



ALR Meeting June 25, 2022 Department Convention Rally

Meeting called to order – 1:35 p.m.

Colors Posted, Prayer, POW/MIA Recognition, Pledge of Allegiance.

Rollcall

Executive Officers

- Director – Johnny Brown – present
- Asst. Area 1 Director – Gabrielle Barnett – present
- Asst. Area 2 Director – Arlie Tucker – present
- Asst. Area 3 Director – Rodney Blitch – present
- Asst. Area 4 Director – Ric Cline – present

DOG ALR Staff

- Secretary: Thea Fultz – Present
- Treasurer: James Fultz
- Chaplain: Michael Schwartz
- Sgt-At-Arms: Cecil McCollum – Present
- Sgt-At-Arms: Tina Vaughters – Present

Past Director - Tony Propst

Roll call of Districts

		Districts in Attendance			
1	absent	5	Thea Fultz - Present	9	Tom Hiline - Excused
2	No Chapters	6	Rodney Blitch -Present	10	Robert Wilson - Excused
3	No Chapters	7	Steve Vaughters - Present	11	Miriam Sein - present
4	Vacant	8	absent	12	absent

Chapters in Attendance

29	Marietta	123	Lexington		
42	Cartersville	163	Statham	258	Jonesboro
56	Jefferson	167	Chatsworth	294	Powder Springs
70	Villa Rica	172	Warner Robbins	594	Warner Robbins
110	Monticello	178	Augusta		

Minutes: Posted on Dog ALR

Motion to accept the Spring Meeting Minutes. 2nd. Accepted

Finance Report: (Past Sate Director Tony Propst for Finance Officer Jim Fultz)

At Spring conference, it was mentioned the bank account had to be moved to “Truist Bank.” There were very few expenditures and deposits. Present Balance, \$8,659.95. To the Commander’s Project we donated \$4,000.

Motion to approve pending audit – Second - Accepted

Asst Director Reports –

Area 1: Report sent to State Director – very busy. Many events done to support Veterans. Not able to go into VA hospital, but still did a ride. Raised funds for “Emergency Fund” & “Commander’s Project.” PGR Missions continue. Director



attended chapter & district meetings. District 10 Director, Robert Wilson asked for assistance for a WWII Veteran escort out of Vidalia. Director Barnette reached out to District 1, and within 2 hours the PGR and Low Country Bikers answered the call to give this veteran all the honors deserved. Will be giving certificates to chapters who participated in special events. Presented certificates of appreciation to the 11th district for hosting a special event for the Commander's Project with Chapter 1 as the main participant. They raised \$5,000 in 4 hours! Chapter 178 received a certificate of appreciation for National Vietnam Day.

Area 2: Report sent to State Director – Has done lots of work mostly through District 5 which has many chapters. 2 chapters in district 4 sent no reports. No riders in district 3. Received a report for district 5 but have not read it.

Area 3: No Report

Area 4: District 7 lost another chapter. Supported Ellijay with their annual fair. Supported District 10 Loganville ride. District 9, chapter 129 had a few bike nights with great success. I am better since being ill. Will be getting more involved.

DOG Director's Report:

To date we have had a successful year. Macon had a memorial ride that raised \$22,500. Need to do more recruiting. We are losing many members. We only have 879 ALR members. Called Incoming Director Propst to the podium who will conduct elections.

Incoming Director Propst:

Incoming Commander Bill Simmons and I have had a close relationship through the years and asked me to be the DOG director and I accepted. Thank you, Johnny, for leading the riders this past year. We wish you well!

New Business

Pending Resolution: Was posted on the website. The Constitution & Bylaws was approved last year, however with one controversial paragraph regarding carrying of weapons. Unknowingly there was another resolution before the National committee. The National Executive Committee's resolve: Resolution 5 (the most current resolution guidelines for American Legion Riders). It was initiated at my Post 70, approved by the Post 70 membership and the 5th District.

