



ALR Meeting June 17, 2017 99th Annual Convention

Meeting called to order – 1:30 p.m.
Salute, Pledge of Allegiance, Preamble & Prayer

Role Call of Officers

Director – Mike Hendrick – present
Assistant Director – Tony Propst – present
Assistant Director – Darryl Mercer – present
Assistant Director – Mike Burwell – present
Assistant Director – Bill Burgess – present

Guests:

- Tyler Bowser – Air Force veteran that works with the Veteran’s Empowerment Organization. There are currently about 452 homeless veterans in the city of Atlanta. They want to get the word out about their organization and ask that we mention them to any homeless veterans that we may come across. To raise money, they are raffling off a Harley Davidson Street Bob on Veteran’s Day. Tickets are \$100 each.

Minutes:

Motion to accept the previous Meeting Minutes as published. 2nd. Accepted

Financial Report:

Given by Stanley Franklin, newly elected Senior Vice. Report handed out showed report for June and the proposed budget for 2018. Stanley pointed out that we started the year with roughly \$10,000+ and we ended the year with roughly \$10,000+ yet we had over \$14,000 worth of expenses. We spent what we made so we evened out perfectly. He made some minor adjustments for the coming 2018 budget that he explained. The financial report and the budget for 2018 were voted on and approved. (See attached.)

Stanley has a new decal on his truck and he is hoping that he can get a smaller version approved so that riders can put it on their motorcycles and that we might be able to use it as a fundraiser.

Role call of Districts:

		Districts in Attendance	
3	Javier Bermudez	7	Steve Vaughters
4	Frank Stone	10	Robert Wilson
5	Arlie Tucker	11	Tony Knapp
6	Albert Garner		

Role Call of Chapters

				Chapters in Attendance	
21	Tifton	149	Jasper	307	Cumming
42	Cartersville	178	Augusta	333	Columbus



47	Calhoun	192	Evans	337	Grovetown
111	Dallas	232	Snellville	594	Warner Robins
127	Buford	233	Loganville		
163	Statham	251	Duluth		
167	Chatsworth	258	Jonesboro		

Mike Hendrick

- The last few years we were on a decline, but now we are coming back up.
- We have added three new posts: 70 – Villa Rica, 149 – Jasper, 160 – Smyrna
- The Legion respects us now and we do a lot for them.
- Due to medical necessity, Mike will be stepping down this year and Tony Propst will be taking over. Mike will still be around but in the background.

Mike Burwell

- We had agreed that the retreat would be at “All Points West”, however, it will now have to be in the Spring. We will be trying to lock down a date within the next few weeks.
- Mike has already asked for an application for the Veterans Day Parade and is waiting on a response. This year the Veteran’s Day Parade will be on the exact holiday, which will be a Saturday.
- The “Ride for America” was an immense success again this year, even though the weatherman tried to thwart us with his weather reports. We had 709 motorcycles leave the parking lot and approximately 1,200 participants. Mike did not have figures yet, but feels that they made decent money on the event.

Tony Propst

- Excited to be taking over for Mike Hendrick. He is thankful to Mike for his service and looks forward to receiving guidance from him.
- DOG 50/50 Raffle – attempt to raise money for our veterans. This year we raised \$4,039 from ticket sales.
- Wreaths Across America – This past year Wreaths Across America laid 1.2 million wreaths. The State House ceremony this year will be on Monday, December 11th. The general wreath laying will be Saturday, December 16th. The wreaths are \$15.00 each and there is no reason that each legion family entity cannot afford 10 wreaths for \$150.
- We continue to honor our Vietnam Veterans with certificates and pins. There are several posts that say they have not heard of the certificates or pins. We will rectify this.
- Post 127 – Buford lost a rider recently. Hopefully she had signed up for the Legion accidental insurance. If you have not yet signed up for this insurance you should. It is free and can help your family.
- Shirts for the Commander’s Escort brought in \$668.21 this year. Tony has 14 shirts left and made a motion to donate the shirts to the Veterans Home. The motion was presented, voted on and accepted.

Darryl Mercer

- We have a gentleman from Florida ALR who has been in touch with us who wants to form a ride through the southern states: Florida, Alabama, and Georgia. This ride would be to benefit POW/MIA recognition sometime in April 2018. It would be a fund raiser like the Legacy ride and would make a stop at



Andersonville National Cemetery for a ceremony. It is still early in the planning stages and more information will come later as the project matures.

- The Ride Home is Darryl’s project. Not sure why, but this year it will start in Warner Robbins and proceed to Andersonville on September 15, 2017. This is a POW/MIA recognition ride and we need more participation. He will keep begging the Georgia contingency until we get the participation needed. In fact, he can’t buy dinner for everyone, but he will buy tea for everyone who shows up. That’s Long Island Iced Tea.
- He will be running for this office again so please vote for him. Anyone who votes for him will also get Iced Tea.

Bill Burgess

- Commander’s Escort – May 18-20 – Anyone who rode the escort got wet. The last day of the escort ride you couldn’t see in front of you to drive, but we all made it safely and it was a great ride. No accidents at all.
- Boys State – The Boys State ride is coming up next Friday. It will stage at Frazier’s Harley Davidson at 10:15 am with KSU at 10:30 am. We will ride in to Boys State and have lunch with them and then the boys have a program. This year Cumming Post sent 26 boys. Bill has arranged for three vans to bring the boys up to the school.
- Old Soldier’s Day Parade will be August 5, 2017. We lead the parade. Last year we had about 80 bikes.

