

Issue: American Legion Riders

Message Points:

- The American Legion Riders (ALR) is a dynamic national program administered by the departments and posts in each of the 50 states as well as in several oversea areas.
- The ALR was first established as a local post program in 1993 at Post 396, Garden City, Michigan, and has since grown to over 2,000 post-affiliated chapters worldwide in 2017.
- The ALR is not a motorcycle club, but rather an association of like-minded Legion Family members who enjoy family activities and the opportunity to advance the aims and goals of The American Legion.
- The national ALR membership is estimated to be over 100,000 Riders, all of whom are current members of The American Legion Family.
- ALR membership has continued to grow rapidly, attracting many new American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion members—a truly “family” centered organization.
- In 2005, the Mulvane, Kansas ALR founded The Patriot Guard, a national movement which since its beginning has honored and protected military funerals.
- The American Legion Riders across the country have helped to raise over \$12.2 million dollars for The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund since its inception in 2002.
- The American Legion Legacy Run, www.legion.org/riders/legacyrun, the country’s largest cross country, multi-day motorcycle touring event, helps raise over \$1M annually for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship.
- Riders also raise and donate hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to countless national, state, and local programs and charities for veterans, military families, and communities.
- Riders now also actively ride and raise funds for Operation Comfort Warriors (www.legion.org/ocw), providing for comfort items and assistance for our recovering wounded at military bases and transition battalions all over the country.
- The American Legion Riders attract active duty military members as well as veterans from all war eras as far back as WWII. Active-duty members are also eligible to join - and they are joining. Many active duty military installations conduct motorcycle safety training programs in which American Legion Riders play an important part.
- Riders promote the honorable nature of military service, providing honor guards and flag lines to local military funerals, patriotic parades and other memorial events each year.

The American Legion Riders today are important part of the Legion family in support of virtually all programs of The American Legion.