



Department of New York  
American Legion Riders  
Department Convention in Binghamton, Minutes

**Date:** 15 July 2016

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1935 hours

Director, Dave Davis, called the meeting to order.

Salute National Colors

Prayer

POW/MIA recognition ceremony

POW/MIA flag placement on empty chair OR recognizing little white table

Pledge of Allegiance

Riders' Creed

**Attendance/Roll call of Officers:**

Officers:

Director (Dave Davis) - present

Vice Director Districts 1, 2, 9 & 10 (Peter DeAngelis) - present

Vice Director Districts 3 & 4 (Don Guernsey) - present

Vice Director Districts 5 & 6 (Don Logan) - **Excused**

Vice Director Districts 7 & 8 (Jerry Ketchum) - present

Road Captain/Information Officer (**Vacant**)

Secretary (Leonard Mischuk) - **Excused**

Chaplain (Nadine Szewczyk) - **Absent**

Sergeant at Arms (Gary Schacher) - present

Historian (Diane Davis) - present

Members: 36 Members in attendance

Guests: None

Director Dave Davis: 1. Stressed the importance of incorporating the Riders' Creed into ALR meetings

2. Asked members if any were vaccinated with the air gun. Need to be tested for Hep C

3. Legacy Fund – NY State goal is \$100K. With around 100 chapters within the state, if each contributed \$1000, it can be achieved. Make checks out to: American Legion Legacy Fund. Mail checks to Dave Davis, he will track each donation on an Excel spreadsheet. He will submit the spreadsheet to Bill Sloan in National and each Chapter that donates \$500 or more will be recognized with a plaque from National.

4. He talked with the Junior Auxiliary about their fund raiser for Operation Comfort Warrior (OCW) and he gave them \$20. They raised \$83 and Dave will present the check to the Department Commander during the Convention session.

5. Dave also announced that Joe Mondello is this year's Legionnaire of the Year.

**Sick call/Relief:** Valerie Horth (post #259) is in the hospital – Joe Mondello suggested that membership makes a donation toward a fruit basket or a gift card along with a get well card. A bowl is being placed in the back of the room for donations.

**Back to God:** none

**Reading of the minutes:** NTR

Make note that minutes are posted on the Department's website.

**Committee and Vice Directors' report:**

**Vice Director for Districts 1, 2, 9 & 10 (Peter DeAngelis)**

**Activities:** 1. He attended the Bronx County Legion Riders first meeting where Joe Mondello presented a check for \$500.

2. Trying to get the chapters on Long Island to participate more

3. Nassau County Commander will host a get together at a post in Hamstead in early August

4. Brooklyn Chapter #1636 goes to the Brooklyn VA on the first and third Wednesday of each month to host bingo, about 6 or 7 riders show up.

**Vice Director for Districts 3 & 4 (Don Guernsey)**

**Activities:** 1. Hudson Falls is having a benefit ride on 6 August

2. Granville Legacy Ride will be on 23 July

3. Stillwater Veteran's home having a ride on 20 August

William Baker (3<sup>rd</sup> District) from Melvin Roads Chapter #1231: 1. Poker run on 17 September – proceeds go toward rehabilitation animals for returning veterans

2. Comedy Show at the post on 5 November – proceeds go toward the Hero Fund (fixing homes to make them disabled assessable.

3. [MelvinRoads1231@NYCap.rr.com](mailto:MelvinRoads1231@NYCap.rr.com) and

facebook page: Melvin Roads American Legion Riders 1231

Gary Schacher (Membership/3<sup>rd</sup> District): 1. The ALR is the largest recruitment tool for membership

2. District membership workshops are coming up in the near future.

3. Gary and another Iraq Veteran started an event (Race) called Patriot Highlander. This year it's on 17 September. They have a bunch of wounded veterans from adaptive sports foundation in Greene County (3<sup>rd</sup> District) who will be running in the race. The ALR will escort these veterans from the Best Western in Cobleskill (KSU at 0730 hours) to the race. Website: [patriothishighlander.com](http://patriothishighlander.com) They also have a facebook page.

4. Dan Nolan (Hudson Falls Post 754) handed Dave Davis a check for \$500.

**Vice Director for Districts 5 & 6 (Don Logan)**

**Activities:** Joe Sullivan filled in: 1. They, at Horseheads Post 442, primarily focus on the Legacy and Veteran related rides. They just increased their membership by 53, they now have 118 members.

2. Donations for Post 442 for 2016, so far:

➤ Sponsored a student for Boys' State (\$350)

➤ Sponsored a Boy Scout Troop (\$175)

➤ Purchased a freezer for the post (\$250, SAL paid other half)

➤ Donated \$500 for a fallen rider, plus purchased 1 engraved brick for memorial sidewalk

- Donated \$175 for kids' Christmas
- Purchased flags (along with legion) for grave marking on Memorial Day
- Donated \$5K for the Legacy fund
- Donated \$100 to Dave Davis

3. Events:

- Last March – Motorcycle swap meet – raised \$7K
- Just had Meet & Greet
- 23 July, Troop Ride – proceeds go to USO
- 20 August, Legacy Run
- 29 August, Oktoberfest
- Wreaths Across America
- Flags at Woodlawn
- NYS patches for sale (\$5)
- Money Raffle tickets

4. Looking into adopting 19 November 1993 as the ALR Birthday. Every other organization has a birthday.

Spoke to a senior legion member from Garden City, Michigan Post 396. Both founders are still riders, one in particular, Bill Kaledas will return phone call. They received a return letter, a letter of Instruction, from National on 19 November 1993. This could be the day for Meet & Greets, Christmas parties, etc

Art Bentley (Post 442) made a motion to adopt 19 November 1993 for the Legion Riders' birthday. John Badi (Post 1683) seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion was carried. After some discussion, it was decided that a Resolution should be written to complete the motion.

**Vice Director for Districts 7 & 8 (Jerry Ketchum)**

**Activities:** On 26 June, the Wellsville Chapter hosted the second annual 7/8 District Legacy Meet & Greet. Nine Chapters were in attendance, and Dave Davis addressed them. The Legacy Fund and Operation Comfort Warrior were topics of discussion. Donations totaled \$2280. Many runs are scheduled from now to the autumn months.

**Unfinished Business:** NTR

**New Business:** NTR

**Announcements:** NTR

**Closing:**

Is there any further business to come before the meeting? If not, the chaplain will lead us in the closing prayer, please uncover.

Benediction (prayer)

Cover

National Colors Saluted and Retired

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2056 hours

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Frances E. Holderman (Post 54)  
 (substitute for Leonard Mischuk)