

American Legion Riders Fallen Heroes Chapter 372
General Membership Meeting Minutes 15 July 2018

Meeting called to order at 1000hrs by Director Joe Maltese

Opening Ceremonies

Roll Call by Secretary Robin Maltese: Roster available upon request.

Quorum achieved

Reading of the Minutes

Online minutes – Chuck Benhan motioned to approve minutes as posted, Paul Arambula second. Minutes approved.

Introduction of Guests

No guests attended.

Financial Reports

No treasurer report. Joe Maltese updated us on the state of affairs. Joe will email a financial report to all officers.

Annual dues are due now. Deadline December 31, 2018, but it is encouraged to renew sooner rather than later.

Chuck Benham notified us that by the end of July, the Riders will have their own bank account at Fifth Third Bank. He stated he'd like to donate \$100 to get things started. Two funds should be established. A Charitable Fund for donations from the public or other chapters and a Good of the Riders Fund for dues and fund raisers.

A Director discretionary fund was discussed. Director Maltese reminded us that our SOPs already allow for a \$500.00 emergency fund. Paul Arambula motioned that we proceed with this. Approved.

Officer's Reports

Chuck is working on the ALR Facebook account with Sheri. The 5th District Facebook page still does not post information about our chapter. They continue to try to get the problem resolved. Chuck has been trying to post a video of our June 10th Poker Run.

Committee Reports

Our next event will be another Poker Run in the fall. (Date to be determined). We would like to include some of the Chapters in the western sector of our district. We hope to include Green Cove Springs, Middleburg and Keystone Heights.

New Members

No new members.

New Business

The 5th District ALR will be replacing flags at Jacksonville National Cemetery through the month of August. Any and all volunteers welcomed. Check the ALR website for details.

The District Meeting is on July 29, 2018. Chuck Benham and Paul Arambula will attend this meeting. One of the discussions will be on the planned Unity/Legacy Ride. The final dates and routes will be determined. There may be 2 planned rides this year. One for the Southeast Districts and one for the State of Florida.

Director Maltese will look into the rules for Merry Go Rounds and Round Robin events with regarding to log hours.

Secretary Maltese discussed an emergency form all riders should carry in their bikes. The forms provide all insurance and medical information. These would be very beneficial if an accident were to occur. We will ask Sheri to post a copy on the website.

At the fall expo, the Legion is sponsoring a motorcycle raffle and gun raffle. They are renting a booth for the event.

Joe Maltese suggested we visit a Vets Center. He participated with Post 283's visit to a VFW and stated it was a worthy cause. We should look into what this entails and what these vets may need. Financial donations or other items?

Fund raising for our chapter was discussed at length. Several ideas were presented:

*As our membership grows we will begin to have a 50/50 at our meetings.

*Steak dinners – Joe Maltese advised he would discuss this type of event with the Elks. Rental of the Mason's Lodge, Garden Club or Italian-American Club was discussed.

*Hotdog/membership events at Ace, Chrome-It, Lowe's, Publix?

The Elks have a donations box by the back door. Looking for toiletries to go to the Clyde Lassen Vets Home.

Old Business

ALR Summit in Cocoa Beach, third week in January, 2019. We may need to postpone our meeting that month.

Still looking for ways to increase our membership and to get all members involved in our functions. We only need a little bit of volunteer time, please get involved so we may be successful in helping our fellow veterans and their families.

For the Good of the Chapter

Reminder that Post 88 holds a fundraising event at Los Toros Mexican Restaurant on Baymeadows Rd. from 6-9pm, Every 3rd Tuesday of the month. Proceeds go to benefits Sulzbacher Veterans. All are welcomed to join. It's a great dinner.

Fun Run after the next meeting (short ride due to the heat). Come ready to ride!

Closing Ceremonies

Meeting adjourned 1110hrs

Respectfully submitted, Robin Maltese, Secretary