



Vision Riders



Chapter 1038

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December 2010

Local Chapter Happenings

Don't forget our chapter's only fund raising event, gift wrapping at Amazon. We don't ask our ladies to do bake sales nor do we have members sell things that our friends and neighbors don't really want to raise money. We do it the old fashioned way, we work for it. The one work day left is December 18th. There are two shifts on that day that are each four hours long. If you can do one of them and haven't previously signed up, contact someone in our leadership to get details on a shift you can work to help support our chapter.

As we look forward to next year and having several new officers take office, please keep us in your prayers to do the job the Lord wants us to do. With your editor as the new Vice President and David Harper as the new Road Captain, also Valerie Lantz as our new RFS Secretary, your help and prayers are welcome to get us up to speed in our new duties.

Meanwhile, check the upcoming events elsewhere in this issue and make your plans. The list goes to June of 2011.

Youth Movement/Fast Lane



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Here we are once again; another year has just flown by.

It has been a great year with the youth and we have done a few things that were new to us, especially being involved in Fastlane activities within our chapter. Season's and the State Rally was really good for the youth this year. Our youth have been mentioned more than once this year by our state leadership on how respectful and helpful they are around the younger ones.

Again we will be returning to Arkansas at the end of this month for the Flame On event and will be taking a few new faces along.

As I have looked back thru the events we have had, the youth were involved in around 20 different events not including bike nights and our Bible studies; they have stayed active in CMA.

I'm looking forward to see what kind of ideas Michael Lantz will be bringing as he helps out with the Youth Movement ministry. I would love to see Michael take it and run wide open with it.

I would like to thank everyone, especially those that have

helped me with the youth. The whole bunch of you has supported me since I started and I could not have done it without you. You guys and gals are priceless and I love you greatly. The Flame On event that is coming up is probably the most costly event we have and I would like to thank everyone for supporting it. But as far as chapter members go I would like to thank my lovely wife Angie "Spud" Watkins for her support in this event because for the second year in a row I will be in Arkansas on our anniversary which is December 31st. She knows how much these kids mean to me and supports me greatly. Thank you Lord for a wonderful year.

God bless you all and remember the real "Reason for the Season."

Youth Movement Leader, Tommy Watkins

From the CMA Handbook: Chapter Purpose

Chapters have a three-fold purpose:

- † Encourage members to be active in testimony and Christian witnessing to all motorcyclists.
- † Provide an evangelistic association for motorcycling.
- † Provide a Christian fellowship-riding group.

Every chapter member should be involved in one or more of these four areas:

- † Praying: sincerely seeking/lifting up (Matt. 18:19; 21:22; Acts 1:14; 1 Tim. 2:8)
- † Encouraging: visiting and serving (1 Thes. 5:11-17; Hebrews 3:13)
- † Discipling: mentoring and growing people (Matt. 28:19; 2 Tim 2:2)
- † Evangelizing: going out (Matt. 28:19)

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From Our President



I was recently asked why our chapter has grown and been so active while other chapters haven't seen as much growth or activity. It would be nice to offer a simple set of actions that would ensure a chapter's success. Unfortunately I don't know of any set rituals or procedures that someone could follow to the letter.

I do think though, that there are certain things that have contributed to the reasons for the extent of our outreach and ministry.

First is to keep the focus of what we do on God. Will the benefit be to our Lord instead of the benefit to the chapter or ourselves. We worried for some time during the early days of our chapter about numbers. Once we relaxed and turned it over to God, we started seeing the effects of God's blessing us with people. We realized and accepted that the Holy Spirit would send us the people we needed for our chapter.

Don't be hampered by convention. We didn't have the "that's the way we have always done it" syndrome. We weren't afraid to try different things and different approaches. We worried Area Reps Sam and Barb Polston to death with things for a long time. Not once did they shoot us down if it would benefit the Lord's ministry. They gave us the freedom to find our way in growing. If it ain't broke, don't fix it!

