

Cruisin' News

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 05

MAY 2009

Looking Down The Road...

May, this is the month that Mother Nature gets busy and jumps into action. She makes it rain, makes the grass grow, flowers blossom, and puts leaves on the trees. Not to be out-done, this is the month that American Legion Riders also get busy. We have fundraisers (poppy sales and the Texas Hold-em), rides, and parades that we can all participate in. There is plenty to do to keep us all busy, that is after we pick-up after Mother Nature, by raking the grass and last years leftover leaves, fertilizing and cutting the grass, planting the flowers, trimming the bushes, and fixing all the other problems she has left us with.

I want to take a minute and thank everyone for all their help in the last couple months, all who served and are still serving on all the various committees, those that are putting on and attending the Road Captains (meetings, schools, and practices), all those donating time and effort for the fundraisers, and also all our members that attend our Chapter meetings. You are all very special and important to our Chapter. I'm very thankful and proud of all of you, for all that we have accomplished. I look forward to working with you all in the future.

I want to ask everyone that can to please help

us with our fundraisers. Every little bit that you can do, can be a big help to those that need it. Please remember, the mission of the AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS is to help our Troops and Veterans, and the Needy in our community. Also if anyone has any other ideas for fundraisers, please bring them up at the meeting or let anyone of the Chapter Officers know of your idea and we will bring them up at the meeting.

I will not be able to attend any of the Memorial Day parades or festivities, for Nancy and I, and a large group from our Chapter are going to Rolling Thunder. For all those planning to go to Rolling Thunder, time is running out to make your reservations. If you need information for reservations please give me a call.

I would also like everyone to say a prayer, for Marve our Brother from Northville, with the passing of his wife in April.

SEMPER FI and GOD BLESS THE VET,

JOHNNY B.



Secretary Notes

POPPIES

I would like to thank the Auxiliary for their support of the American Legion Riders poppy sale. Poppy Sale weekend will be the weekend of May 1st through the 3rd, there will be a sign-up sheet at the April meeting.

Texas Hold-Em

We need more volunteers for the Legion Riders Texas Hold-Em being held May 11th - 14th, sign-up sheet will be at the May meeting.

Diane

Secretary



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MILE MARKERS

ALR General Membership meeting 7-May 7:00pm

Ladies Night Out 21-May

BIRTHDAYS IN

May:

Bob 'SOB' Stabenow 3 May
 Steven 'Grumpy' Dechane 7 May
 Richard 'Mums' Mamayek 7 May
 Donna Dean 14 May
 William 'Spanky' Borrusch 18 May
 Oka 'Okie' Shuler 22 May
 Michael 'Ponytail Mike' Globke 22 May
 Donna Spiteri 24 May
 Al 'Porky' Spiteri 28 May
 Carl 'Old G' Grimm 31 May

Editors Rant

May is here and the wet weather riding continues, at least we don't have to worry about icicles forming on us.

First let me offer my condolences to Marve for his loss, I hope you keep the loving memories in your heart forever. God bless, Marve.

Rolling Thunder is just around the corner, get your plans and riding partners ready. There may still be some rooms available, see the next page for hotel and other info.

Also we have the Blessing of the bikes at St. Dunsten church on the 3rd, 12:00pm at the church. Talk to Doc or Johnny about meeting up beforehand.

Also the American Legion Legacy Run is coming up in August.

This years run is a little closer to home, but just as long. The

route runs from Indianapolis to Wheeling, WV, then on to Front Royal, VA, then Charleston, WV, and ends in Louisville, KY.

See the net page for a link to the web site.

I know these news letters have been a little sporadic the few months, and I'm working on improving that.

Also, if you know of anyone or anything that you would like to mention in the news letter, please drop me a line at newsletter@americanlegionriders.net

I can always use help filling up these pages.

See you next time.

Don't forget to remember our soldiers and vets, past and present in your prayers

Robert  Shaw



VA To Offer Health Care to Previously Ineligible Veterans

January 8, 2009

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today plans to re-open enrollment in its health care system by July 2009 to about 265,000 veterans whose incomes exceed current limits.

"We're pleased to be able to offer what has been called 'the best care anywhere' to many more new veterans," said Dr. James B. Peake, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "We'll be able to provide these newly enrolled veterans with the kind of timely, high quality health care veterans who already use our system are accustomed to." The change affects veterans whose incomes exceed the current VA means test and geographic means test income thresholds by 10 percent or less. Congress provided funds in VA's fiscal year 2009 budget to support the new enrollment. In 1996, Congress established a priority-based enrollment system for VA and a uniform package of medical benefits for all enrollees. The legislation opened enrollment in VA's health care system to all eligible veterans and required that each year the Secretary of Veterans Affairs assess veterans' demand for services and determine if the necessary resources are available to provide timely, quality care to all enrollees. Enrollment for the lowest priority of the eight groups-veterans who are not being compensated for a military-related disability and who have incomes above a set threshold-was suspended on January 18, 2003,

