



Vision Riders

Chapter #1038

April 09 Newsletter



Chapter News:

We just experienced our second Seasons of Refreshing as a part of the family of CMA. This one was special as we formally received our charter as a full chapter #1038 of the Christian Motorcyclists Association. We also were blessed to have so many people to take advantage of the Ministry Team Boot Camp opportunity to either join CMA or to complete their ministry team material. God certainly has placed the people and events together for growth in our chapter. Since our last meeting we have been able to welcome 12 people who have completed their ministry team material and earned their Vision Riders patch.

We also have had the chance to make presentations to two local churches about the ministry of CMA and the mission of our Run For the Son program. These were great ways for people to find out more about our ministry and to get to know the members of our chapter and the work we are doing. We certainly are blessed to have Biggun (Joe Brown) to share his testimony and to have Angie bring her vocal talents to these presentations.

The last weekend in March, we again attended the Harley Drags. Before going we had a great prayer and commissioning service asking for God's blessings and protection at the Elkhorn Baptist Church. Thanks so much to Bro. Rafferty and the church for all of their support. At the drags we again provided a morning hospitality area near the #3 bathhouse. The event was down in attendance as it was a cold, rainy and stormy weekend. Thanks to our team for working this ministry.

Our youth, led by Tommy Watkins also were at the Ballance MotoX track ministering in a new area the same weekend as the Harley Drags. Tommy has more information in this issue about their activities this month.

We were also blessed that same weekend to be a part of the baptismal services of our own Tina Nesbitt, wife of member Jon Nesbitt. Tina joined CMA and in record time completed her ministry team material and we are so thankful for her in our chapter.

We completed our winter study sessions just as area bike nights started. We have had exceptionally good attendance on the Tuesday night study sessions as we learned more about personal evangelism, discipleship and personal examination of our spiritual lives. Thanks so much to Herbie and Harry for their contributions and to Dan and Linda for allowing us to invade their home each week. These study sessions have helped us to continue to be strong in our fellowship and desire to do the ministry of our Lord.



Receiving our charter at Seasons

Ministry Opportunities:

April 18 1:00 p.m. Carlos Turner Benefit Ride in Greensburg.

April 25 9:00 a.m. Central Bike/Car Show by Vette City Disciples

May 2, 7:30 a.m. RFS Presentation to Men's Breakfast Group at Campbellsville Baptist Church

May 2 Run For the Son.

May 2 6:00 p.m. Biker Church in Lebanon at New Life Community Church.

May 9 Bridge to Faith chapter fundraising ride.

May 16 Relay For Life Benefit Run at Cox Interior, Inc.

May 22-25 Chapter Retreat in Smoky Mountains.

May 23, Bridge to Faith Benefit ride for St Judes.

May 30-31 Peacemaker Rally in Waco, KY.

May 30 Campbellsville chapter of the Grim Reapers public ride.

May 31 Blessing of the Bikes service at Campbellsville Baptist Church.

June 26-28 Harley Drags Ministry in Bowling Green, KY.

July 21-25 National East CMA Rally in Lewisburg, WV.

August 1 Wings of Pink Benefit Run for cancer research.

Sept 11-13 KY CMA State Rally at Camp Loucon in Lietchfield, KY.

Oct 21-25 Changing of the Colors in Hatfield, AR.

November 5-8 Carving the Ouchitas Rally in Hatfield, AR.



As I write this, it is Good Friday. A strange name for the day that our Savior was tried, beaten, then put upon the cross to die. But praise God, He did not stay on the cross or in the tomb. The good part is that on the third day He arose from the dead and He has paid the price for all the sins of mankind. We celebrate Easter every year but we need to daily spread the news of Jesus to the entire world.

Ride and Relax:

As the riding season gets started, we need to be sure we take time to appreciate the blessings we have. Perhaps the most difficult part we have is the fact that we plan so hard on what we do. There is nothing wrong with planning an itinerary, but don't get so caught in what you are wanting to do, that you miss the pleasure.

It is the pleasure we show that sometimes is the key that opens the door to witnessing. When we are rushed or frustrated because of time restrictions, we may be losing opportunities to be a GOOD witness. Our salvation through Jesus Christ should make us the happiest people and we need to show our pleasure.

I suffer from this very thing and admit it. Most of you have seen this and some of you have told me to "chill out". With this being said, I am going to try. If I see something that I feel endangers someone, I will still speak up, but try not to get TOO upset about it.

