



Vision Riders



Chapter 1038

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January 2012

Local Chapter Happenings



The Polar Bear Run heads out of town.

Photo by Mary Ann Oshol

Our first event of the year looks like it was a success. We had 44 bikes on the Polar Bear Run. If you were there, you know the dining hall was filled with hungry bikers after the run, which was a short one. The weather was not as cold as it could have been but the wind did restrict us a bit. A lot of funds were raised for the area food banks and many bikers had a nice time. What more could you ask for?

Since this is the first issue of the year, you should see some changes with all our new officers and their columns. Your editor has changed from the chapter VP to Secretary, so there shouldn't be any change there for the newsletter but we have a new President, VP, Road Captain and Chaplain writing new columns. Look for their words in this issue to see new things from new writers.

With the winter weather upon us, we don't have much going on as far as our bikes on the road is concerned. What we do have is an officers meeting for chapter officers in KY. With our new officers and probably other new ones from other chapters, it should be interesting. We meet in early February, so you should find out what transpired before the February meeting.

As for our Web site, your editor has volunteered to take over once we gain access. Don't expect the same excellent site as Richard maintained. I am not a professional and am self-taught on most of the Web site technicalities. If we have someone reading this that is a pro or can do better than me, please speak up. We can use your help.

For those of you that have never been to one of our Bible studies on Tuesday evenings, give it a thought. We meet at the home of Keith and Jamie Morris at 6:30 pm Eastern. Next week we will be starting a new study using DVD material followed by a discussion led by our Chaplain, Tim. The time is new to accommodate the extra time we will need with the new study.

Chaplain's Chat



By Tim "LightSeeker" Cooper

Well, it's here, 2012, the old year is gone and the New Year has begun. We have had ups and downs in 2011, gains and losses, of course our greatest loss being that of our President, Richard Durham. Yet still there is hope, especially after seeing the turnout for the Polar Bear Ride and to see those, who perhaps have wandered off, who returned for this worthy cause. The one-time memorial shirt in Richard's honor is a reminder of our loss, yet a promise of our future. Although Richard is physically gone from us, his memory will remain in the things we will do in the future.

I have often seen parents who work to build a business or legacy for their children to one day take over, only to have their children reject that thing they have worked so hard for, their whole lives. We will not allow that with the Vision Riders; as we move forward, things will change, but the purpose will remain the same, lost souls. Richard helped birth this baby, put blood, sweat and prayers into it, now it is up to us to pick up the mantle he left behind, and to carry it forward, making it even better than it was. We may lose some along the way, but that choice is theirs to make, we can only pray and encourage them, not decide for them.

I do pray that you will be prayerful for your leadership team and come talk to us if there is a concern, rather than to murder them behind the scenes with gossip and murmuring; it ought not be so. My prayer is also for the leadership team to remain transparent and honest when dealing with the decisions of this chapter. There may be things that we don't agree with, yet we will stand united as one team. As we used to say in the military: *one team-one fight!* When we work together and carry each other's burdens, we cannot be defeated; let us truly be in one accord in the new year, running the Good Race, until we are also being poured out like a drink offering (2 Tim 4:6). May this be our best year ever.

Be Blessed and Watch the Cage....
LightSeeker

The President's Corner



While reading Matthew 25:14-15 these thoughts came to mind. In this passage it tells of how a man, before going on a journey, gave his servants his property to take care of and how each of them used the "talents" and what returns were gained. The Master was saying this to everyone, but I want us to look at it as if it was meant just for our chapter. Jesus used money as His example but I would like for us to think about the abilities He has given each of us. He doesn't want us to hide them or bury them so no return is gained on His investment. He wants us to use them to increase His kingdom. How are we taking those talents and using them to accomplish the goals of CMA and this chapter? Are we living lives that honor God, are we increasing God's kingdom? We need to realize that the purpose of this chapter is to be a ministry. We are not a social group, a riding group, a benevolence group or a church! We may do these things as part of our ministry, but we must remember our primary reason for existing is to be servants of God to the motorcycle culture! We are to change the motorcycle world one heart at a time. If you are willing to sit quietly and not be active, is it really in your heart to be a part of this ministry? I can't answer for anyone but myself. I do know that James 1:21-26 tells us that we must be doers of the word. It spells out what we are, if we say one thing and our actions show another. It is up to each of you to decide if you want to be a doer of the Word.

