

The State officers for the American Legion Riders Program would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak about the ALR. As many may know the American Legion Riders mission is supporting the American Legion through motorcycle riding, promoting safety, providing social opportunities, and participating in events and charities to benefit veterans, their family and our community.

What some may not know is that the Ohio ALR Program is one of the fastest growing programs under a non-profit organization. The Ohio ALR has an active 131 chapters with an average of two new charters each year. I have a goal to have the average of 5 new chapters each year. The over all total of Ohio ALR members is 2000 and continues to grow each year. The ALR members are made up of Legionaries, The Sons of the American Legion and the Auxiliary all coming together to embrace a stronger family bond as brothers and sisters.

The ALR come together at Mid-Winter and each year in the summer to have an event in the called The ROMP (Ride on Military Pride) at this event money is raised for a non-profit veterans' origination that the hosting ALR Chapter decides on. For 2025 the ROMP raised \$9200.00 for SAW (Save A Warrior) organization.

The Ohio American Legion Riders take part in riders that raise money for the National Legacy Ride for 2025 at Mid-Winter the challenge with the District Directors to go back to their districts and ask for a pledge of \$500.00 if possible, from each post. This would have the potential to bring in \$65,000.00 for the National Legacy Run. This challenge fell short in truth for the lack of participation from the District Directors to get the word out in their areas.

One of the hurtles and struggles is communication through the chains. The Ohio ALR has 14 districts, and each district is assigned by the District Commanders a District Director, this is where the State ALR is needing the DEC support. Out of 14 District Directors only half every come to Mid-Winter or the State ROMP. These riders in these Districts are missing important information given at the StateALR meetings and the State ALR is missing important information on the Rider posts in those districts, from officer list, by-laws, to functions and events. Getting each District Director involved in person or on TEAMS is a must to bridge the gap to united the Ohio for success.

(Have page for District Directors responsibilities from Handbook for District Commanders to see what's needed from this position)

The Ohio American Legion Riders look forward in our continued program growth and making positive visual awareness to the American Legion and our veterans.

Thank you and God Bless,

Candace Messer

OH ALR State Director

