



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 1340 INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER In The Wind For Veterans

CRUISIN' WITH THE COMMANDER

I was talking to an old biker recently who complained, "I joined your Post 4 years ago looking forward to having fun riding with a group of fellow Vets. I never heard another word from the Post. Not a peep. Not a phone call. Not even a Newsletter". I asked him if we had his email address. "I don't have email. I'm a long-haul trucker. I would have loved riding with you guys but since I didn't get a Newsletter, I didn't re-up."

I left that conversation with a gnawing feeling that he might be representative of the 70% of the members who are not very active. In my two terms, we have had 36 rides in support of Vets or children of Vets but only a dozen or two members show up. I kept wondering "How can I reach these members"? How can I re-ignite the spark that caused them to join in the first place? How? How? Maybe . . . , Maybe . . . , A . . . , I Know! Yeah! That's it! A Newsletter!

I love it when I have these brilliant, original thoughts. Usually I forget them, but not this time. We're going to do a Newsletter!

Check out what's scheduled for the next two months. Find the phone numbers of your officers. Read what we've done recently. Read a short, interesting story from one of your brothers/sisters in the post. Enter your suggested name for our Newsletter. Something slightly irreverent or irrelevant, whichever you prefer. Whoever suggests the winning name will win a fantastic prize.

If you like the Newsletter, let us know. If you want to enter something, send it to the Post address. If you don't like it, line your birdcage or wrap your fish entrails in it. Be sure you only use Goldfish entrails because the Newsletter is not very big.

Look at your Membership Card. If it doesn't say 2010, you are late. Please re-up soon so National doesn't drop you from the rolls. Our membership is up over 30% in the last two years and we need your membership to help finance our Veteran-related missions. We're going to look into a Re-enlistment Bonus. It may be as much as a free soda pop or beverage of your choice.

Big Jim

P.S. To the OTR driver, "Hooter" if I remember right, who is actually responsible for the Newsletter idea, thank you for the gentle nudge.

Sons News

We just completed a Poker Run on August 23rd. We earned over \$744 with 84 bikes being registered. The funds will be used to purchase items for the Veterans Center in Norman, OK.

If you are interested in joining the Sons of The American Legion Detachment, or know someone who is, please call the Post Adjutant at 405-250-0651. Annual dues are \$25.



Auxiliary Unit 1340 News

Hello all! I just wanted to keep everyone abreast as to what is going on in Goddess world. We are planning to hold our next meeting Sat. Nov. 21st at 6pm. We will meet at Charley's and go from there. We are also kicking off a Pampered Chef party. This will be a unique party in the sense that the Aux is the hostess, and instead of getting gifts, we will get funds to put into our treasury. So the more we sell, the larger the profits. Even if you are not in the Aux. you can order. Give any of us a call to find out how to order. We are gearing up for the Holiday season, and our visit to the Children's home, so come out and help us with this venture.

If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary Unit, or know someone who is, please call the Post Adjutant at 405-250-0651. Annual dues are \$25.

Teresa Wicker

Abate Update

Hello, Brothers and Sisters--

I hope all of you had a very Happy Veterans Day today, and to my fellow Veterans, Thank You for your Service, and Welcome Home!! I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your support in attending our successful 13th Annual ABATE Veterans' Day Run to the Oklahoma Veterans' Memorial Park. The last bike count we came up with was 485 motorcycles and trikes, not counting cages. With many bikers riding two-up, we had over 500 members of Oklahoma's Riding Family participate. A number of our Riding Community showed up after attending Veterans' Day Services at the 45th Infantry Division Museum as well. Many thanks to all the outriders for helping to keep us safe, to Ed Glendinning and Pastor Pickle for their inspiring prayers and spiritual guidance, and to the American Legion Riders Post #1340 and Ladies' Auxiliary for the logistical support, the hot dog/chili dog cookout, and the delicious Bake Sale goodies! Donations from the after-party are going to the American Legion Children's Home, a very worthwhile cause. Thanks also to Charley's Last Stand and new owner Linda Murphy for the tremendous hospitality and providing the live music. I'm supremely glad for everyone's working together to make this a safe and enjoyable event honoring the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces members and their families.

Thanks very much for attending, and I very much look forward to seeing all of you at ABATE's Memorial Day Bike Parade in 2010. You'll be able to recognize me--I'll be the bearded, smiling fat guy astride Orca, my big, white Road King!