Motion was made to suspend the meeting for the purposes of election of area representatives for areas 1 and 3. It was voted on and passed.

We have one potential representative for Area 1 – Mike Burwell
We have one potential representative for Area 3 – Darryl Mercer
We had no nominations from the floor and nominations were closed.

The motion was made for one unanimous vote for Darryl Mercer and one unanimous vote for Darryl Mercer. The motion was voted on and passed.

Mike Burwell – Assistant Director for Area 1
Darryl Mercer – Assistant Director for Area 3

Motion was made to bring the meeting back to normal business. Voted on and passed.

District Reports

District 1

None Given

District 2

None Given

District 3

Members: 11 Total – 7 Legion, 3 Auxiliary, 1 SAL
Miles: 974
Hours: 114



Post Meeting, Funeral Visitations, Funeral Escorts, Nursing Home Visits, ALR Spring Conference,
National Commander's Luncheon

District 4

Members: 56

Miles: 5,648

Hours: 352

Donations: \$820.00

Money Raised: \$3,632.00

Meetings/Post Activities: 15

Fund Raisers: 4

"Seats for Soldiers" object is to get 500 soldiers/veterans at the next race at Atlanta Speedway.

Selling for \$25.00 each and each Post can buy some to give to vets or donate to the USO.

District 5

Members: 234 – 121 Legion, 54 Auxiliary, 60 SAL

Miles: 72,021

Hours: 14,825

Donations: \$27,591.90

Miles, hours and donations are from June 2016 – April 2017

District 6

Members: 70 – 37 Legion, 15 SAL, 18 Auxiliary

Miles: 35,054

Hours: 1,915

Donations: \$9,780.17

Funerals, Parades, Community Support, Post Activity, Children Support, Veterans Support,
Donations to Commanders Project

District 7

Members: 80

Miles: 46,829

Hours: 2,036

Donations: \$6,880.00

Benefits, Flag Retirement, Funerals, Post Activities, Escort

District 8

None Given

District 9

None Given

District 10

Members: 139 – 79 Legion, 26 SAL, 15 Auxiliary

Miles: 50,588

Hours: 3,681.1

Donations: \$6,600

Participation: 507



District 11

Members: 100 – 63 Legion, 21 SAL, 21 Auxiliary
Miles: 58,198
Hours: 3,677
Donations: \$23,946.00

District 12

None Given

Chaplains Report

Missions: 54
Miles: 3,536
Hours: 325
Funerals 41, Flag Lines 47, Meetings 6, Escorts 2, Memorial Day Events 2, Veteran Home Visits 2, Funeral Services Performed 7
Patriot Guard does a lot for our veterans in helping with funerals.

Patriot Guard – Mike Hendrick

Mike wanted everyone to know that the Patriot Guard is set up to do funerals. The Patriot Guard was setup by the American Legion to handle these missions because the project became too overwhelming. If you are asked to set up a funeral and don't have the means, please advise them that the PG is manned to handle these projects. The ALR will participate and be there but most of us don't have the manpower to handle these projects.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Darryl Mercer mentioned that in the past we had area Road Captains participate in the Commander's Escort and he asked if it would not be a promising idea to have them again involved in any escort in their area. It was agreed that each area should have a "head" Road Captain that would be able to help in planning routes, etc. for escorts and rides. This will especially be helpful as these escorts get larger and larger each year.

Good of the Legion

- \$200 donation received for the "Down Rider Fund" from ALR 172
- Post #192 is having a family and friend's day at All Points West next Saturday. Barbeque dinner – no cost. KSU at Post #192 at 10:00 am.
- Post #192 is raffling off an AR 14 along with a \$50 gift card to a range and a \$50 gift card to a gun shop. Tickets are \$5.00 and the raffle will be held on July 4.
- Post #251 will have an escort tomorrow for Terry Fleischer. Ashes will be brought to the Post for a Celebration of Life. Ride will be KSU at 4:45 pm. Service is at 5:00 pm. Celebration will be at 6:00 pm
- Post #233 donated \$1,000 for our general fund.

Certificates for the National Commander's Ride – (Certificates of Appreciation)



Macon	Lexington
Rockmart	Eastman
Cartersville	Douglasville
Calhoun	Statham
Conyers	Warner Robins
Monticello	Zebulon
Dallas	Loganville
Duluth	Jonesboro
Cumming	Columbus
Warner Robbins	

Bill Burgess wanted to personally thank Frank Stone and Rodney Blitch for helping with a gap that they had in the route for the escort.

New Area Director for Area 2 –

As the new State Director Tony Propst announced his replacement for Area 2. Retired Army Brigadier General Johnny Brown from Calhoun.

Rider of the Year –

Robert Wilson – District 10

Thank You to Mike Hendrick for turning the organization around.

Sick or Distressed:

- Ricky Blackwell
- Rich Hart's wife is battling stage 4 cancer
- Sue Burwell wife of Mike Burwell
- Larry Hammond battling cancer
- Pat Buchanan
- Mike Hendrick
- Anita Strickland Family

Motion to close Meeting. Seconded. Prayer. Dismissed. 3:00 pm.