The Resolve Clause: "Resolve, that the DOG ALR Constitution article 4 section 7 be amended to read as follows: Each ALR member shall establish and maintain membership by being a registered owner of a street legal motorcycle, 2 wheels or 3 wheels or be the legally registered owner of a spouse, partner, life partner or long term relationship within the state of registration or be a past rider in chief since 2008. Additionally, a child, grandchild under 18 years old of the legally registered owner member is qualified for membership at the same chapter."

"Be it further resolved that the DOG ALR Constitution article 5 section 8 stating that: to maintain the image of the American Legion and its programs, ALR members while wearing any American Legion Riders apparel shall not display exposed weapons. This applies when it violates state law, engaging in national events, such as The American Legion Legacy Run, escorting national officers, national convention, and national parade. The use and carrying of ceremonial rifles and weapons should be exempt when traveling or actively participating in funerals, ceremonial details or parades be deleted in its entirety."

That is 2 changes. We are deleting the paragraph concerning the carrying of weapons, reverting to the state law where you may be riding! Be aware of state carry laws especially on the Legacy Run that runs through multiple states or on vacation.

Motion to approve – Second – no discussion – Accepted

Judge Advocate, Bob Sikes will receive the revised copy for a final review!

Elections & Appointments:

Area 2 has been Arlie Tucker who served the past 3 years.

One declared candidate Area 2: Thea Fultz (current DOG Secretary & District 5 Director)

3x = "Any Nominations for Asst Director Area 2?", Nominations Closed

Incoming DOG Director Propst as Chair, cast 1 unanimous vote for Thea Fultz as Asst. Director for Area 2



Area 4 is currently Ric Cline who came in mid-year. Ready to go after some health issues.

One declared candidate Area 4: Ric Cline

3x = "Any Nominations for Asst Director Area 4?", Nominations Closed

DOG Secretary, Thea Fultz, cast 1 unanimous vote for Ric Cline as Asst. Director for Area 4

Letter from Current Area 3 Asst. Director Rodney Blich, who has been here for a while. He has done an outstanding job but has decided to step down and take District 6 Director position this coming year. Incoming DOG Director Propst is appointing a former assistant distractor, Darryl Mercer.

Motion to approve appointment – Second – no discussion – Accepted

Staff Appointments for this coming year:

Secretary: Darlyn Tillery

Treasurer: Jim Fultz (current Dept. Treasurer, incoming Dept Jr. Vice)

Chaplain: Mike Swartz (current Dept Chaplain)

Sgt. At Arms: Cecil McCollum – Post 163

Sgt. At Arms: Tina Vaughters – Post 167

Motion to approve appointments – Second – no discussion – Accepted

The Good of the ALR (Incoming DOG Director Propst):

Recruiting: We are down 5 chapter this year and I would like to get them back. We need new chapters. I have 2 coming on in area 1 soon. Other than regaining what we lost, I would like to add 5 more this coming year. If you are talking to riders all they need is a minimum of 5 riders to start a chapter with a Constitution & By-Laws template online and officer certifications forms. All this needs to be approved by their Post!

As of this morning we have 531 Legion, 163 Auxiliary 191 SAL = Total 885 ALR members down over 300.

Department Planning Meeting, next month in Warner Robbins. Asst Directors are required to be there. District Directors are encouraged. There is a laundry list of items to discuss to move the Legion Riders forward. What worked we continue, what didn't work we discontinue or change. Try new things and get the retreat going again. If you have and suggestions/ideas on fund raising or events, do's, don'ts, etc....please email them to me @ DOGALR.ORG and keep it positive. All will be considered. We will discuss the budget of over \$8,000. Rider down fund they will be reviewed by Asst Directors then final approval at next conference.

DOG website is back up and running. I have received no events. You will need to send a flyer (pdf or jpg) to DOGALR to be placed on the website/calendar.

Installation for the DOG Director & Asst Directors will be tomorrow morning. Memorial service begins @ 8:30AM and the installations is immediately after. All are welcomed to come.