I know that this year will be a challenging one for us. We have new people in each elected office of our chapter. We have met and come to agreement that this year our goal is that we will only do that, which brings glory and honor to God. I know that my style of leadership will not suit all of our members, but I pledge to you to only lead in the directions that God lays on my heart and is shown to me during prayer, studying of His word, meditation and the messages I receive from His servants as they speak to me during my church services.

If you are willing to be a working part of Vision Riders then let's go forward and proclaim the name of Jesus to the biking community in a way that we have never done before. Each of you will have to decide as to your future in Vision Riders.

I look forward to the coming year to be able to glorify my God and Savior with you, as we serve Him.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

January

Mitch Collings	1/1
Theresa Collings	1/5
Christy Harper	1/13
Randall Shoffner	1/30
David & Christy Harper	1/10
Gordon & Sue Judd	1/16

February

Steven Bowles	2/12
Tina Nesbitt	2/14
Briar McVey	2/17
Linda Hayes	2/24
Barry & Jennifer Parker	2/19

Mileage Award

Due to the earlier publication date of this newsletter before the regular monthly meeting, we don't know who will get it. Look here next month to find out who got it in January. Better yet, come to the meeting as see that rider get it.

Upcoming Events

Please review and make your plans in advance to avoid last minute inconveniences and expenses. For events and rides sponsored by other organizations, check our Web page. Most, if not all events are listed there.

Tuesday Evenings: Bible study @Keith and Jamie's home @ 6:30 pm Eastern. No pre-session meals this year.

Feb 2: Officers meeting @ Dan's, 7pm Eastern.

Feb. 4: State officers meeting @ Victory Hill Church, Scottsville, KY. Meeting starts at 9 am Central.

Handbook Highlights Active Membership

CMA is a ministry with high standards that has gained respect and favor from the secular community. We expect our members to:

- Model a Christ-like attitude and behavior.
- Follow Biblical standards and Christian integrity in their walk and actions.
- Complete a Ministry Team training program. (This is a requirement to purchase or wear the official CMA logo 3 1/2" and larger, excluding the small CMA decal.)
- Be part of a local chapter. (Contact information for a local chapter can be obtained through your State Coordinator. His phone number is listed in the *HeartBeat* and on our website at www.cmausa.org.)
- Support CMA prayerfully and financially at both local and national levels.
- Be 12 years or older.

Reaching the world is important to CMA and our members enable that task. Active membership at a national level is based on completing **one** of the following criteria in a 12-month period:

- Purchase any Goodie/ToolBox item(s) from CMA National totaling at least \$20, or
- Attend a CMA National or State rally or a Seasons of Refreshing, or
- Complete a Ministry Team training program, or Donate at least \$20 to CMA National or Run for the Son.



After the Polar Bear Run, participants are having some warm soup and chili.

Youth/FastLane



Flame On

By Tommy Watkins

Once again the Vision Riders youth tore out to Hatfield, Ar. for the Flame On youth rally. On Dec. 29 at 2 am we left from Greensburg after having prayer. We would like to thank Dan for riding down to the Burg and seeing us off.

We made our first stop at Jackson, Tn. and opened up the local Cracker Barrel. We rolled in to Hatfield with plenty of time to spare and found out where the boys were going to be bunking down. There were so many kids expected that all the boys were put in the Hatfield School gym and the girls stayed at Iron Mountain. It was only about 3 miles down the road and just around the corner from the main CMA buildings in Hatfield.

Things got fired up around 7 pm with Jerod Mcpherson and the band rocking it with contemporary Christian music. Let me tell you this, they know how to "get r done," the praise and worship was awesome.

Each night they ended things around midnight and then got started back around 9 am. As I have said before, this a very well thought out program for the youth and you wouldn't believe the volunteer help they have; it would blow your mind how many people spent several days there prior to this event. Two of the volunteers were Noble and Barb the KY Youth Reps.

Jumping back to the first night in the gym, I went to get the boys Friday morning only to learn they had a small issue with a Youth leader, well really not. They told me he really got pretty rude with them because they were whispering to each other and he got pretty loud with them. I wasn't even going to mention this, but how the boys handled it was so mature and respectful. They just said to each other that maybe he had a bad day and was just tired and grumpy. For that, I was very proud of them.