One of the keys to this is planning. If we are scheduled to be somewhere at a certain time, I may schedule the departure time a little earlier so we are not rushed to get there. This will also give more time for fellowship and witnessing if we get there early. The fellowship time will give us time to build relationships that are vital to our type of ministry.

With the drawing we had last year from non-members and the growth of our chapter, we could have some considerable growth in our ride groups this year. So prepare now for another great riding season and the opportunities we will have.

Your brother in Christ
Darrell Smith
Road Captain



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From the President:

Sometimes we all probably wonder "Why am I doing this?". Why am I spending time doing things for the biker world instead of just hanging out with my family? Or Why am I doing this instead of just lounging around my house or even doing work around my house? Or Why do I need to spend time out doing things instead of just riding for fun?

I read the following in a church newsletter I get and thought it might apply a little to us.

Job or Ministry

If you do it because no one else will... it's a job. If you do it to serve God... its ministry.

If you quit because someone criticized you ...it's a job. If you keep on serving in spite of criticism... it's a ministry.

If you do it only so long as it doesn't interfere with other things... it's a job. If you're committed to staying with it, even when it means letting other things go... it's a ministry.

If you quit because no one ever praised or thanked you... it's a job. If you stay even though no one notices our efforts... it's a ministry.

If you do it because someone else said it needs to be done... it's a job. If you do it because you sensed God saying it needs to be done... it's a ministry.

It's hard to get excited about a job. It's almost impossible not to get excited about a ministry.

As we have just observed in my opinion the greatest season of the year; when Christ chose to die for our sins on the cross; let us not forget to give God the glory for the great things he has done for us. As we have said from the beginning we are here to minister and to give God the Glory.

Dan Hayes
President

From the Handbook:

Biker's Blessing: An opportunity to pray with a biker for safety during the riding season and any needs that he/she may have.

This open door, the biker's blessing, may be performed with one or many bikers as the opportunity arises. When God opens the door, be sensitive and move through the door, understanding that the opportunity is to pray and share Jesus. It is important to remind the biker that while our riding safety is imperative, it is more important that our lives be blessed.

The biker's blessing card is a tool that can either be read during the time of prayer or given to the individual or group to be read after the time of prayers. Remember that it is not the words you say, but what the Spirit of God does. This is not a complicated matter, but is simply an open door.

As God opens the doors, then pray with men and women about the needs of their lives and their safety on the highways.

Youth Movement:

What a good month it was!

March 21st we had a game day at Greensburg at my shop building. We had pool/video games and grilled out.

It was a very good day of food and fun for all ages. Some even raced cows (some of these people will race anything) you had to be there to see it.



On to March 28th, a first for us we went to Bowling Green, Ky. to Ballance MotoX and spent the day playing in the mud with the youth and saw some good Moto Cross action as these boys and girls attempted to qualify for the Loretta Lynn Nationals and might I say, we were given a very warm welcome. We set up the pop up tent and gave out tracts, water and snacks. Blessed one bike and before everything got under way we were asked to give the pre-race prayer.

We also went back the next morning to their 7a.m. church service. We now have an open invitation to all their events. WE WERE BLESSED !!

On to April 4th Seasons of Refreshing after the previous weekend, we had a visitor that went to the MotoX with us liked what he saw and asked about joining the Youth Movement after a brief talk and a week later he is now a member and has completed his ministry work. His name Zach Bowen.

At seasons the Youth did a short skit just after we were presented our charter. I just pray that some of the other chapters will get started with their youth as we have "AMEN"

I just want to thank everyone for all the support you have given our Youth Movement. It seems like we are growing each month and if it is God's will, it will continue to grow "AMEN" It does my heart good to see what God has done for this chapter young & old and I think the youth are bringing out the youth in some of the others in the chapter that just thought they had gotten older. "GO YOUTH" "YOU GUYS ROCK".

God Bless You
Tommy Watkins
Youth Movement



Our newest members:

We were proud to present chapter patches to 12 new or existing members at our April chapter meeting. Several completed their ministry team material at Seasons of Refreshing and some had completed their ministry since our last meeting. In the group photo are from left to right; Rhonda Nunn, Jeff Parsons, Delores Mack, Karen Goff, Briar McVay, Gordon Judd, Cory Watkins, Scott Humphry, Bob Parrish. In the photos to the left are Tina Nesbitt, Joe Denny Roberts and Zach Bowen who were unable to attend the chapter meeting. We are so proud to welcome these new members and look forward to all the strengths and gifts they will bring to the ministry and to the work of our Lord and Savior.





