



## ALR Meeting March 26, 2022 Department Spring Conference Rally

Meeting called to order – 1:21 p.m.

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

### Rollcall

#### Executive Officers

- Director – Johnny Brown – present
- Assistant Director – Gabriele Barnett – excused
- Assistant Director – Arlie Tucker – present
- Assistant Director – Rodney Blitch – present
- Assistant Director – Ric Cline – excused

#### DOG ALR Staff

- Secretary: Thea Fultz – present
- Treasurer: Jim Fultz – present
- Chaplain: Michael Swartz – present
- Sgt. At Arms: Cecil McCollum – present
- Sgt. At Arms: Tina Vaughters – absent

**Past Director -** Mike Hendrick – Excused

#### Rollcall of Districts Directors

- |   |                       |   |                      |    |                            |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Charlotte Fordham – A | 5 | Thea Fultz - Present | 9  | Tom Hinline - A            |
| 3 | Vacant                | 6 | Dalroy Rupport - A   | 10 | Robert Wilson - Present    |
| 4 | John Harper - A       | 7 | Steve Vaughters - A  | 11 | Gabriele Barnett - Excused |
|   |                       | 8 | Vacant               | 12 | Tom Wilson Jr. - Present   |

#### Chapters in Attendance

- |     |              |     |               |     |                |
|-----|--------------|-----|---------------|-----|----------------|
| 29  | Marietta     | 123 | Lexington     | 233 | Loganville     |
| 42  | Cartersville | 127 | Sugar Hill    | 251 | Duluth         |
| 70  | Villa Rica   | 163 | Statham       | 258 | Jonesboro      |
| 110 | Monticello   | 172 | Warner Robins | 294 | Powder Springs |
| 112 | Dalton       | 178 | Augusta       | 594 | Warner Robbins |

#### Minutes Nov 2021:

There was no ALR Rally (no Minutes)

**Guests: None**



### **DOG Treasurer's Finance Report: Jim Fultz**

- Introduced himself by noting he was appointed by DOG ALR Director, Johnny Brown upon the death of Past Department Commander & DOG ALR Treasurer, Stanley Franklin. It was discovered that most of the records held by Stanley were kept on a computer that his wife could not access. In going back and retracing some steps of what was done, it was discovered there was \$11,731.64 in Regions bank. Due to reasons unknown at this time, the bank closed the DOG ALR account. Both Jim Fultz and Johnny Brown set up a new account at Truist Bank (formally known as Sun Trust). The Director, Johnny Brown has authorized three signatures on the account (himself, Jim Fultz and Past DOG ALR Director, Tony Propst. The current balance on the new account is \$11,958.61. The different balance between the old account vs the new account is due to a deposit of \$326.67 (2 checks: \$160.00 & \$166.67) from Wreaths Across America. Before the old Regions account was closed, new checks were ordered at the cost of \$32.00, which has just been reimbursed. This transaction included within the current balance on the new Truist account of \$11,958.61.  
Motion to accept pending audit, Tony Propst – Second – discussion (were all checks received from WAA? Confirmed YES) – Motion carried by raised hands, Approved!

### **New Business**

#### **DOG Director - Johnny Brown**

- Listed items on agenda (reports, Boys & Girls State, recruiting, retention, donations, Nat'l commander's escort's, bike rallies and elections.
- **Americanism Reports:** Director was still receiving as of meeting time. His report was done this morning and submitted to department. The district reports received after that were not included. Much mileage and donations went unreported to department. Please get Americanism reports in on a timely manner.
  - Chapters should get Americanism reports to their District Director at the end of each month.
  - District Directors should send one Americanism report/summary (includes 3 months Americanism info of all chapters to DOG Area Director.
  - Area Director sends full Area Americanism report to DOG ALR Director.
- Post 29 Director, Jeff Garland asked & received confirmation that all his reports have been received by 5<sup>th</sup> District Director Thea Fultz.
- **Girls State Visit:** Thursday June 16, Valdosta (Details TBD)
- **Boys State Visit:** Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>, Gordon State College, Barnesville (Details TBD)
- **Area Reports**
  - **Area 1:** Individual Chapter reports given to DOG ALR Director by Area Director not able to attend meeting.
  - **Area 2:** Director worked on Veterans Day Parade in ATL, location moved from downtown ATL to around The Battery (Braves Stadium) for months. Discussions with Parade officials finalized 5 days before parade with confirmation of ALR involvement, but at the back of Parade. That information was relayed back to Chapters and after receiving minimal interest in participating, it was concluded by DOG ALR Director we would not ride (walk bikes) in the rear of parade which would cause damage to bikes. This was explained to Parade officials per DOG Director. Past Director Tony Propst, for several years we and other MC groups led this parade. When change was made to Truist Park (The Battery), it also changed the Parade Director who was uncooperative and knew nothing of motorcycles and why we were moved to the back. Because this was a 100% Participation event for the state, looking now to replace with another event. There has been no reporting from District 3 or four. Americanism Report sent directly to DOG ALR Director from 5<sup>th</sup> District via email.
  - **Area 3:** No report
  - **Area 4:** No report
- **Certificates of Appreciation for AL Auxiliary Nat'l President's Escort given:**
  - Chapters: 56, 110, 163, 178, 192, 233
  - Districts: 10, 11,
- **Recruiting & Retention:**



- Need to recruit younger members into the Legion, Aux, SAL then ALR.
- Need to build interest in the American Legion to the potential new members.
- The goal is to increase membership and retain who we have (keep applications with you)
- The younger members are the key to the survival if The American Legion
- Directors must plan more rides not just meetings.
- Take advantage of recruiting at events

**Question:** can we get a list of discharged veterans in our state?

**Answer 1:** It was mentioned by a member who is a former recruiter, you can go to any recruiting offices who have detailed lists of veterans who served their time. A military installation will not give that information.