As the weekend went on each one of the boys had their moments on the World Wide Web, as this event was live streaming on the Internet. Micah and Mikey were called out one day to help Jerod with the props. Zach and Mikey were in the talent show doing a rap song. I got to wish my wonderful wife of 28 years a happy anniversary on Saturday night at the 7:30 worship service. This is the third year we have been to Flame On and now we are called The Kentucky Boys! There is a lot more I could say but that would be too much key pecking for me.

I would like to thank the chapter for supporting the youth movement and voting to fund this trip. This event trip would not be possible if not for all you that support it. It's a long way to Hatfield and a long way back, but the Lord kept us safe before, during and after this event and may He have the Glory! Amen.

Words From Our Road Captain



Participation or Anticipation

Which do you spend more time doing, anticipating or participating? Both are key ingredients in our ministry, but which is the most productive and rewarding?

Participation is the one I consider the most rewarding. Over the last few years since we were just a forming chapter, we have experienced a lot. Most of the memories that bring joy are from being at the right place when God sent someone to us to join in prayer or just have fellowship with. Several of our past leaders were just out riding when our paths crossed and God revealed his plan to them for their role in our chapter. Others are still riding with us but have never joined and don't feel called to join, but we appreciate the support and fellowship we have with them. Our chapter membership is so diverse; we can provide a witness to just about anybody.

Anticipation is a funny thing. Without it, we may not be as motivated as we need to be, but it can also lead to disappointment. For an example, I will use the Harley drags. Many of us have attended several of these events knowing the shower house coffee ministry will be busy. Sometimes we get to pray with someone for something going on in their life or for a loved one of theirs; other times, we just hang out and fellowship with attendees. We never leave without a blessing of some kind. It would be great if we could leave and report numerous salvations but that is not a reality.

But the key is still participation. If you don't participate, how can you anticipate? We are called to serve our Lord and this requires participation. We are starting a new year and we need to be prepared to be active in our ministry. Only God knows who He is going to send our way and which one of us is going to be the key, but we all need to be prepared to step up to His plan. It is difficult to be used by God when you are not there. I am anticipating another busy year and looking at the calendar to schedule for certain events so I will be able to participate in them. What about you?

Vision Riders Road Captain,
Darrell

Update on Vision Riders Web Page

Since we lost Richard, we also lost our Webmaster. We were fortunate enough to obtain the passwords and access to our Web page and your editor has taken the temporary job as Webmaster. Since I have limited capabilities in that area, the new pages I have created are not very good. Unless we have a professional in our ranks that we don't know about, we will probably have to obtain the services of a professional. That should be discussed at our next meeting. Meanwhile, please bear with us.

Ladies Only



By Linda Hayes

I want express my appreciation to Laura for accepting the position of Co/Ladies Ministry. Together with the rest of our chapter, I think we can plan some events for the lady bikers in our area and be able to inspire some comradely between local biking groups. You know what they say "if Momma ain't happy, ain't nobody happy," so if we get the "Mommas" to play nice together maybe the guys will as well.

As you ladies know we had our first "Spring Fling" last year and everyone who came seemed to have a good time. I hope to increase the number of ladies this year. I know Laura and I had a blast planning, scouring the craft stores and perfecting the menu. I would love to have your input on whether or not we should do this again this spring. I would like to invite the Raptors, Brothers Code, BTF and the Grim Reaper Ladies or any lady biker in our area whether they are affiliated with a group or not.

Also with our annual Ladies Retreat, we had some concerns last year about the Petticoat Junction in Glendale. The folks there are not in good health and their daughter told me they might not be able to stay open much longer. If this is in fact true, we will look for a new venue for this event. Be on the lookout for a B&B that will accept "Crazy Ladies" for a weekend. Considering this, we may have to pay a little more for accommodations. Let us know if you have an idea or suggestion as to where we might go.

I would also encourage you to be in prayer regarding attendance at the Harley Drags in Bowling Green. Now I know that there are several of you who say this is not for me...but...we are not doing it for YOU! We are doing this for the Lord, so prayerfully consider whether to go or not. I would love to see three or four from our chapter attend the Drags in the summer. It's really not as bad as you might think.

I appreciate your commitment to the chapter and I look forward to working with you this year in a concerted effort to show/bring Jesus to the ladies in the local biking community. Remember: we may be the only Jesus they "see"

IN HIS GRIP
Weezie

Your bike picture here. If you have a picture of your bike and would like to show it off, send it to the editor and, space permitting, it will get published for all to see.