Take special care to make sure that all prospective members understand that the first and foremost purpose of being a chapter member is to be active in ministering. If you are just looking to ride with other Christians you are welcome to ride anytime. But if you truly have a heart for ministry then that is the reason for becoming a chapter member. God has certainly blessed us with people with a heart for ministry. Just as we depended on the Holy Spirit to send us the people we needed, we also need to thank the Holy Spirit and God for those he sends to us.

Continue to be active. After about our second season, membership had grown and we were participating in a lot of events. We thought that maybe we should slow down and not "burn out" so much. By the end of the third season we hadn't slowed down any. As a matter of fact we continued to participate in more and more events. Of course not everyone participated in every event. But by having people willing to work and support the ministry, we were able to be a presence at a lot of things with fewer numbers.

Keep the sense of unity. In any group there will be times when things may be done or said that not everyone agrees with. But this chapter realizes that by keeping the focus on God and not ourselves, we are able to continue to love, work with and support

each other. I think the biggest reason people leave an organization is because they no longer feel like they are an important part of it. Each member is important.

Keep integrity. We all need to realize that we are witnesses to our chapter, our organization and most importantly to our God. Always remember that you need to be aware of the type of witness you are in your daily lives. As brothers and sisters in Christ we need to be able to hold each other accountable in love and compassion.

We continue to be blessed by our members. Each of you is a vital part of our chapter and it's life and ministry. As in any chapter, there are those that may not be able to participate as much as others. There will be members that will require ministering to during their spiritual walk.

I think the single greatest focus is to be open totally to what God and the Holy Spirit is leading us to do. Pleasing God is the main thing we need to be doing.

As we complete another year, let us not rest on our past. But let us focus on the prize before us in the race we are called to be a part of. The world and the Devil will always be there to discourage and fire his darts. But if we keep a few basic things in our hearts, we will continue to "be there when you need us" and to "change the world, one heart at a time."

Richard Durham
2010 Chapter President

From Our Vice President



This has been a good year. We made a lot of connections in the ministry with opportunities at the rides and Harley Drags. Jamie, Mitch and myself got to meet and witness to several people on our trip to the National Rally in Hatfield, AR. We also got to witness to people we met here at home. We, as a chapter, are very blessed to have so many opportunities. The Lord has taken great care of this chapter. He has provided funds for all our ministries. We have every ministry that CMA has to offer covered and some they don't offer. This is something the chapter should be so proud of. Each and everyone one of you make up a special part of the chapter and have contributed in some way.

I thank you for the support you offered to all of the officers this year. As for me, I will not be holding office next year, but I will be supporting the newly elected officers and the events we attend. I thank you for the opportunity you gave me to be your Vice President for 2010. I hope you continue to support our new officers for the 2011 season.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve.

Keith Morris, Vice President, 2010

1 Cor. 13:13

Upcoming Events

Please review and make your plans in advance to avoid last minute inconveniences and expenses. Mark your calendar!

- Tuesday Evenings:** Bible study @ the Hayes' residence.
Fellowship meal @ 6 and study session begins @ 7 Eastern time.
Thursday, Dec. 16: Cookie swap @ Linda's home, 6:30 Eastern.
Saturday, Dec. 18: Gift wrapping fund raiser @ Amazon.
Tuesday, Dec. 21: Chapter Christmas party @ Saloma Baptist.
Dec. 30 – Jan. 1: Flame On youth event in Hatfield.
Saturday, 1 January 2011: Polar Bear Run.
Fri. & Sat. 25, 26 Feb. 2011: Seasons of Refreshing in Cecilia, KY (same place as last year).
March 17, 18, 19: CMA Ladies Retreat.
June 22 to 25: CMA Eastern rally.



The December Mileage Award was given to Gordon Judd. The youth of the chapter accepted it on his behalf.
(Photo by Lisa)



As you can see, the award did make it to Gordon and he looks good after his surgery as he stands by his wife at home.
(Photo by Tommy Watkins)

Words From Our Road Captain



The End of Another Year

Where has the year gone? It seems that time is going faster and faster. What have we done in 2010? Did we make a difference in the biker community? How can 2011 be a better year?