If you want any of the Director Propst, Asst. Directors, or Director Brown to install you at the post installations, we would be glad to if we can work it into the schedule. First come, first serve.

The Shriners are doing a "Sportsman Raffle" on July 23rd Noon – 5PM. There are 110 prizes (all weapons). The grand prize is 2022 GMC Canyon. Tickets: \$20 ea. or 6/\$100.

Collected **DOG ALR 50/50** raffles tickets. Sold \$565 – 1st prize - \$141, 2nd prize \$70, 3rd prize \$30

Winners: 1st - SAL Post 172 (Cynthia Modell)

2nd – Post 145 Douglasville

3rd – ALR Chapter 172

Treasurer Jim Fultz wrote checks to winners



Certifications: please give realistic numbers.

Area 1 – Missing 168 Hinesville, 215 Homer

Area 2 – Missing 516 McDonough, 216 Austell

Area 3 – Missing Chapter 3

Area 4 – Missing 121 Blairsville

Fund Raising: Continue DOG ALR 50/50, Angel coins (PGR), Cash 3, GoFund Me and Challenge Coin are some ideas that will be considered. Also, need Districts to produce their own fundraiser that benefits their district for Veterans, Children, or the Community. Another possibility is a Gun Raffle 30/30 (30 guns in 30 days) that could potentially could raise \$45,000. We will look into setting up online sales as well.

The Incoming Dept Commander has asked for a commitment from the ALR: \$1,000 for the Oratorical Prize Fund; \$6,000 (sponsoring 10 boys & 10 girls for Boys & Girls State) and \$10,000 for the Commanders Special Project. We will also consider an In-state Ride to support the Legacy/Commander's Project.

Wreaths Across America is our big fundraiser. We receive a rebate back for each wreath sponsored, which we then donate to the Commanders Special Project. Entertain a line item in your budgets for \$300 in wreaths for the Department ALR. Forms are on DOG ALR website.

Participation:

Will revisit the event requirements. May go to Area based. Example: District 5 has a project "Veterans Transition from Homelessness" for the past 4 years. District 5 Director will produce a new beneficiary for his project. It will now come with Thea into Area 2. Will continue to do "The Ride Home," Boy & Girls State (requirement may become optional), Conferences & Conventions required. Still looking at mid-winter conference and convention. No change will happen before our contractual agreement with Sonesta Hotel ends in 2025.

The National Commander may come in January 2023 and the National President in October 2022.

An Assistant Director will be assigned to each event that we come up with. Also continue to handle the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Recognition for Vietnam Veterans with GA Department of Veteran Services.

ALR Retreat: Looking at Points West – Gabrielle will check on.

Communication:

There are issues with communication. Overall texting is more dependable. Emails are opened 20% of the time and Text Messages 80%. If you send an email, follow up with text message guiding them to the important message on email or DOG ALR.

DOG ALR website – Gabrielle assisting Director Propst

Face Book - Pat Garrett Assisting Director Propst

ABATE of GA – Legislative Fighters for Motorcycle Riders

Incoming Dept Commander Bill Simmons:

Opened with being excited to collaborate with Director Propst as well as ALR. Thanked Johnny Brown for time as director. Looking forward to the upcoming year. He stated that he unconventional and will be doing things differently to "Get the Mission accomplished." What he needs from the ALR: Fundraising! The ALR is a great image of the American Legion and people always speak of the ALR. You do an excellent job and carry a positive image and I thank you for that.

The Commander said he is committed to the ALR and if the Director needs something there is a good chance, he will get it. I believe in helping you be more affective. At times, a message may come from his personal page/SGT-AT-Arms, Jessie Frazer. Please accept what he brings as if it were coming from me! I am looking to add 10 Chapters this year. Thank you for who you are and what you do! At

Motion to close the meeting. Seconded, Prayer, Colors retired, Dismissed: 2:48 pm.