

# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

Chairman Lampert called the meeting to order at 1301 at Department Headquarters.

3 members of the committee were present.

- Joe Lampert – 1<sup>st</sup> Division – Chairman - Present
- John Reece – 2<sup>nd</sup> Division – Vice Chairman – Present
- Ron Harkness – 3<sup>rd</sup> Division - Absent
- Sean McNamara – 4<sup>th</sup> Division – Excused
- Roy Smith - 5<sup>th</sup> - Division (Dept. Commander) – Present

Budget from last year remained the same as previous years. No change for this year.

Discussed the ALR recruiter award (patch w/ year tab and Pin). They are available. Forms for recruiting 3 new ALR members is available on the Department website under the Riders tab (Programs and Services). Joe talked with Mike Monroe, Membership Director, about supply of patches and pins. They are available.

Discussed continuing the State ALR Officers meeting, meeting once a year vs twice a year, maybe a ride in event, etc. We are having the scheduled October 19 meeting in Plainfield. We decided to continue the meetings, currently planning only one annually, with the possibility to add another meeting if the group so desires. This will be discussed at the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Haven Run is April 25, 2026. Make plans on joining us.

Visited by the Department Commander Roy Smith, Department Sr. Vice Commander Celeste Latham, Membership Director Mike Monroe, and Adjutant Josh Thielen. Commander Smith thanked us for a good job and asked us to continue the hard work. Plans for next convention are coming together. Brett Miller is working on the Commanders In-State VCF run which will be in the 5<sup>th</sup> Division. Sr. Vice Latham thanked the committee for all its work. Adjutant Thielen spoke about using zoom etc., for future meetings to help Department cut costs. Membership Director Monroe asked how a new Chapter goes about obtaining a chapter. Chairman Lampert explained the process. We need to streamline how info gets posted on the website (i.e. Department emails Officer Certification Forms to ALR Committee, then we update the list on the website). It is important these forms get submitted annually by EVERY Chapter.

Discussed the possibility of adding a Chaplain to the ALR. It was decided not to at this time.

Website for Illinois ALR is live [www.illinoisamericanlegionriders.com](http://www.illinoisamericanlegionriders.com). This is an additional resource, not to replace the Department site. We are discussing wither or not to continue this site. Also looking into having 1 POC from each District/Division with access to add info and post info on the website if it continues.

Bob Sussen, Past National ALR Chairman passed away recently, we ask that all Chapters remember Bob and his Family.

Discussed ALR involvement in "America 250", to include the cross-country ride on US 20, from New York to Oregon, as it is named Medal of Honor Highway, nationally. More to follow.

Department ALR Donated \$29,000+ to the VCF, \$12,100 to Be The One, and \$6,750 to North Carolina Hurricane relief.

Meeting adjourned at 1411

If you have questions or something you need help with or just want to start a Chapter, please contact your Division ALR Chairman.

Sincerely,

*John B. Reece Jr.*

Vice Chairman

Illinois ALR Committee