

Who are the American Legion Riders?

The original American Legion Riders is a group that was first formed in Garden City, Michigan, Post 396 in November of 1993 by Bill "Polka" Kaledas and Chuck "Tramp" Dare. It consisted of members of the Legion **Family** (Post, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion) who ride motorcycles.

Since that time, several groups have been formed throughout the country. These American Legion Riders all share a common interest, motorcycling.

We are not a motorcycle club. We are an association, a group of American Legion Family members who ride for a cause.

Whether it is working together on veteran's issues, participating in a local parade as a motorcycle color guard, raising monies for a charity or cruising together on a beautiful fall colored highway, the American Legion Riders program has provided a lot of enjoyment for those members who share a common interest in motorcycling.

If you **are** a current member or an **eligible member** of the American Legion **Family** and love the "freedom of the road" on two wheels (and sometimes even three), then consider joining

We would love to have you!

Our Mission

To participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the aims and purposes of the American Legion. To promote motorcycle safety. To provide a social atmosphere for American Legion **Family** members who share the same interests. To use our association to promote and support the programs of the American Legion, the community and other motorcycle organizations.

Our History

In August of 2000, a group of American Legion members founded and chartered the American Legion Riders Association of Wisconsin (ALRA of WI). The group saw this as a benefit to the American Legion by using the interest of motorcycles as a means of growing the Legion Family here in Wisconsin.

Today the ALRA of WI consists of many members covering all districts across the state and has since formalized **all 12** district chapters.

Accomplishments

Since our inception, the ALRA of WI has performed in numerous parades and ceremonies by providing motorcycle color guards and service flag displays. ***In 2010, the ALRA of WI escorted disabled veterans through Wisconsin on their annual national bicycle ride called the Ride 2 Recovery, and provided escort across Wisconsin for the Nation of Patriots Tour which carried a U.S. flag to 100 stops across America to raise funds and awareness for America's disabled veteran***

Accomplishments (Con't)

ALRA District 9 annually invites ALRA of WI members to participate in motorcycle run to the King Veteran's Home Open House in King, WI

ALRA of WI organized a "Salute to Our Troops" parade on October 7, 2001 in Oshkosh to show support of our military personnel who are committed to protecting our country's freedoms.

Little did we know, this parade would "kick off" the war. This parade has since been an annual event.

ALRA of WI participates with "Rolling Thunder", an event in Washington, D.C. More than 400,000 motorcycle riders participate in support of the accountability of our POW/MIAs.

ALRA of WI also participates or has a presence with other national ALR members at a formal wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C. during the Memorial Day activities.

Many of our members have been trained in military funeral honors. As a result, our organization has received requests to provide military funeral honors and funeral escorts for our brothers and sisters who have lost their lives in recent conflicts and for our fellow veterans.