



American Legion Riders

Motorcycle Association

W. or Willard E. "Rocky" Glidewell Post #341

Chapter By-Laws

Bella Vista, Arkansas

Purpose

- **To use our Association to promote and support the programs of the American Legion.**
- **To participate in parades and other ceremonies which are in keeping with the Aims and Purposes of the American Legion.**
- **To promote motorcycle safety programs and to provide a social atmosphere for American Legion members who share the same interest.**

The following paragraphs comprise the bylaws of The American Legion Riders of Arkansas, Willard E. "Rocky" Glidewell, Post 341, hereinafter referred to as the ALR.

1. Membership

1.1. Prospective members in the ALR **must** meet the following requirements, without exception:

- 1.1.1. Must be a current member in good standing in the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion.

- 1.1.1.1. The ALR year for membership purposes follows the calendar year and runs from January 1st through December 31st of each year.
 - 1.1.1.2. For new members, dues paid with membership application prior to July 1st are for the current year. Dues paid with membership application on July 1st and after are applied to the following year.
 - 1.1.1.3. Dues for the following year become due and payable on October 20th and delinquent if not paid by January 1st.
 - 1.1.1.4. Members whose membership dues are not paid by February 1st of the current year are suspended from the ALR and therefore not entitled to any benefit or privilege afforded to the ALR.
- 1.1.2 Members must not at any time hold membership in more than one Postlevel Chapter of the ALR. Any member found to be in violation of this paragraph must immediately select their home ALR Chapter and relinquish membership in any others upon discovery.
- 1.1.3. Must be the legally registered owner of a properly insured motorcycle of at least 350cc (21.4 CI) engine displacement and must possess a valid motorcycle driver's license in their state of residence (military equivalents acceptable as well).

- OR -

- 1.1.4 Must be the legal spouse of an ALR member in good standing who meets the provisions above.

1.2 Chapter Supporters The Chapter Supporter classification does not constitute full membership in the ALR, but is intended as a means to provide recognition to those who show strong support to the ALR Chapter.

- 1.2.1. Prospective Chapter Supporters must, without exception, meet the requirements of Paragraph 1.1.1. above.
- 1.2.2. Chapter Supporter classification may also apply to previous “full members” who have become disqualified as a full member under Paragraph 1.1.3 in which case the person may continue membership in the ALR including the ability to temporarily hold office as appointed by the Director for officer vacancies.

- 1.2.3. Pursuant to Paragraph 1.2, the conferring of "Chapter Supporter" status must not be made in connection with the promise of any material, financial, or political benefit to the Chapter, its members or its officers; nor to any other member at any other organizational level within the ALR; nor must there be any similar gains for the honoree through the conferring of "Chapter Supporter" status.
 - 1.2.4. Chapter Supporters may be issued a membership card which clearly denotes their status as a Chapter Supporter.
 2. **Organization:** The ALR is a Post Level Program of and is sponsored by American Legion Post 341, Bella Vista, Arkansas. These bylaws are subordinate to the Constitution and Bylaws of its sponsoring Post, and in case any conflict may be found herein, the documents of the sponsoring post shall govern.
 - 2.1. No individual can be an ALR member without affiliation with a "home" Post where the member is in good standing.
 - 2.2. Each member of the ALR will have a unique membership number in order to facilitate membership audits and tracking by The Legion. To this end, the ALR will use the following convention when forming member numbers:
 - 2.2.1. The membership number shall begin with the abbreviation of the state followed by the Post number followed by a four digit number in sequence beginning with 0001, - i.e. AR-341-0000.
 - 2.2.1.1. Membership numbers are not re-issued in the event a member leaves the Chapter for any reason including voluntary quit, death, or expulsion. (Membership numbers are "non-retiring".)
 - 2.2.1.2. When the ALR reaches a membership of over 9999, the ALR will use an appropriate number of digits in order to uniquely identify each of their members.
3. **Officers:**
 - 3.1. **Officers of the Chapter:** Officers of the ALR shall be Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Lead Road Captain, Historian, Chaplain, and Membership Chairman, elected or appointed annually.

