



A.L.R. NEWS

American Legion Riders
District 20 / Post 311
Lancaster, California



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*******HAPPY NEW YEAR 2009*******



Lancaster Christmas Parade

This Christmas Parade was lots of fun. We join our post and together we came home with a second place. We had one float that the Son's entered and we had five bikes that participated. We road around the float all the way down Lancaster Blvd... The weather started off a little bit cool but the wind was still and the sun was shinning so as the day went on the weather got warmer. It became a perfect day for a parade. After the parade we all went to lunch and relax and talk about the parade on how munch fun we had doing it this year. Everyone like the idea of riding around the float cause no bike's heated up. We'll almost no one, Kathy had her bike with the Voyager kit on and she stayed right behind the Son's float waving to all as we went by. She started to over heat up at the end of the parade. Maybe next time we can get more bikes to join us in the fun for next year.



Barstow Veterans Home

The Barstow ride was the weekend right after the Christmas Parade; we had nine members that went to hand out Christmas scarves and dog tags (thanking them for their service) to the vet's, that lived at the home. We had six bikes and one truck that follow behind the riders. As we arrived at the

home we all had to sign in. Then the fun began. We all walked into the cafeteria saying “Merry Christmas to All” and handed out scarves out to all we saw. Some of us even went into the resident’s area and made sure we did not forget anyone. As we went through the different buildings, we saw that each had their own Christmas decorations. One building had a large Christmas tree. All around the tree, covering the floor was what seemed to be everything; a train, a town, many Santa’s on motorcycles, animals, toys and much more. We met a resident who gave us two gifts. He made us stained glass to hang on the wall or in the window, one is of a motorcycle. We had a great time and they loved the scarves and dog tags. We saw many of them put them right on. We stopped for a photo moment right out front of the home, by the tank and got a picture. On the way home we stopped at Domingo’s for lunch. It was great day and thank you to all who participated.



ALR Christmas Party

2008 Christmas party went off very well. This year we had two chapters that came together for the party. It was very nice to see two chapters having fun Chapter 348 and Chapter 311 joining together to have some fun with other members. Things started off around 6:30 pm with food coming in around 7:30 pm everything went well except the timing of the food to arrive. We had a bunch of games that were made up for our party. We opened the party up with ringing the bell for our lost brother that we missed very much. We only had one that past away this year. His name was Jim Robertson he was a founding member and founding officer of chapter 311. He passed away in SC by a head on car, he truly will be missed. After the bell ringing, we also talked about our P.O.W. table, remembering that they are not home yet. Then it was time to start this party up. Meanwhile as we waited for the food to come in we played a few games. We played a few games then the food arrived everyone was very hungry waiting for the food to arrive. Food was very good we had three types of meat to grab. They even made up a few special dishes for some of our members and guessed that were needed a special diet. Famous Dave’s Bar-B-Que did an out standing job on the food. A little late but it was all good.

After dinner everyone seemed to be satisfied, we started doing our exchange of gifts right after dinner. This was very fun watching members taking away gifts from other members. It seems we had one member that kept losing her gift so she had to keep getting up to open more gifts. This last most of the night and we still had more to come. Playing more games after the gift exchange, the fun and laughter never stopped most of the night.



OFFICER'S REPORT:



**President;
Larry Miller**

Happy New Year to All, wow this past year went by very fast. We had lots to do last year and your officers are thinking how we can top last years events. We feel this task will be a good one. We have so much more ideas on what to do this year. Hope all of you can make them all this year, you really don't want to miss out on any of the fun activates coming up this year. So much is in the works. With more input from the members we feel this will be a great year. You the members are the ones that make this chapter so keep up the good work and will see you on the road.

Don't forget to renew your membership for this year. You have till February meeting before your dropped off the list. So lets get those renewals in you don't want to be left behind. It's time to re-up!

The American Legion Riders convention is coming up in May. Dates are the 1st, 2nd and 3rd hope to see you on the road going to the convention. It will be

held at San Leandro so let's ride to the convention together and have some fun with other ALR Chapters don't miss out on the fun and the ride. January's ride is going to be at the Rose Bowl this coming 17th this is a one time deal so don't be left out come and join us on this event. Beside it's a ride and we do love rides.

**RIDE WITH PRIDE
STAY ALERT / STAY ALIVE**

P.O.W. / M.I.A. WE WILL NEVER FORGET ~ BRING THEM HOME

A.L.R. President Larry Miller "Army"



**Vice President;
Brian Hookland**

As I see Things.....

Hi All,

First of all I would like to thank all of you that were able to participate in our events, not just the last month (the busiest month it seems) but throughout the entire year. When you look back over the year we were very busy and accomplished a lot. Thank you very much.

Remember:

'Young' Riders pick a destination and go.....'Old' Riders pick a direction and go.

Just as I see things.....
Brian Hookland
ALR Chapter 311
Vice President



**Secretary;
Kathy Miller**

Chapter Minutes;

American Legion Rider's Meeting 12/11/2008

8 members and 6 guests present.

