



# Vision Riders Newsletter

January 2015

Chapter 1038

## What's Happening?

Here we are, starting a new year with new officers. For those of you that are not tasked with being an officer, please keep in mind that some of us are new to the particular job we have and require some tolerance and understanding from you folks.

Your editor chickened out on the December newsletter due to changing computer operating systems. I had been using MS Word for all previous newsletters and stayed with it for December, but now am using Libre Office Writer, which is a free-of-cost program. It comes with the free-of-cost operating system, Ubuntu. It does have a bit of a learning curve but a lot of things carry over from system to system. It's like riding a Harley and then getting on a Victory. I won't say it is good or bad, so I don't offend anyone, but I will say it is different. So, you should notice some difference in the type and layout. I started earlier in the month on it so I could have time to learn as I went and not have to fall back to the old one due to time constraints. Thanks to those that have submitted their articles early to help me out.

Our Web page has been redesigned and there are plenty of changes. If you haven't looked at it for a while, pay another visit. Click on the meeting notices or the ride notices and see what happens. This new page comes with different software, so it is another learning process for me. It is interesting to try different things, so check everything out. I try to be creative, so if you find something that doesn't work, let me know. The Web master has made it easy for me to make changes and entries, so I look like I am an expert, but without his help, I would be lost. I am having a good time doing it and learning as I go. If you have a personal Google calendar, you can export an event to your personal calendar by clicking on a link in the event posting. Those that might be reading this newsletter and have never been to one of our meetings can get directions to it or other events by clicking on the Google map link at the bottom of the page. This should help for some of those state and national meetings in places where we need help finding them.

Those of you that pass out those coloring books to kids at our events will find out when you go to order more, they don't come with the color pencils anymore. We have a fix for that. If you have the books and need crayons, see Harry or Delores. We have a whole bunch of them and will be glad to pass them out to those that have the coloring books. There are plenty to go around, so don't be afraid to ask for what you need.

## From the Road Captain's Saddlebag



Well, this time of the year is normally not the peak riding time. But some will still ride when they can, so I'm going to give you a few tips I'm sure most everyone already knows. So let's just call it a reminder for all. When it comes to motorcycles about the only thing cold weather is good for is no bugs and no overheated motors. Would you agree?

One of the most important things many forget to check is **tires!** The old give it a kick doesn't work well with bike tires *especially* in the cold weather. Never trust your big toe, winter or summer. One of the cheapest things to buy is a "good" tire gauge. I like the digital ones. But, whatever kind you buy, get a good name brand gauge. Then you have to use it! Tire pressures will change with the weather and outside temperature, so always keep a close eye on your tires when you prepare to ride. Not only could it keep you from taking off on a low tire and risking having an accident; the correct pressure will also help you get better mileage out of your tires. *(continued next page)*



The next thing is for water cooled engines just like your cage; you have to keep it serviced and the levels correct. It sounds simple but bikes are very easy to get air in the coolant system, if you change it. Having air in your coolant system on a motorcycle can destroy an engine! It will show your level as full but with air in the system it **will not** circulate and will overheat the engine. If that is something you are not comfortable in doing, take it to a certified mechanic and let them "burp" the system correctly. How do you keep air cooled engines cool? The best thing I know is to keep good quality oil in your ride. Oil like Amzoil® is very well known in helping decrease engine temperatures. Always try to keep a few tools with you, because you never know when you may need them to help someone other than yourself. I'll just leave the last comment alone; I'm sure someone else will probably pick up on it.

Lastly, if you are not planning on riding until warmer weather, keep your fuel tank full and put some Stabil® in the fuel tank to help with moisture. Also, try to crank it often. Always remember to unplug your battery tender before starting if you have one.

So get those bikes serviced and ready to ride. Be safe and may God bless!

Tommy Watkins

### VP Thoughts

By: Ron Mardis

As I begin my time as an officer for our chapter, I am beginning to understand the challenges of being an officer in an organization with such a great history. I have seen, as I know many of you have, that the officers that have preceded me did such a great job, this makes it difficult to fill their shoes. I hope I am able to hold that standard to the level it has always been.

It really hit me at our annual Christmas party, when I saw the number of great people we have in our chapter. Mitch put it in words at our last meeting that really said it all: "This Chapter is so successful, because of the diverse group of members that we have."

I am challenging myself and all of you to keep in mind all the time, what our purpose is. It is very simple, "Bring people to Christ." As I heard in church a few weeks ago from our pastor. To make progress we must work together with God's blessing and all things can be accomplished. Such

as making our best effort to reach as many lost souls as possible and sow the seeds of Christianity in their hearts. It's like Brother Rafferty put it: "If you see a turtle on top of a fence post, it did not get there by itself." So I am making my goal this year to reach as many lost people as I can be in the same situation as well as people who have lost their fire. There are many Christian people out there that just need a little help. They need someone to be assertive and give them a goal or a purpose to work towards.

Thank you all for having the confidence in me to represent this chapter as its 2015 Vice President.

### Remember This Event?



We will ask at the meeting to see how good your memory is. This will also provide some history for our newer members.

### How About This One?





**The Chaplin's Corner**

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for electing me as the Vision Riders Chaplin. I would like to ask all of you to pray that I will do as the Lord leads. All through the Bible, it says that God loves everyone. He sent his Son to die on the cross for you and me and those that believe in Him will have everlasting life. Wherever we go, whatever we say, whatever we do, reflects on Jesus Christ. We need to be what we say we are.

Gordon Judd

**KY State Officers Meeting**



Photo by Ron & Melissa Mardis

**Mileage award for December**

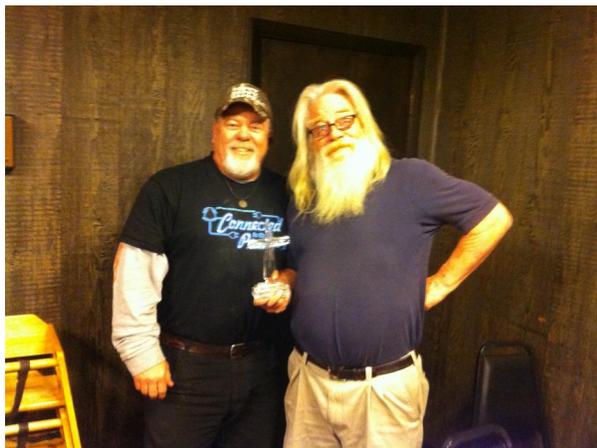


Photo by Ron & Melissa Mardis  
Mitch does it again, this time, with 380 miles.

**Officer Listing for 2015**

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**Another view of the KY State Officers Meeting**



Photo by Ron & Melissa Mardis