although veterans in that priority group who were already enrolled for care were permitted to remain enrolled. VA originally suspended enrollment for Priority 8 veterans because it was unable to provide all enrolled veterans with timely access to its health care due to a tremendous growth in the number of veterans then seeking enrollment. VA now plans to reopen enrollment for a portion of these veterans without compromising the Department's ability to provide high quality health care services to all enrolled veterans who are eligible for care. VA's computer systems are being modified to accommodate the changes, and the Department is preparing communication and education materials to ensure that Congress, veterans service organizations, and the public are aware of the coming changes. "The rule will take effect by June 30, 2009, if the regulatory process proceeds smoothly," Peake said. "We look forward to welcoming these newly eligible veterans into the VA system. VA will continue to monitor wait times to ensure the quality of care is not adversely affected."

This was put into effect by the 110th Congress that convened in 2007.

VA to Begin Enrolling Category 8 Veterans: The VA announced plans this week to begin partially opening up the health care system to new Category 8 veterans by increasing the income thresh-

old by about 10 percent. New Category 8 veterans -- those with incomes above a geographically adjusted amount of approximately \$29,000 -- have been prevented from enrolling in the VA system since January 2003. The 110th Congress gave VA an extra \$375 million in funding to begin opening up the system. VA is expected to begin enrolling these veterans in June. To read the VA press release, go to: <http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1641>.



Be sure to visit http://AmericanLegionRiders.net/gc_mi_alr for Member Data Forms, Newsletters, and more!



Lips Corner



Stay tuned for updates in future news letters



**Indianapolis - Louisville
August 18-23, 2009**

**Riding for the children
of fallen heroes.**

**For hotel and route info.
Go to
HTTP://
LEGACYRUN.BLOGSPOT.COM/**

For more information contact Scott Miller, smiller@legion.org, or Bill Sloan, wsloan@legion.org, or call 317-630-1321.



Rolling Thunder 09

30 rooms have been blocked at the Marriott Residence Inn for the above event.

Residence Inn
8125 Gatehouse Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

1-800-331-3131 or 1-703-573-5200

Dates: Thursday, May 21st through
Monday, May 25th.

Price: \$114 for single or studio room

Name of Event: American Legion
Riders

Wreath Presentation: Saturday, May
23rd (I believe the time is 3:15 pm)



2009 ALR ROMP

**2009 Buckeye Romp!
The 2009 National ALR
Gathering (Romp)
July 17 - 19, 2009
Willard, OH**

Post 514

Hotel info and registration forms are
available on-line at

<http://www.willardpost514.org/2009-Romp.html>

There is also limited camping on the
post grounds, first come first serve



Blessing of the Bikes

Sunday May 3, 2009
1:00pm

St Dunstan Church
Garden City

Meet in the church parking lot

Dual Membership Notice

Per the amendment to our by-laws voted in at the 3 February 2005 meeting of our Chapter, you will not be allowed to renew your membership with our Chapter if you intend to hold membership in any other Chapter of the ALR.

Note that revocation of your membership in our Chapter will occur if dual membership

is disclosed or discovered following renewal. This revocation will not precipitate a refund of dues paid for 2008.



STORE NEWS

The store is no longer carrying any Rider clothes. .

The store still carries hats, flags, rockers and patches. .

See you at the meeting,

Donna



THE AMERICAN LEGION
RIDERS

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Is this newsletter correctly addressed?
Contact the editor if *anything* is
wrong—name as displayed, address,
etc. *Thanks!*

Read this online at

http://americanlegionriders.net/gc_mi_alr



THE
AMERICAN
LEGION RIDERS

Still serving - And Riding!

www.AmericanLegionRiders.net/gc_mi_alr

TO :

«Name»

«Spouse»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«City», «State». «Zip»

The Runs...

Biker Events In and Around our Area...

*As in the past, be sure to follow
up on these events before at-
tending. We do our best to en-
sure the dates, location and
contact info are accurate, but
mistakes are easily made and
rarely corrected...*



1-3 May—Poppy sales

3 May—Blessing of the
bikes

7 May—Regular
Meeting

11-14 May—Texas
Hold-em

21 May—Ladies' Night Out

21-25 May—Rolling Thun-
der—Washington, DC

4 Jun—Regular Meeting

18 Jun—Ladies' Night Out

2 Jul—Regular Meeting

16 Jul—Ladies' Night Out

17-19 Jul—Buckeye Romp—National ALR
Gathering in Willard, OH

6 Aug—Regular Meeting

20 Aug—Ladies' Night Out

3 Sep—Regular Meeting

17 Sep—Ladies' Night Out

19 Sep—Michigan Remembers Run

1 Oct—Regular Meeting

15 Oct—Ladies' Night Out

5 Nov—Regular Meeting

19 Nov—Ladies' Night Out

3 Dec—Regular Meeting

17 Dec—Ladies' Night Out