2010 has been a trying year for me. With my wife having several surgeries and my busy work schedule I haven't had the time to do a lot of the things that I wanted to do. I hope and pray that 2011 will be less stressful.

I want to thank everyone for the honor of allowing me to be the Vision Riders Road Captain in 2010. When I was first elected, I was asked if I knew the responsibilities of being a Road Captain. With a smile I said "yep, I'm the one that rides in the front of the pack." Needless to say he gave me a strange look. I don't think he saw the humor in my answer. I knew that becoming the Road Captain had a lot of responsibilities. I also knew that he didn't approve of my new title and he was being a bit sarcastic. I took that title very seriously. I got to lead some great rides this year. I also had to deal with my VP going down on a ride that I was leading. Even though he was OK, it happened on my watch. I took that personal. The Road Captain is responsible for the safety of the ride but I learned that no one can foresee everything. I have had several members ask me why I didn't accept the nomination this year. The reason is that I don't feel I am where I am supposed to be. I feel that God has something planned for me. I just don't know what it is. I don't know where the road of life will lead me but I plan on taking it one curve at a time.

The first ride I led in 2010 was the Polar Bear ride on January 1st. At the start of the ride I talked to a fellow biker about the Vision riders and CMA. On January 1st, 2011 that fellow biker will be leading the Polar Bear ride. He is your new Road Captain, David Harper. Like I say "one of them strange things." If I would have told David, when I first met him on that very cold day, that he would be leading the ride a year later he would have said that I was crazy. We don't know what the Lord has in store for us. Please give David the respect that you gave me. Be there if he needs you.

It is great that we can do things for total strangers but don't forget the brothers and sisters in our chapter. Some times a phone call to see how someone is doing can go a long way. I hope and pray that every one of you have a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

God Bless you all.

Jon.

Our Chaplain's Thoughts



Christmas Time

Yep, I am afraid it is that time of year again, My bike is moaning in the garage due to lack of riding time, I have to go down and soothe it so that it wont feel neglected. Well, anyway, it is the season for rejoicing the birth of our Savior. I can bet though that when a person is approached suddenly about what Christmas means to them it will be about family gatherings, good meals, cheer, and laughter, oh, did I forget to mention about the exchanging of gifts? Sorry about that. To me, selecting a gift for that certain special person in your life can be somewhat difficult. I try to find something that she will like or want and is not expecting. I thought I had that gift this time but some delivery guy delivered it to the house unwrapped (no brown envelope or bag) and it was plainly marked on the outside so that only someone from Arkansas couldn't tell (just kiddin, ol' buddy ol' pal). Bless her sweet heart, she told me to wrap it and she would still be surprised.

God gave us a gift long ago. He gave us Jesus, his son, but He didn't wrap it in fancy clothes, He wanted the world to know. He let a bright shiny star lead the way for shepherds and wise men alike (similar to the rich and poor of today). Jesus was God's gift to everyone. In Ephesians 2:11-22, Paul writes that at one time there were only two types of people, the Jews and the Gentiles. With the birth of Jesus Christ, that changed. He came and preached peace to those far and nigh. Verse 13 states: "But now in Christ Jesus ye who were sometimes far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ." Verse 18 states: "For through Him we both have access by one spirit unto the Father." God gave (a gift to us) His only begotten Son to die on the cross to wash away our sins because He loves us. Unlike some gifts that eventually wear out or get broken or are exchanged, His gift will always be there for us no matter what the situation may be.

So this season, while rejoicing in the holidays, remember the gift that God has given you. For God not only gave us His Son so that we may all be saved, but he also added a little special gift. It's a personal gift from God that only He could give whether it be singing, being cheerful, talents for working with others, mechanical, rain dancing (er riding), cooking, smiling, or maybe the talent of never knowing a stranger; these were given to you by God.

Have a merry, merry Christmas and a happy new year

Your Chaplain and brother in Christ, Mitch

ps.... say a little prayer for my Dad, this will be his first Christmas since Mom passed away, and he's kinda taking it hard--
- Thanks



Greensburg Square during their Christmas parade.

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Checking out an obstacle during one of our youth outings.