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Prayer Requests:

Jimmy Gaines

Linda's Aunt Jewell

Mitch's Parents/Family

Richy & Eric Nunn

LouAnn

Joe McDonald-cancer

Danny Rooker- heart attack

Jany Wright-heart attack

Rusty Milby

Scott Humphry

Our chapter and the chances we will have for witnessing this season.

All our local, state and national CMA leaders.

Praise Reports:

The growth of our chapter recently.

The rededication and commitment of Scott Humphry

The baptism of Tina Nesbitt.

Our Youth Movement as they continue to find new ways to minister.

Mileage Award:

Jon Nesbitt was the winner of our mileage award this month. The first time for Jon to take home the trophy we award for the most miles ridden since our last chapter meeting. Good job Jon, keep riding.

Birthdays:

Karen Goff 4/13

Justin Smith 5/1

Anniversaries:

Herbie and Karen Goff 5/13



Witnessing Opportunities:

Each month we want to share with everyone either a chance we have had to witness or chances we missed to witness. This month we bring a story from our Youth Movement's experience at the Balance MotoX track near Bowling Green, KY.

Tommy and the Youth attended the qualifying event on Saturday March 28. They were very warmly welcomed and were given a great spot to set their easy up. They offered information about CMA and the Youth Movement, tracts for those interested, as well as drinks and some snacks for those that wanted it.

They also offered the opportunity for the riders to have their bike blessed if they wished. As you can see from the picture here, it was a sodden, muddy mess. The night before had brought about 2 inches of rain and the forecast was for a lot more as a storm was moving through the area later in the day. The promoters were very busy trying to get as much qualifying in as possible, since this event was important to get into the Loretta Lynn main event in this area.

During all the activity, one young man about 10 or 12 years old came by for a quick bike blessing. Tommy and the guys were more than pleased to see this youngster with a desire to ask for God's blessing. They blessed the bike and the rider and Tommy handed the young man the Youth Bike blessing sticker. They couldn't see a clean spot anywhere on the bike and figured he would put it on later after he cleaned up the bike. The little fellow threw them a curve however. After gathering up a big mouthful of spit and wetting down the back of his helmet with it. He rubbed the mud off the helmet and with his sleeve, made a clean spot on the back of his helmet and slapped on his new blessing sticker. Somewhat surprised at his choice of location for the sticker, Tommy asked the young man about why he wasn't going to put the blessing sticker on his bike. (As everyone in CMA knows, the sticker always goes on the bike). The wiser than his years rider looks up at Tommy and says, "This way I am blessed not matter what bike I ride." You just can't argue with the simple truth that young man had. Let's be careful and not get caught up in the conformity of the "that's the way we have always done it" syndrome. Tommy and the guys went down there to be a witness to the youngsters. However they came away having learned a lesson about being open to new ideas. As we witness to others, be open to the witnessing lessons we can learn, even from "out of the mouths of babes."

Spring is the morning bird song,
Crocuses and Daffodils,
Blossoms blowing in the breeze.
Springs a gentle warming,
After the winter's thaw.
It's nature resurrection,
That leaves us all in awe.
Spring is nature's promise,
Of hope and rebirth,
A time when all the Angels,
Redecorate the earth.

Spyder's Web:

This is an excerpt from a poem by Clay Harrison. When I read the last sentence it brought to mind how the Vision Riders have had a season of growth. We have seen so many new faces in the last few months. Some of those faces have had a new birth in Christ and some a rebirth in their faith and how we as a chapter have made God the center of that growth.

I think spring is God's way of repaying us for surviving winter. My Dad loved spring. He said it made him so happy to see the trees bud and the grass grow green again (even though he hated to mow).

Spring is a time for planting! I pray that we will use this time wisely to broadcast the seeds of Gods love into fertile ground and that God will bless those seeds and use us to bring them to bloom in His kingdom. So get our your seed catalog (Bible), your tillers (bikes), put on your gardening hats (helmets) and let's get to work making God's garden bloom with the flowers of Saved Souls.

In His Grip, Spyder



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The Walls of Jericho (CMA Style)

One day our merry CMA group were riding around seeking fellowship and adventure, when our two scouts (er uh Road Captains) Darrell and Keith reported back to our fearless leader Dan that a huge motorcycle rally was going on strong a few miles down the road just over the next hill and around the next curve.

Our leader Dan suggested the two scouts to go and check out the rally and report back on the situation on hand. Several hours later Darrell and Keith reported back, telling Dan that the number of people at the rally were in the thousands, and that if you name the sin, it was there, drinking, drugs, violence, and fornication, and much more.