3.1.1. Required Officers

3.1.1.1. Director:

- 3.1.1.1.1. Serves as Chief Administrative Officer of the Chapter and presides over all meetings.
- 3.1.1.1.2. Supervises all affairs of the Chapter.
- 3.1.1.1.3. Performs such other duties as directed by the general membership

3.1.1.2. Assistant Director

- 3.1.1.2.1. Assumes the duties of the Director in his/her absence.
- 3.1.1.2.2. Assists the Director in the performance of his/her duties when called on to do so by the Director.

3.1.1.3. Secretary

- 3.1.1.3.1. Keeps a full and accurate record of all proceedings at the meetings.
- 3.1.1.3.2. Keeps membership records as may be required by the general membership.
- 3.1.1.3.3. Provides detailed minutes of prior meeting at each regular meeting.

3.1.1.4. Treasurer

- 3.1.1.4.1. Responsible for all finances of the Chapter.
- 3.1.1.4.2. Disburses and collects funds as directed by the general membership, pursuant to Paragraph 6 below.
- 3.1.1.4.3. Provides detailed financial reports at each regular meeting.

- 3.1.1.4.4. Provides financial audit data to the sponsoring Post if requested.
- 3.1.1.4.5. Serves as Membership Chairman in the absence of an appointed official in that office except that the Treasurer will pass membership records to the Secretary after appropriate posting.
- 3.1.1.5. Sergeant-at-Arms
 - 3.1.1.5.1. Maintains order during chapter meetings.
 - 3.1.1.5.2. Ensures eligibility of those participating in Chapter elections, and ensures ineligible persons are not allowed to participate in the vote.
 - 3.1.1.5.3. Enforce ALR rules and safety practices.
- 3.1.1.6. Lead Road Captain
 - 3.1.1.6.1. Responsible for all logistics of organized runs of the Association, including determination of dates, times, routes, and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity.
 - 3.1.1.6.2. Appoints, directs, and dismisses assistant Road Captains, Sweeps, and/or security personnel as may be required by activities and/or circumstances of the Chapter.
 - 3.1.1.6.3. Responsible to plan for the safety of Chapter members during participation in any run or activity; and to plan for the safety of other participants in any Chapter sponsored run or activity.

3.1.1.7. Chaplin

- 3.1.1.7.1. Provides invocation at regular meetings or other activities as may be required by the general membership.

3.1.2. **Discretionary Officers**

3.1.2.1. Historian

- 3.1.2.1.1. Compiles and maintains records to document activities of Chapter, including written and photographic documentation.
- 3.1.2.1.2. If the Chapter is so equipped, the Historian may also serve as webmaster.

3.1.2.2. Membership Chairman

- 3.1.2.2.1. Relieves Secretary of responsibility for maintenance of membership records as may be required by the general membership.
- 3.1.2.2.2. Collects membership dues as determined by the Chapter by-laws, and provides same to Treasurer on a regular basis.
- 3.1.2.2.3. Reviews and/or collects eligibility documentation as required by the general members, sponsoring Post Executive Board, Department, or State and local laws.
- 3.1.2.2.4. Provides detailed membership reports at regular meetings of the Chapter.

4. Elections:

- 4.1. Officers of the Chapter shall be elected through an annual nominating and balloting process. Officers will hold office for one year.

- 4.1.1. Election of officers will take place annually in the same time period as the sponsoring American Legion Post 341 annual elections.
- 4.1.2. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor at the meeting preceding the annual election.
- 4.1.3. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nominations shall be allowed to make a nomination.
- 4.1.4. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nominations and who will fulfill requirements for officers by the time elections are held shall be allowed to accept a nomination. This requirement includes a member whose ALR membership is dependent upon a qualifying spouse member under Paragraph 1.1.1.
- 4.1.5. Any officer of this ALR Chapter may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the eligible members voting by ballot at a called or regular meeting of the Chapter following official notice to the membership.

5. Meetings:

- 5.1. Regular ALR meetings will be held each month - the date, time and location will be determined by the membership.
- 5.2. Meeting date, time and location may be changed permanently or temporarily by majority vote of those present at any regular Chapter meeting.
- 5.3. Seven members, including at least three (3) officers, will constitute a quorum for a Regular Meeting.
- 5.4. Meetings will be conducted under “Roberts Rules of Order”.
- 5.5. The ALR Chapter Director or a majority of the Executive Committee shall have the power to call special meetings of the Post Chapter at any time.
- 5.6. Upon written request of at least eight (8) members, the Committee shall call a Special meeting of the Chapter.
- 5.7. Eight (8) members shall constitute a quorum for a Special Meeting.

