

Fellow Riders,

I have been asked by our Department Adjutant to ask again for your help in logging any and all activities you and your Chapters have conducted or participated in since July 4 2025 thru now and up to July 4 2026. Any event that can be categorized as physical or mental health count. Riding our motorcycles is a form of mental health by way of reliving stress etc. I know most of you have participated in runs and events that benefit Veterans and Children as well as our communities. Even our fundraising for food pantries, Toys for Tots, or just supporting the needy in our communities count. Therefore, I am asking each and every Chapter to take a few minutes to recall all the things you have done, and enter them into the Celebrate America 250 section of the Department website, at the bottom of the landing page. Click on the link to find the google form to fill out the information requested, then submit when complete. This information will be tabulated and published during Department Convention.

We will be selling America 250 Illinois ALR patches at the Riders booth during convention. The patches are \$10 and monies will be divided between the Legion and SAL Commanders, and the Auxiliary Presidents projects for the year. We will also be conducting a raffle for America 250 prizes and 2 glass motorcycle decanters at convention to raise funds for the Freedom Fest.

Please consider coming to convention on Friday July 10, and ride your bikes. After our meeting on the convention floor at 3 pm, we will begin staging for the motorcycle parade to kick off The Freedom Fest in front of the Abe Lincoln. This year we would like to have 20 or more bikes in the parade.

I hope to see you all in Springfield.

John Reece  
ALR Vice Chairman  
Department of Illinois