Yours in Liberty,
Tiger Mike Revere, Captain, USAF (Retired)
ABATE of Oklahoma, Inc.
Oklahoma Confederation Of Clubs

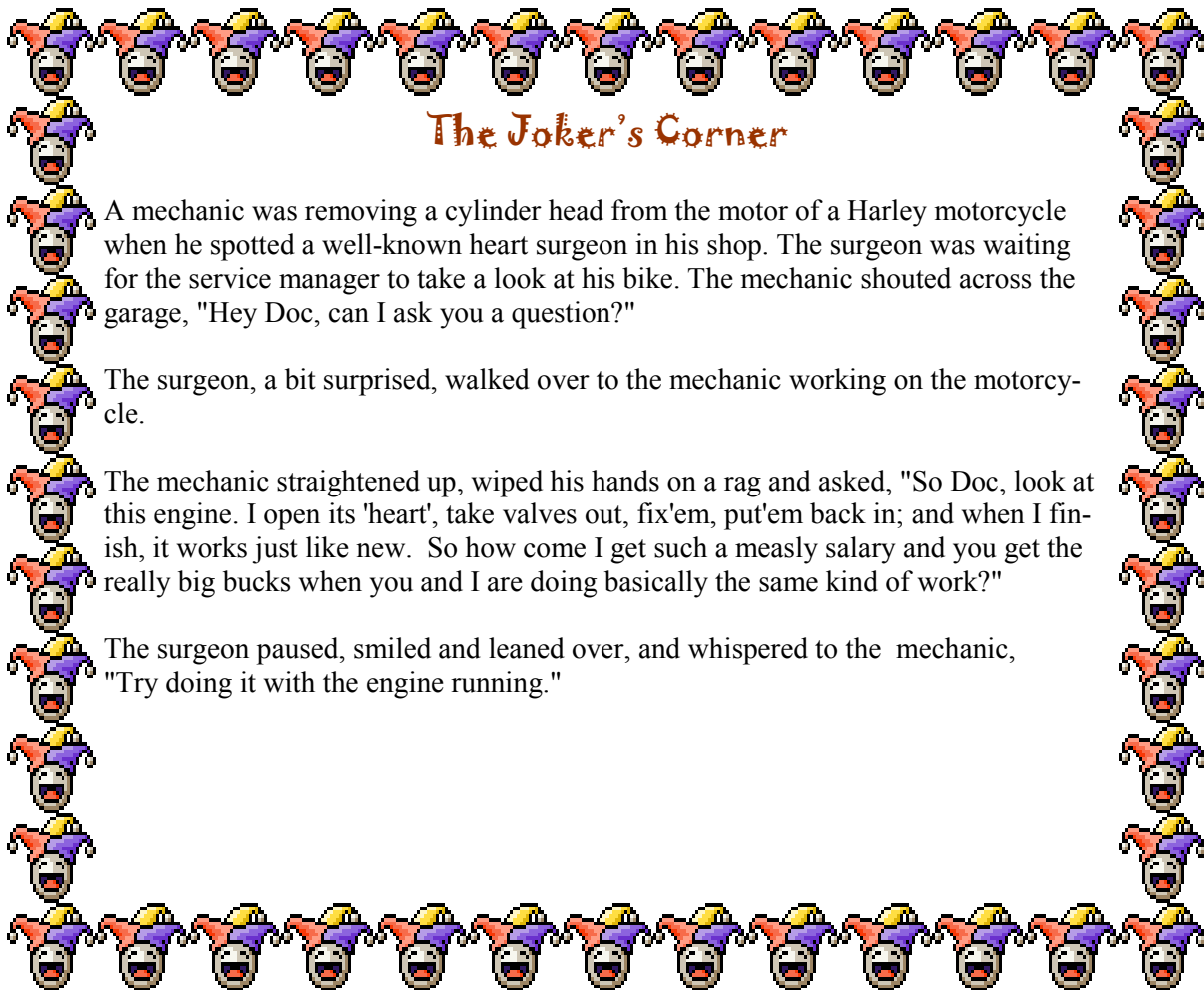
"This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."
-- Elmer Davis

Bio of Vice Commander Henry "Q2" Bass

A 1971 graduate of Catonsville Sr. High in Baltimore, Md., Henry joined the Air Force in December of 1971. After boot camp and technical school, Henry's 1st duty station was Clark AB in the Philippines. While stationed there, Henry met Mrs. Marco's and was a participant in Operation Home Coming, when the POW's came into Clark after being released from Viet Nam. Henry's was then transferred to Grand Forks AFB in North Dakota. After 4 years active service, Henry did 2 years Active Reserve time at Dover AFB, Delaware.