6. **Finances:** Finances of the Chapter will be from membership dues or such other sources, as approved by the membership.
 - 6.1. Chapter finances will be held in such manner as allowed by the rules of the sponsoring Post 341.
 - 6.2. As a Post-level activity of the American Legion, it is recognized that all funds and property of the Chapter is ultimately property of the Post, and must be reported and/or surrendered upon demand of the Post Executive Board.
 - 6.3. As a Post-level activity of the American Legion, the Chapter enjoys the tax-exempt status of the Post and must manage its finances in accordance with applicable Federal (IRS), State, and local laws applicable to nonprofit organizations.
 - 6.4. Disbursement of funds will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter and authorized by the Director or in his/her absence, the Assistant Director. The Director, Assistant Director, and Treasurer and Post Treasurer shall be signatory on any chapter bank account.
 - 6.4.1. All Checks with a value of over \$150.00 will have the Director or Assistant Director and the Treasurers signatures affixed. Checks of lesser value will require only the Treasures signature.
 - 6.5. Chapter finances will be made available to be audited by the Post's Finance Officer, prior to the induction of newly elected officers each year.
7. **Uniform:** The standard or Class A uniform of the Post 341 ALR is a black leather vest which is always worn outside and over other garments. The Class A uniform can be worn on any occasion but will always be worn on formal occasions and outings sponsored by the ALR Chapter. The back of the vest is reserved for only the ALR Patch. Except for the provisions in 7.1 below, the front of the vest is reserved for items of choice selected by the wearer which must reflect their military, American Legion, and religious affiliations - all using good judgment in preserving the image of the ALR and preserving the sanctity of the American Legion. All items of apparel will be maintained in clean condition and good repair.

7.1. **For unity and image**, the top front of the vest shall contain The American Flag patch and POW/MIA patch on the wearer's left side; and, the American Legion patch and the wearer's Service patch on the wearer's right side.

7.1.1. The order of appearance on the wearer's left side is: (1) The American Flag (approximate 3" x 2") with field left (Flag & Emblem number 820.400); (2) directly below the flag will be a POW/MIA patch such as Flag & Emblem number 820.402 of either black or white.



7.1.2. The order of appearance on the wearer's right side is: (1) a 2 ½" American Legion patch (Flag & Emblem number 720.025) at the level of the American Flag on the opposite side; (2) a Service Patch as appropriate for American Legion members and of the wearer's choice. This Service patch may be ordered from Flag & Emblem using the following number:

Flag & Emblem number:

Army – 820.305
Navy – 820.306
Air Force – 820.307
Marines – 820.308
Coast Guard – 820.309
SeaBees – 820.310
Army Air Corps – 820.311

- 7.1.3. If the wearer is either a member of the American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion, the appropriate patch is worn below the American Legion Patch.

Flag & Emblem number:
American Legion Auxiliary – 320.002
Sons of the American Legion - 520.002

- 7.1.4. No Service Patch is required for the American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion.

7.2. **The American Flag.**

- 7.2.1. When worn by an ALR member, the Flag must not be subjugated by any other emblem or standard on the item of apparel to which it is affixed.
- 7.2.2. When worn by an ALR member, the Flag must not be obscured or covered by any other emblem or standard on the item of apparel to which it is affixed.
- 7.2.3. Established standards for the display and wearing of the Flag must be observed:
- 7.2.3.1. When the Flag patch is worn on the front of the Chapter Vest, the patch will be placed on the upper left side of the wearer (heart side) with the field of stars toward the center of the wearer (or to the left as viewed from the front).

- 7.2.3.2. When worn on the vest in conjunction with a flag of the State of Arkansas, another organization, sovereignty, territory, or nation, the American Flag must be in a superior position (to the top of the other flag when viewed from the front). Nothing is ever positioned higher than the American Flag which would imply a subordinate position of the American Flag.
- 7.2.3.3. No graphic or slogan is ever to appear across the Flag.
- 7.2.3.4. When garments bearing the Flag are to be discarded, the Flag is to be removed from the garment and retired in a manner appropriate to the Flag of The United States of America.

