

## Who are the American Legion Riders?

The original American Legion Riders were 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 S.A.L.) who ride motorcycles.

Since that time, the American Legion Riders have grown to be the largest Veteran's motorcycling organization in the Nation. We 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 and have been adopted as a program of the Americanism pillar of the Legion.

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

If you **are** a current member or an *eligible member* of the American Legion **Family** who enjoys the "freedom of the road" on two wheels (or three!), then consider joining.

*We would love to have you!*

## Our Mission

We participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the aims and purposes of the American Legion. We promote motorcycle safety. We provide a social atmosphere for American Legion **Family** members who share the same interests. We 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 a benefit to the American Legion by using an interest in motorcycles as a means of growing the Legion family here in Wisconsin.

Today the ALRA of WI includes members of Posts across **all 12** Legion Districts in the State.

## Accomplishments

We have been honored to participate in parades and ceremonies as a motorcycle color guard and service flag display in various communities throughout Wisconsin. We are invited to Memorial Day and 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades in many cities, along with many other celebrations throughout our state during the riding season.

## Accomplishments (cont.)

We provide a motorcycle color guard for the annual motorcycle run to the Wisconsin Veteran's Home in King, WI and their open house. Spending some time with our veteran brothers and sisters is always well worth it.

Our group conducts a "Fall Ride" to Tomahawk in support of Wisconsin's Camp American Legion. This ride raises thousands of dollars annually to provide resources for the veterans rehabilitation programs offered at Camp. We show support of our military personnel who are committed to protecting our country's freedoms. We financially support the Wisconsin Honor Flight program, allowing veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C.

Since its inception as a national program, the Association raised many thousands of dollars to contribute towards the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund endowment for the benefit of children of veterans deceased since 9/11.

We were invited by Rolling Thunder in Washington, DC to ride with over 600,000 other motorcyclists in support of an accounting for our POW/MIAs. As a special honor, a member of ALRA of WI was chosen to be one of the representatives to take part in a "Laying of the Wreath" ceremony at The Tomb Of The Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery.

## Future Requests

Numerous community parades and events are scheduled in each of our twelve districts every year. We prioritize those events which directly support local Legion Posts, National Guard or Reserve units, and veterans.

***Please visit our website for our Calendar of Events.***

We are honored and proud to do what we do and to do it as part of the American Legion family.

## Our Uniform

***Our suggested parade or public event uniform consists of the following:***

**Head Gear:** Black Beret w/ALR pin or mini-patch or Legion Riders baseball cap. Motorcycle helmets are optional at the individual rider's discretion.

**Vest:** A **black** vest will be worn displaying the American Legion Riders patch on the back, which also identifies the member's district and post. The American Legion **family** patch (Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL) will be displayed on the front right uppermost area of the vest and the U.S. Flag patch will be displayed on the front left uppermost area. Nothing will be displayed above the U.S. Flag. **Style and color of the vest is individual choice.**

**Shirt:** A **black** shirt will be worn.

**Pants:** **Black jeans or pants** will be worn. Pants will not be frayed or faded.

**Dark shoes or boots**

## Membership Requirements

A current member **or eligible member** of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion. Membership eligibility in the Riders (and the Legion) now includes all veterans who have honorably served at least one day of federal active duty since Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941 to the present. Spouses and daughters of eligible veterans may join the Auxiliary and sons may join the SAL.

You must be a registered owner (member or spouse) of a motorcycle of at least 500 cc and hold a current motorcycle endorsement (member or spouse). The motorcycle must be operational upon renewal or as determined by the Executive Board.

All new applicants should be sponsored by a fellow American Legion Rider or seek membership from the ALRA's Executive Board.

Upon approval of appointment, annual dues must be paid.

Anyone meeting the above requirements that would like to share our enthusiasm and interests are more than welcome to contact us.

## Contact Us

For more information please contact:  
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## For More Information

Website: [www.alrawis.org](http://www.alrawis.org) or Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Riders-Wisconsin-218517084843627/>

# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN



*Who we are  
What we are about*