



ALR POST 240

JANUARY – MARCH 2009

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

HEADLINES & NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

Members Since 2003.....8
Members Since 2004.....3
Members Since 2005.....5
Members Since 2006...10
Members Since 2007...13
New 2008 Members.....19
Total Members: 58

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

7.....Rick Watson
11.....Dave Hurley II
15.....Dave Manning
22.....Bobby Harold
30.....Tom James

FEBRUARY

7.....Dan Peters
9.....Ray Padel
29.....Tim Heggins

MARCH

3.....Jack McVan
6.....Angie Winkleman

OFFICERS

Director: Paul Meyer
paulm@alr240.org
Asst Director: Ray Arnold
gator@alr240.org
Secretary: Melody Williams
melody@alr240.org
Treasurer: Paula Heggins
mamatator@alr240.org
Road Boss: John Weigle
john@alr240.org
Membership Chairperson:
Joe Williams
joe@alr240.org
Historian/Webmaster:
Sandy Meyer
sandym@alr240.org
Chaplain: Vince VanCleave
butcher@alr240.org

FIRST ANNUAL DICE RUN IS IN THE BOOKS.

The first annual dice run held on October 18th, was a financial success despite a low turnout. The event raised over \$600 and its success was greatly due to the committee's hard work in planning the event and acquiring donations. The route was a lot of fun and different than most of us were used to traveling, which made it interesting. We also gained two new members from the event, which is always a good thing. The plan is to make the event an annual or even bi-annual event and to increase its popularity each year. The next scheduled Dice Run will be coming up on May 30th, which will kick off our HD Sportster give-away. It's going to take some more hard work, careful planning, and getting the word out. We have a great committee already in place and they are working very hard, but it's going to require a group effort to ensure its success. So if you haven't been involved with any Legion Rider events lately, please find the time to get involved and help your fellow riders.

Letter From The Editor

When we voted to bring back the monthly newsletter, but instead make it a quarterly release, I knew that it would still be a challenge but not too overwhelming. That's only four times a year that I would need to worry about doing it and surely I'd have plenty to write about over a 3 month time span. But, like most people, unless you take good notes or don't procrastinate, you're struggling to remember events and critical details once crunch times starts beating down the door. Even though it's been fun and a very enjoyable challenge to come up with different articles each and every time.

Our new Assistant Director Ray Arnold is very excited about taking over the responsibility and has many fresh ideas he brings to the table. I don't want him to struggle like I have done on occasion. So I am issuing each and every one of you a challenge. Help by writing articles or note worthy information and contributing to **YOUR** Newsletter. Yes, this newsletter belongs to all of us riders and we are responsible for its success!! We can all learn so much from each other and I am sure that each of you has a story to tell. It doesn't necessarily always have to be a current event. It could be a story from the past or possibly an interview with someone else that has a story to tell. So let's all please try to be a little proactive and make



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

our Newsletter the best it can possibly be.

Sincerely,
John Weigle

VOLUNTEERING ISN'T ALWAYS AS BAD AS IT MAY SOUND.

When we think of volunteering, we kinda think about having to do some charity work that nobody else in their right mind wants to do. But recently my wife and I volunteered to go and work concessions at one of the K-State Basketball games. We arrived early, like usual, were given our assignments and proceeded to our assigned area. We were met there by some young college students who started barking orders at us. (OK, maybe it wasn't quite that bad) But I had to keep reminding myself why I was there and that it was a good thing.

We were joined by another couple from our rider's group whom were fun to work with and made it more enjoyable. (Because misery loves company. Right?) Anyways, we get everything all set up and ready to start handling customers. I'm like "hey dude.....there's no way in hell I'm running a register!!" Because I didn't want to have to handle the public. Put me in the back throwing the food or something.....anything but having to take orders from snot nose punks, alumni snobs or old people who want to pay for everything with loose change.

But they gave me no choice and the time came to OPEN the windows. I was like, OH NO!!!! Please don't come to my window, maybe if I don't make eye contact they'll go away. But eventually, I ended up with a costumer staring straight at my register and there was nothing else I could do, except say, "May I help you Ma'am?" (As I swallow the lump in my throat) She politely gave me her order as I typed it in the register. I nervously filled her drinks while I waited on her food to be delivered from the counter directly behind me. I took her money with a smile and finished her order thinking, "Hey, that wasn't so bad."

With each new customer I began to feel a sigh of relief while thinking maybe this job isn't so bad after all. And within minutes we were starting to be flooded with orders and impatient fans anxiously wanting to get to their seats. By that time I had a good dozen or so orders out of the way, I was starting to feel like an old pro and was really starting to enjoy meeting and greeting different people throughout the evening. I must say that all in all, it was a very positive experience. I started out being very reluctant about the whole situation, but in turn, walked away having a fun filled experience. Even though I was also very exhausted. So the next time someone ask you to Volunteer for a good cause. Remember to think twice about the FUN you may miss out on.

Director's Corner

Thanks to all the outgoing officers for the work they did last year and welcome to the new officers. I am looking forward to a fun filled year. Just a note, our meeting January 9th was six years to the day from when the first ALR240 meeting was held. We have some big plans in the works



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 19 Jan.....Martin Luther King Jr. B-Day Observed
- 2 Feb.....Groundhog Day
- 16 Feb.....Presidents Day
- 17 Mar....St Patrick’s Day
- 20 Mar.....Spring Begins

Other Events of Interest:

- 17 March...Chapman St. Patrick’s Day Parade

for this year. Our bike give-away and poker runs. Spring fling will be coming up before we know it. I'm sure there will be more as we progress through the year. Take a few minutes and mark these dates down on your calendars. First Friday of every month at 7:00 pm we have our meetings at the Legion in Chapman. The third Sunday of every month we do a dinner ride, meet in Chapman at 1:00 pm and we figure out where we're going from there. Both are a good excuse to jump on the bike and go for a ride.

The thing that makes this group great is the members we have. Everyone that attends has a part in how much fun an event is. I know everyone has their own schedules to deal with and time is a premium commodity, but a couple hours a month there is a group of people who get together that share an interest in patriotism and motorcycles. So if you know a member that you haven't seen at a couple of meetings give them a call and invite them to the next one. I don't know about anyone else but I enjoy getting away from the daily grind and hanging out with a good bunch of people. Here's to friends and a good time. Let's ride.

Paul Meyer

ROAD BOSS' TIPS FOR THE ROAD

With all the crazy weather we've been having in central Kansas lately, it's hard to tell whether winter is coming or going. So hopefully some of you got to enjoy the really warm couple of days that we had during the Holidays and are anxiously awaiting the thermometer to spike above 50 deg so you can hit the road again. Or some of you may have already put your bikes into hibernation for the long winter months. But no matter whether you're a fair weather rider or an avid biker, it is never too early to start looking forward to the next riding season. It may be here as early as March or we still might be waiting in May for all the snow to melt. Only Mother Nature knows.

Start setting your goals early for this upcoming riding season. We all enjoy riding and I'm sure we all like to have fun, so let's make goals to do both at the same time. Prior to setting new goals, take a long hard look at what you accomplished last year and determine what your boundaries may be, if any, and try to expand them. Have a good idea of how many miles you rode last year and decide by what % you may want to increase it for this year. Plan a long road trip or a weekend getaway on your motorcycle. Invite other riders to be a part of your plans. Who knows, you may end up riding 500 miles away from home just for a hamburger. Make your own adventures and be inspired by the trip and not the destination.

John Weigle

Please Welcome New Members:

Ray and Diane Dowell of Salina

VISIT US AT THE:

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 240 WEB SITE

www.alr240.org