After trying to rejoin the Air Force and told of long delays and pay cut's, Henry joined the Navy in January 1978. After going through boot camp again, Henry went to AO "A" school at NAS Memphis. Upon completion of school, Henry was transferred to NAS Whidbey Island. While at Whidbey, Henry did a cruise on the U.S.S. Ranger with VAQ 137 and a cruise on the U.S.S. Constellation with VA 196. While assigned to VA 196 Henry suffered a heart attack where he sustained 30% disability. Henry was medically retired in December of 1986.

A long time motorcycle enthusiast, Henry joined the up and coming American Legion Riders Post 1340 in the winter of 2001. Henry has served with the Post in the capacity of Sgt-at-Arms and as Vice Commander. Henry is married to Julie Melvin of Oklahoma City. Henry looks forward to serving many more years with Post 1340.



The Joker's Corner

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a Harley motorcycle when he spotted a well-known heart surgeon in his shop. The surgeon was waiting for the service manager to take a look at his bike. The mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc, can I ask you a question?"

The surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to the mechanic working on the motorcycle.

The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I open its 'heart', take valves out, fix'em, put'em back in; and when I finish, it works just like new. So how come I get such a measly salary and you get the really big bucks when you and I are doing basically the same kind of work?"

The surgeon paused, smiled and leaned over, and whispered to the mechanic, "Try doing it with the engine running."



ACTIVITIES DURING 2008, 2009

- 2 New Year's Day Rides
- Cookout for Thunder Run
- 2 Moore Motorcycle Madness Rides
- Stillwater History Ride
- Freedom Run for Wounded Warriors Ride and Cookout
- Fundraiser Ride for Post 12 Baseball Team
- 4 Vet Center visits
- 2 Memorial Day Parade & Auxiliary Hot Dog Giveaways
- 2 A.L. Children's Home Rides for the Kids
- 2 Fourth of July Rides and Rallies
- Escort Ride for Enid Troops Deployment
- VA Hospital Run
- Support of Legacy Scholarship Run
- Auxiliary Dice Run Fundraiser for Vet's Center
- 2 Veteran's Day Parades and Auxiliary Hot Dog Giveaways
- 2 ALCH Rides to give out Christmas Presents to Kids
- Support for BACA Kids
- Booth at OKC Bike Show & Swap Meet
- Ride Inside El Reno School for support of Kids
- Carry the Flame Escort Ride
- Sons Fundraiser for Vet Center
- Escort Viet Nam Moving Wall to Piedmont
- Lunch Ride to Lucille's in Mulhall, OK
- Fundraiser for injured Member
- Support Ride for Member on R&R from Iraq
- Clothing Drive for VA Hospital Patients
- Veterans' Day Run to the Capitol

Notes from the Adjutant

If you have established an email account, please send an email to adjutant@alr1340.org.

Please remember to renew your membership. Renewal fees are \$40 for the year. The membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. However, the renewal period is from July 1st to December 31st. For those that are interested, the Legion does offer the Paid Up For Life Program.

For details, contact the Adjutant, Robbie Wicker by email at:

Important Dates for December 2009

13th Leave Charley's at 10am for visit to ALCH in Ponca City.
19th Post Meeting at Charley's Last Stand at 10 am
25th Christmas

Important Dates for January 2010

1st - Polar Bear Ride, Time and Destination TBA
5th - Post Meeting at Charley's Last Stand at 7 pm
8th - 10th OK Dept Legion Mid-Winter Rehab Conference @ Biltmore in OKC
16th - Post Meeting at Charley's Last Stand at 10 am

Important Dates for February 2010

2nd - Post Meeting at Charley's Last Stand at 7 pm
20th - Post Meeting at Charley's Last Stand at 10 am
Please check www.ALR1340.org for the latest information.

Post Contact Info

Post Commander: Big Jim Craig: cmdr@alr1340.org , Phone 405-517-4635
Vice Commander: Henry "Q2" Bass: vcmdr@alr1340.org , Phone 405-317-7677
Adjutant: adjutant@alr1340.org
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Sons of the American Legion Commander: SALCmdr@alr1340.org

Auxiliary President Teresa Wicker auxpres@alr1340.org
Auxiliary Vice President Dina Smith auxvp@alr1340.org
Auxiliary Secretary Christi Carter auxsec@alr1340.org
Auxiliary Treasurer Michelle Rose auxtres@alr1340.org