ronald Freed

OFFICERS

Director: Joe Williams
joe@alr240.org
Asst Director: John Weigle
john@alr240.org
Secretary: Melody Williams
melody@alr240.org
Treasurer: Dennette Weigle
dennette@alr240.org
Road Boss: Paul Meyer
paulm@alr240.org
Membership Chairperson:
Bobby Harold
rh Harold@alr240.org
Historian/Webmaster:
Sandy Meyer
sandym@alr240.org
Chaplain: Vince VanCleave
butcher@alr240.org

HEADLINES & NEWS

Chapman Relief Efforts Have Had Huge Success!!!

Between all that the residents of Chapman and surrounding communities have done to start the healing and rebuilding process, along with all the fund raising events, have been unbelievable. The Chapman school district began classes on schedule due to all the volunteers and establishing quality temporary classrooms so students can focus more on learning. The American Legion has played a huge roll, from providing a place to serve meals to sponsoring a number of fund raising events for the community which have been blanketed with public support. It is still going to take a long time before things even start to have any resemblance of normalcy. So let's not give up and keep driving on with all the hard work and contributing with our hearts, for love of community and country.

A Few Notes From the Kansas State ALR Rally. There have been Thirty *new* Chapters started in the last two years. Don Behrens presented a beautiful award/statue that was given by Kansas National Guard in appreciation for all we do for our soldiers and veterans. This statue will be housed in the trophy case at American Legion Post 24 in McPherson. Changes in the Bi-Laws from the State Meeting are as follows:

You, or your spouse, may continue your membership as a member with full membership privileges if you fail to meet the membership requirements and are subject to the approval of the general membership if:

1. Death of a spouse who was the owner of the motorcycle.
2. Disability which prevents you from physically being able to operate a motorcycle and ownership of the motorcycle was relinquished due to this disability. This would also allow the spouse to continue membership under these conditions for honorary membership; and
3. You must have been a regular ALR member in good standing for at least one year.



MEETINGS

ALR POST 240

When: 1st Friday of Month
Where: Upstairs of Legion Hall -
Post 240 - Chapman, KS
Time: 7:00 PM

Annual Dues: \$15.00

Am Legion Post 240

When: 1st Tuesday of Month
Where: Post 240 - Chapman, KS
Time: 7:30 PM

Annual Dues: \$25.00

American Legion Aux

When: 2nd Tuesday of Month
Where: Post 240 Chapman, KS
Time: 7:00 PM

Annual Dues: \$12.00

Sons of the Am Legion

When: 1st Tuesday of Month
Where: Post 240 Chapman, KS
Time: 7:00 PM

Annual Dues: \$25.00

ALR Dinner Rides

When: 3rd Sunday of Month
Where: Meet at Post 240
Time: 1:00 PM

BINGO

When: Every Saturday
Where: Post 240 - Chapman, KS
Time: 6:00 PM

FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY HAS RECORD NUMBERS

Our annual flag retirement ceremony was postponed this year due to the severe tornado that ripped through Chapman on the 12th of June, just days before Flag Day. Instead, it was conducted at 10:00 am on the 13th of September. There was a wonderful turnout of Legionnaires, Auxiliary members and Riders. Also there were an outstanding number of flags that were turned in to be properly retired. I believe that this is due primarily to the Flag retirement box in which the ALR dedicated back in February outside of the Legion Hall, by giving the community a safe and convenient place to retire their worn out flags.

Director's Corner

Why did I decide not to run for Director?

I decided not to run for Director, not because I don't like the job, nor because I'm tired of it, but just the opposite. Our organization was formed to a democratic model and I believe that if people stay in leadership positions for extended periods, the organization starts to suffer. It will stop growing, not just in numbers, but also in its abilities. It becomes an organization that works for the empowered, rather than one that empowers its membership. We should never forget the leadership of an organization works for the membership of that organization.

Now having said all of that, ALR 240 is extremely blessed with many members that have leadership experience. Not just military, but we have many very capable members whose experiences extend from their civilian employment. I feel that I have contributed to the overall growth and success of our group over the past 3 years, however, those contributions are limited by my experiences, my leadership style and my personality. It is time to infuse new qualities found in our future officers, into our organization as well. This infusion will create a much stronger and wiser ALR 240.

Thanks for the honor of serving as your Director.

Ride Free & Ride Safe

Joe Williams



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11 Oct.....Eisenhower Memorial Activities
- 13 Oct.....Columbus Day
- 18 Oct.....1st Annual ALR240 Poker Run
- 4 Nov.....Election Day
- 27 Nov.....Thanksgiving
- 28 Nov..... Am Legion Annual Hamburger Feed
- 21 Dec.....Winter Begins
- 25 Dec...Christmas Day

Other Events of Interest:

ROAD BOSS' TIPS FOR THE ROAD

What a summer. In spite of numerous challenges hurled at us we have ridden many miles both individually and as a group. In all the miles ridden this summer there have been multiple opportunities to practice skills and learn new ones. We have consistently increased our numbers on group rides and I personally appreciate everyone's involvement. As we glide through these wonderful autumn days and sneak into the winter months we face new challenges. The days are getting shorter. Riding in the dark of early morning or late evening we need to keep a vigilant eye out for obstacles in our path. Lighting on our bikes is not as good as in a car and the consequence of running into something carries a higher penalty. Animal activity is going to be on the rise especially in the hours of dawn and dusk. Slowing down a little gives you more time to react plus the added benefit of more time in the saddle to reach the same destination. It is about the ride, right? Be prepared for the temperature swings you may encounter. A mild afternoon ride can turn into a chilly or even cold evening ride without much notice. Keep a jacket and gloves with you just in case. I am looking forward to seeing all of you as we ride up and down the road for the rest of the year. Just because it's not sunny and 75 degrees doesn't mean we have to park our bikes if we don't want to. Keep them rolling as long as you're comfortable, and be safe out there.

Paul Meyer

Please Welcome New Members:

***Shelly Jones, Darrol and Diedre Dunham, Dicy Durham
and Clay Bigham***

VISIT US AT THE:

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 240 WEB SITE

www.alr240.org