**Answer 2:** Director, 294 has gone to various forts and cautions that many who are being discharged may not be staying in your area or state. He added, they create a flyer that shows what the ALR is about, their upcoming rides/events as well as others in the surrounding area. They are distributed in motorcycle shops or places they are allowed. They have also added a QR code on the flyer that would take them directly to their post ALR page.

**Question:** How do you do/get a QR Code?

**Answer:** though the Google page, it will take you to the webpage.

- When using the ALR logo, confirm it is the sanctioned logo before distributing flyers or notifications.
- If you have a planned ALR Ride/Event, send your flyer and information to (DOGALR.org) and it will be posted to the DOG ALR webpage for the state.
- **Donations/ Raising Money:** We still have Caps, coins, vest patches, decals, 50/50 tickets, which need to be sold so we can build the account back up. Any items needed let DOG Director know (you send a check and DOG will send items. These items will also be on display at convention. The 50/50 will be drawn at the June convention. Pick up some 50/50 for your chapter/district on the way out.

- **National Commander's Escort:**

The National Commander will visit Georgia Apr 16 to Apr 19. A major event of the ALR is to escort him around the state during his stay and a greater honor to be one of the Posts that host a visit. It's a chance to meet the National Commander and get one of his pins for your vest. All are welcome to ride, even if it's only for one or a couple of legs or the remainder of the escort. There are no meal costs at any of the Posts that we visit. You can see the official itinerary and list of hotels on the Department ALR website, [https://dogalr.org/files/2022\\_Natl\\_Commander\\_Escort.pdf](https://dogalr.org/files/2022_Natl_Commander_Escort.pdf)

**Day 1, Sat, Apr 16**

Starts at the Department of Georgia, Stockbridge -KSU 7:45am

Walk of Heroes in Conyers - Post 516 in McDonough for Lunch - Hotel in Stockbridge - Post 51, College Park for dinner

**Day 2, Sun, Apr 17**

Starts at Hotel in Stockbridge – KSU 9:00am - Post 70, Villa Rica, for lunch - Back to the Hotel in Stockbridge - Post 57, Newnan, for dinner

**Day 3, Mon, Apr 18**

Starts at Hotel in Stockbridge – KSU 7:00am - Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins - Post 594, Warner Robins, for lunch – To the Hotel in Warner Robins - Post 172, Warner Robins, for dinner

**Day 4, Tue, Apr 19**

Starts at Hotel in Warner Robins – Post 75, La Grange, for lunch - National Infantry Museum in Columbus - To the Hotel in Columbus

- Post 35, Columbus, for dinner \*\* Leave for ATL Airport the next day

- **Past DOG Director Tony Propst:**

- Itinerary for escort on DOGalr.org under Commander's Escort, list hotels with discounted rate. If going on escort and staying in any hotel, must make reservations prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to say you are with The American Legion.
- You can do all or as many legs of the escort you choose.
- DOG Director will be on entire ride, need to discuss with road captains for Conyers, McDonough & College Park. Road Captain set for Warner Robins to LaGrange.



- There will be State Patrol on parts of the escort. The route taken will be what they choose.
- **Elections:**
  - Convention, June 23 – 26. ALR Rally, Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00PM.
  - Anyone who is to run, be prepared
  - Areas open in elections – Area 2 and Area 4
- **Past DOG Director Tony Propst on Donations:**
  - In the past, most money raised has gone to Wreaths Across America, 50/50 goes to the Department Commander's Special Project (Support of GA Veterans)
  - Not much money has been raised this year
  - Suggested we still make donation to the Commander.
  - Tony made a motion we donate \$3,000 toward the Commander's Project
  - Motion seconded, no discussion, motion carried by raised hands

### Old Business

- **Good of the ALR:**
  - Robert Wilson, 10<sup>th</sup> District Director, "Ride for America", Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> @ post 233 (Required ride for 100% banner)
  - Noted other rides listed on DOG ALR page to be supported by/for other posts
  - Noted membership and recruiting can be done at these events
  - Noted Districts were missed in giving reports during rally
  - Noted that reports handed in from Gabrielle came from him
  - Noted he did not get reports from all his chapters
  - Noted we should discuss Rider's Retreat, Requirement for 100% streamer
  - Stressed we need to support more of the ALR in events/rides.
  - Noted that outside events give .10 cent towards veterans and the rest in their pockets
  - Noted the embarrassment in attendance of the DOG Rally
    - Past Director Propst noted that coming to Duluth is an issue for many riders. I.e....those coming from Valdosta.
    - There is discussion of moving Dept meeting closer to the middle of the state, but we remain on contract in Duluth for a couple more years
    - A committee has been formed to look at changing 2 conferences into one mid-winter conference around December/January. Then the June Convention.
  - Suggested the "Ride for America" be a replacement for the Veteran's Day Parade

Motion to close the meeting. Seconded, Prayer, Colors retired, Dismissed: 2:38 pm.