Dan asked Darrell and Keith what they thought about us going to the rally. Keith pipes up that the harvest is plentiful and ripe, but Darrell responds that we need to be careful because we were spotted by one of the gangs and if not for one of their girls we wouldn't be here now.

Upon hearing the report Lt. Tommy, leader of the youth shouted out "let's go we are willing and able" Our leader Dan took our wise assistant Rick to the side and discussed the situation at hand then reported back to the group that he must pray and ask God for guidance.

An hour later Dan returns to our little group and states that God wants us to go to the rally and have fun, no preaching, no shouting, no judging the people, but just walking around showing compassion, love, understanding and be willing to listen and above all be ready to witness to those who seek the Love of God.

After 3 days of doing just these things, the barriers were broken, several turned their lives back to God, tears flowed, and lots of love and caring were dished out. The girl that rescued Darrell and Keith, had accepted Christ as her savior.

The walls of Jericho in our time are the barriers between Christians and the lost; it is up to us to represent Christ at any secular event. God will be there and he will have our back. Through faith, like that of Dan to obey the words of God, even in the most undesirable conditions, can we overcome all obstacles. The lost may not come to us but we can go to them.

With the Love of Christ
Mitch Collings
Chaplain

The 10 Word Ride:

When Jesus told His followers 2000 years ago about getting away alone to pray, a prayer closet as it is referred to, only He could have known how bikers use this time of solitude while riding. Monday I needed some time alone, and you won't get it at our house very often, so I took advantage of the 87 degree weather this January day to ride 230 miles.

Great ride, and I only spoke 10 words during the whole trip. Eight when ordering lunch, and two when I needed a pit stop. The silence, and non-interference of others let me spend some much-needed time with God, listening as well as talking with Him. And it reminded me of how we have let the world, in all forms, into our life.

The lack of talking on a phone, reduced my stress level, if you don't think cell phones increase stress, listen to the rudeness of people walking and talking while shopping, and the responses of those around them, just what I want to hear is all your problems being broadcast. When you're done, let me tell you mine.

But, I am very thankful God has provided me with such a great place to be alone with Him. A sanctuary if you would, protected from worldly intrusions, even more so if you choose the right roads. When I put on my helmet and gloves to ride, I am insulated from certain intrusions into my life. Just as when I lock my door, or even go to church, there is a certain degree of peace that I am allowed, if only temporarily in that given environment. Remember everyday is not 87 degrees with sun. But every day is a great day in the Son. Call on Him while you can, weather or not permitting.

love with compassion,
Mike Mohn

Mike and Teresa Mohn are with the Wings of Eagles Chapter in Escondido, Ca. They were our contacts with finding someone to check on Mike Spear who was in an accident in Ca. Mike Spears' parents are here in Campbellsville, KY. Mike Mohn also writes email devotionals from which this article was taken.



The Christian Motorcyclists Association and Vision Riders invite you to our 21st annual Run For The Son.

May 2, 2009

Green River Plaza, Campbellsville, KY

Join us on our annual ride to raise money for the mission outreach efforts of CMA. 100% of your donations go to reaching out and helping bikers and other missions in the United States and throughout the world.

Food Fellowship Fun and Prizes. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. Blessing of Bikes at 12:45 p.m. Kickstands up about 1:00 p.m. Meal and Prizes after the Run.



Time is quickly running out on asking our friends, families, churches and businesses about contributing to our annual Run For the Son. With less than a month to go, now is the time to be inviting other riders to join us on our ride. Now is the time to be placing flyers in areas of interest to bikers. If you know of someone who rides, make sure you invite them to take part in this event.

This is the only fundraising effort that CMA has.

All of the funds raised go toward mission outreach efforts in the United States and other countries.

40% of all funds donated go toward funding a presence of CMA in all the major national bike events. Events like Daytona Bike Week, Sturgis, Laconia and many more across the country. The remaining 60% is divided among our three ministry partners. Missionary Ventures provides transportation to needy ministers in third world countries. This enables them to travel easier and to plant more churches. The Jesus Film Project also gets 20% of all funds raised. This project translates the Jesus film into the local languages and dialects of many different countries. Most of the world cannot read and by translating the film into the local language, millions of people have learned the story of Jesus Christ. Open Doors is a ministry whose function is to provide Bibles and other study materials to countries where often it is banned. Your contribution to the success of Run for the Son is greatly appreciated. Don't forget to let everyone know where and when this year's ride is.

This run is donations only. Suggested donation is \$10.00 per bike to help this cause.

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