7.3. **The ALR Back Patch**

- 7.3.1. The ALR Back Patch, configured as put forth by the Founding Members copyrighted by The American Legion, and available through The American Legion Emblem Sales (Flag & Emblem number 720.407), is to be worn by all members of the ALR in good standing.
The patch will be the three-line option with “ARKANSAS” embroidered on the top line, “BELLA VISTA” on the second line (top line at the bottom), and “DISTRICT 1 POST 341” on the bottom line.
- 7.3.2. The Back Patch must be the only feature of the back of the garment upon which it is worn; i.e., the ALR back patch must not be subjugated to the patch of any motorcycle or motorcycle owners' group.
- 7.3.3. No other Back Patch or Back Patch Design is authorized for use to represent the American Legion Riders. Variations upon the original theme, aside from the addition of Department, City, Post Number or similar designating text, are not authorized. The ALR Back Patch is copyrighted and cannot be worn except by a member in good standing with the ALR.

- 7.4. **Utility or Class B Uniform.** A utility or Class B uniform is any ALR apparel other than the Class A black leather vest (as described above) such as a denim vest or other attire for ALR Chapter Members such as sold by Flag & Emblem

for ALR wear. The utility or Class B uniform is optional for the member and can be used for informal occasions such as meetings or general riding when not representing a Chapter sponsored ride.

- 7.4.1. If the utility or Class B garment or apparel is decorated, it must be done so following the general guidelines for the Class A Vest and/or the wear of the American Flag and other standards for display and wearing of appropriate attire.
- 7.4.2. Any patch or symbol containing the words American Legion Riders is copyright and can only be purchased from Flag & Emblem. Therefore, any garment or apparel sold by Flag & Emblem for ALR members in the State of Arkansas is acceptable for informal occasions and considered a Class B uniform.

8. Dress

- 8.1. The Post 341 ALR Chapter Executive Board will set the standards to which Chapter members are attired, unless superseded by the oversight of a formally recognized Regional Chapter's requirements, pursuant to the following:
 - 8.1.1. The ALR is a program of The American Legion, and as such, members are representatives of The American Legion. It is strongly recommended that members dress in a manner that promotes a positive image for The American Legion, particularly when operating in group activities or interacting with the community.
 - 8.1.2. The ALR Back Patch and other related articles of clothing incorporate The American Legion emblem, and must be worn in a manner consistent with The American Legion emblem requirements.

9. Conduct

- 9.1. Members of the ALR shall avoid the perception of being a “motorcycle club” or biker “club”. Rather the focus of membership is for the enjoyment of motorcycles and comradeship and furthering Legion programs in the community.

- 9.1.1. Rides and events as organized under the supervision of the Lead Road Captain shall present the image of national patriots expressing the values of The American Legion for our nation and its legacy. We are riders still serving those values.

10. Safety

- 10.1. During a ride or event, no alcohol or alcoholic beverage or other intoxicating substance will be consumed until the ride or event is ended. Should a member violate this rule, the member will not be allowed to complete the event with the group but must depart the group and be on their own for the remainder of the event. Nor will a member report to an event under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances in which case the member will not be allowed to participate. There are no exceptions to this safety rule.

11. Expulsion:

- 11.1. Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Chapter by a majority vote of the general membership at a regular Chapter meeting. Such expulsion does not preclude the individual from joining another chapter.
- 11.2. Any member no longer fulfilling the requirements of Paragraph 1.1 is immediately expelled from full membership in the ALR until the requirements as outlined in Paragraph 1.1 are again fulfilled.

12 Amendment:

- 12.1. These Bylaws are adopted, subject to the provisions of Post 341 Constitution and Bylaws of which this Chapter is a subordinate program. Any amendment to the National, Department, or Post Constitution that conflicts with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of this Chapter to the extent of such conflict.
- 12.2. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the membership attending such regular meeting provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in

writing, and read at the immediate preceding Chapter meeting. Further, that traditional mail or electronic mail notice shall have been sent to all members' addresses of record at least 5 days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members that at such meeting there will be a proposal to amend these By-Laws.

_____ Date: _____
Ed Hardesty
Director

_____ Date: _____
Cathy Downard
Secretary