



Vision Riders Newsletter, January 2016

Chapter 1038 (www.visionriders.org)

What's Happening?

A few days of this month didn't lend itself for riding with one wheel drive, while most of them were just too cold. Everyone should be dug out by now. There were a few days that some of us got out, even just for a short ride to keep the battery charged and the parts moving to keep the lubrication going.

Of course, the big event was the Polar Bear Run. Most thought the turnout was good, with many nonmembers riding along. We even had a few that couldn't ride for one reason or another that came in their cages to give us financial and moral support. There were many photos taken and will be seen throughout this issue. I have so many that I can't put them all in. Thanks to all that sent them to your editor.

The pictures below show 2 of the places where the funds raised on the Polar Bear Run went, to Marion and Taylor Counties.



Coming Up In February:

Check our Web page for details and late changes. Don't forget our regular monthly meeting back at the bowling alley on the 4th at 6 ET for the meal and 7 for the business meeting.



The Polar Bear Run couldn't have ended the way it did, without our ladies getting all that good food ready to warm us all up at the conclusion. (Photo by Theresa)



Here we are for prayer and final instructions before heading out in the cold (41°) for our 2016 Polar Bear Run. (Photo by Theresa)

Officer Listing for 2016

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Theresa Collings, Secretary:
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Gordon Judd, Chaplin: 270-932-7572

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Run For The Sun Initiative
By Judy (RFS Secretary)

Happy new year everyone! I hope your new year is going well. What a great turnout for the Polar Bear Run! Isn't it wonderful with God in control?

I just received information that I first learned about at last years officers meeting about raising monies for Run for the Son charities. I am in the process of setting up the charity locally. It will be called Vision Riders/Run for the Son. Once the account is ready to go, I will contact each one of you by email.

Every time you shop at Kroger and use your Kroger discount card that you are already using, Kroger will donate money to RFS. All you have to do is once a year go to Kroger.com and chose your charity, which of course, is Run for the Son. Then, just buy your groceries! They will do the rest. But you **must** use your card.

It is my job as RFS Secretary to help CMA raise monies to meet their goal, but I need you all to know my heart. Vision Riders is a family, not just a chapter. I believe we remain this way because money doesn't get in the way. As a godly brother said at one of our earlier meetings, "God will provide the money for us to do His job." He always replenishes what we spend for His purposes. He also knows our hearts and our individual financial situations. I will not recruit your wallets for money. I will remind you to use the jar Di Wise handed out in the fall, and please do use them for loose change or a few bills here or there, but what your **heart** tells you to put in there. This is between you and God. It is not my place or that of anyone else to tell you what to do. We must be a joyful giver and if you feel it is putting you in a bind; is not joyful at all, and not what God wants. He will provide, just the right amount, down to the penny. With Kroger, you are spending the money anyway!

Jesus wants you to know peace. Spend time with Him daily, in His Word, and let Him have the reins to your day before your feet hit the floor. With God in control of all our situations and decisions, it makes it pretty easy for us. All that leaves for us to do is enjoy our days with great attitudes and let His light shine through us for others to see.

Remember, my brothers and sisters, Jesus loves you and so do I! I am thankful to be a part of this.



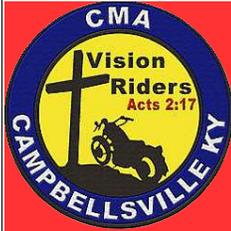
It's a thumbs up and ready to roll. (Photo by Theresa)



Which one is colder? (Photo by Mitch)



And away we go! (Photo by Theresa)



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Well, where do I start? I made my New Year's resolution which was to make sure I got an article in the newsletter every month, so here goes. I just want to start off saying that the last year was a great year. We had great rides, great meetings, great ministries, great drags and great fellowships. It was just all-around great. I felt that the good Lord blessed us so much. One of our worries was that since we were no longer doing the Amazon thing, just how would our bank account hold up. Well God took care of that. Through generous giving by you members from our meetings and a couple of donations here and there, we pretty much broke even, I was happy!

The fellowship rides were just grand, the RFS run turned out well with three chapters being involved. The Smokey ride was wonderful and yes we hit rain. I think that is a must for that ride. Of course on the way back, Dan made it a very interesting ride. *We* (Ron, Keith, Jamie, Melissa, Theresa and I) made it to Georgia for the Nationals and several attended the State Rally where we were in charge of the bike games (Daryl and Tommy did a great job). Which by the way also included rain just at the end of the games. In October I experienced the Changing of the Colors at Iron Mountain in Arkansas. There was good fellowship, good rides, and rain. Let's not forget the Christmas party which as always was fun.

So as you can read it was a great year. This was accomplished by three things. The first was our members, who helped to support all of the events. Whether it was fixing chili, hamburgers, and hot dogs to prayer support. Just like in Church, everybody is important. Second were the officers. They did a great job which made my job easier. Tommy, along with Daryl planned some great rides, Harry once again did

a super job with the newsletter and treasurer, Gordon with his devotionals and prayers and lets not forget the trailer, Judy as the RFS secretary, Ron as vice could always be counted on especially at times when I couldn't be there, and last but not least our secretary Theresa (my wife) who kept me informed, straight and up to date. I just want to say thanks to all of you for a job well done.

The third thing that made it such a great year was God. For with Him all things are possible. He kept us safe and sane. He provided us witnessing opportunities just about everywhere we went and always with the right people around. Sometimes our witness was just us being ourselves. I have heard of some of our biker friends were affected spiritually by our actions and friendships. God can help us overcome any hurdles thrown in our path allowing us land on our feet. Again, just as in church or any organization, God has a use for every one of us.

So much occurred this past year that I can't get them all in this article but aaaaahhhh the memories. Thanks again to all of you and also to our new members or soon to be members. This year I feel will be even greater with lots of fun, fellowship, and witnessing. By the way, we started off the new year with the Polar Bear Ride. We had somewhere between 45 and 50 bikes, about 47 bike blessings and 3 counties food pantries were each made 223 dollars richer. It was a great turnout.

Thanks again from your president and brother in Christ, Mitchell Collings.



Just a small part of those that went on the Polar Bear Run.