Chaplin Kathy Miller said the prayer
We had a moment of silence for our POWs and MIAs
Sgt at Arms Jeff Fawks led the pledge of allegiance

Secretary Kathy Miller read the minutes of the November 2008 meeting and they were approved as read.

Kathy; There are 170 scarves completed and 5 more to go. The dog tags are done I will need help tonight to tie bows and the scarves and put chains on the dog tags.

President Larry Miller; In January there is a ride going to the Rose Bowl he said he would email flyers.

Dan; Said he had some flyers and would drop them off to Larry.

Larry; do we have any new members?

There were three new members, we voted in;
Ken, Richard and Fred.

Larry; New members can go to the ALRDOC web page to order patches.
He gave a warning that Quarter master is slow now.

Larry; We had a pre ride to Barstow. These guys will corner you and they love to talk.....It is a beautiful place and we had a great time.
For the ride on Sunday, we will meet at post 311 at 9am and KSU at 9:30
We should arrive at the Veteran's Home at 11:30.

Jeff; Are they going to feed us?

Larry; We will find out.

Vice President Brian Hookland; Steak dinner is tomorrow night here at the post. It is always the second Friday, it is \$8.

Treasurer not here

Run Coordinator not here

Larry; Bill will probably send out an email about rides.

Sgt at Arms Jeff Fawks; Sounds like our new members are experienced in group riding, but if not, we will talk to you.

Membership chairman; nothing to report.

Editor Larry Miller; The newsletter will be coming back in January.

Dan; The Lancaster Veteran's home will be open by April.

Riverside cemetery will be "laying the Christmas Wreath" @ 9am on Saturday.

Dan said he would look into "wreaths across America"

What about walkie talkies for the lead and tail on rides?

Ken Simpson; Chapter 348 has donated \$50 for door prizes and has 6 members coming to the Christmas party.

Chaplin Kathy Miller said the closing prayer

The meeting adjourned at 8:10



**Treasury Report;
Debbie Lovrich**

Also if anyone has a question about the A.L.R. checking account, please contact me. I'll try to answer your question about the A.L.R. account.



**Road Coordinator;
Bill Engel**

Happy New Year Rider's,

Don't forget our first meeting of the new year will be this Thursday evening, 7:00PM, at the post.

One topic of discussion will be selecting some group rides for the New Year.

For January, I think we want to go to an event at the Rose Bowl called "Welcome Home Defenders of Freedom" (see attachment) It is on Saturday, the 17th. I would like to ride via Angeles Forest Highway but we'll have to watch the weather reports.

Some other suggestions that have been mentioned...

Ronald Reagan Library (I vote for this for February)

Death Valley is a great ride in the early springtime (Mar/Apr?).

Lompoc would be a great summer ride to escape the heat of the desert (Jul/Aug?)

San Fernando Mission

Ransburg

Calico

Pine Mountain

Penny Bar

Malibu via Mulholland Hwy & PCH stopping at Rock Store & Neptune's Net (good summer ride)

Ojai via Frazier Park & Lockwood Valley (another good summer ride)

Kernville/lake Isabella

Big Bear

Bishop (possible overnight?)

Pahrump (overnight?)

Also, we want to go on a weekend trip to Desert Thunder (mid September) at Primm (State Line) Nevada. This will be a combined ride with Post 348 (Palmdale).

The web site is <http://desertthunder.org> (still showing last year's event at this time).

I'm getting excited just typing this list.

Let's make this the best year yet!

LET'S RIDE!!!

Bill Engel

Run Coordinator.



SGT. AT ARMS

Report

Jeff Fawks

Riders, 2008 has been a good year for us. Safety rules and hand signals are our highest priority and it's paid off. Zero accidents on chapter rides. Good work everyone.

We have had a lot of fun this year. We have had a lot of great rides. It started out a bit slow do to some members leaving to start other chapters. But we are growing again and it looks like this year will be even better. Our run coordinator (Bill Engel) has done a fantastic job, planning and plotting rides. He has some great ideas for this coming year.

The convention is coming in May. Conventions are about ALR business but are a lot of fun. This year it will be in the bay area. Last years rally was up there and we had a blast. After the rally we road back down the Calif. coast. If you haven't rode hwy 1 you don't know what you are missing. So plan on going to the convention and rally this year and meet ALR members from all over the state.

Ride safe and look out for ice.

"I just want'a RIDE"

JEFF FAWKS

Sgt. At Arms

Chapter 311



Editor;
Larry Miller

Send your news to me. I would like to include your news, rides, stories, articles, items for sale, ect in our newsletter. Our next newsletter will be in

March. Please get all of your information to me by the end of February. This gives me time to put all things in the **A.L.R. NEWS**.

“We ride in HONOR of those who have served...
We ride in HOPE for the safety of those who are serving...
We ride in MEMORY of those we have lost.”



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