



Vision Riders Newsletter, July 2015

Chapter 1038 (www.visionriders.org)

What's Happening?

July got off to a good start with the car and bike show at Campbellsville University. All but a few of the bikes there were from our chapter and our little tent was there too. If I remember correctly, our members took 3 awards home. After seeing how many awards were given out, it makes you think a little. Many of the cars and bikes got some kind of trophy and if it isn't that hard to get one, does it really mean that much? I was informed that the turnout was low this year due to the threatening weather, so that may have been a factor.



What is that old saying about “too many cooks”? It didn't apply at our chapter picnic. Photo by Theresa.



Here is part of our chapter that took on the “tail of the dragon” during a recent venture. Photo by Ron.

The Summersville Car and Bike Show was a hot one! Your editor and spouse were the only ones from our chapter to attend. The temperatures were well into the nineties and the sun was relentless. We were prepared with sun screen and umbrellas but it still was hot.

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The Wings of Pink ride had some glitches like one of the passengers falling off of a bike and sustaining minor injuries. We were glad to have Gordon and his rescue truck along to haul several bikes that decided they didn't want to run right.



We had over 70 bikes on the Wings of Pink ride and this photo was taken before the end of the line.

Dragon Ride Trip

By: Ron Mardis



Here is the cancer survivor before the Wings of Pink ride that is the force behind the effort. Your editor is also a cancer survivor.

The ladies of the chapter had a girls night out during July and decided something about a particular restaurant that everyone agreed on. Ask any that was there, if you want to know what it was.



Here they are, having a wild time, as you can see.

Coming Up In August:

Check our Web page for details and late changes.

1. Chapter meeting on Aug. 6.
2. Baptist bikers ride in London on Aug. 8.
3. Car show and ride in Russell Springs on Aug 8.
4. Chapter fellowship ride on Aug 15.
5. Chapter bike games on Aug 29.
6. Charity ride in Lebanon on Aug. 29.

This year's Dragon Ride was a great one. We experienced many blessings this year and we had some fantastic witnessing opportunities.

We left Campbellsville at 6:30 AM on Friday the 17th of July, from the Cornerstone Truck Stop. There was great weather for this year's ride, in comparison to last year when it rained for most of our trip.

We stopped in Columbia where three more riders joined us and another joined up in Somerset at the Cracker Barrel. The total number of riders was 15 and that's a tough group to negotiate through metropolitan areas, but we made it without issue.

The first day was spent getting to the Dragon Pit, getting checked in and making a run through the Dragon. We also ended up our day crossing the Foothills and enjoying the view from there at night. If you have never gone through there at night and stopped at the overlook I highly recommend it.

The second day we headed over the Dragon and ate breakfast at Deals Gap on the North Carolina side of the Mountain. We enjoyed a great breakfast and also ran into some Bikers for Christ riders from Ashland Kentucky. We continued on to Maggie Valley, NC to visit the famous Wheels Through Time motorcycle museum. Also, it is a great stop for any motorcycle enthusiast. They have many different historical motorcycles and a couple of Evil Knievel bikes. What made this trip to the museum special was that the owner Dale Walksler was there and was visiting with everyone and riding around the property on some really old bikes. (Be sure to ask Mitch how he got in for **free**). This was a very enjoyable part of our trip.

We continued on to the top of Smoky Mountain and met some people there from Pakistan and Turkey. They were there on a tour bus provided by the US Army. As soon as I parked my bike one of the young men from Pakistan came and asked if he could sit on my bike and get a picture. I reluctantly agreed, to allow that, but it turned out to be a blessing. After the young man and his father each got a picture on the bike, one of our riders handed me a CMA Bible, and said you should give this to them. It was a great idea, because after I explained that we were Christian riders and handed him the Bible he seemed a little stressed, but he latched on to the Bible and held on to it. At the

same time Shane was witnessing to some other people from the bus from different country. Shane reminded us that where these people are from they may be persecuted for having a Christian Bible. I hope that was not the case but maybe we were able to reach out across the world by that one Bible to help sow a seed for bringing someone to Christ.

We then rode over to Sevierville, TN and visited a Harley dealership and a Bass Pro Shop. While some of us went to the Harley shop some others went to the Bass Pro Shop. Even though we had eaten as a group at all of our stops for meals this night some of us went to Cracker Barrel and others went to a steak house. After our meal at Cracker Barrel, this group gathered on the porch of the restaurant. A young lady approached me and asked if we were Christian bikers, I said yes we are. She asked if we would pray with her. Shane asked her if she had a certain need and she replied that her fiancee was being deployed to Afghanistan in the coming week and she needed prayer.

So we made a circle and had prayer there on the porch of the Cracker Barrel. It was very nice to have someone come to us and ask for our help and for us to be able to provide some comfort to a soul in need.

While that was happening at Cracker Barrel, the guys at the Steak House were having prayer and were able to reach out to a couple waitresses there and got a great blessing from that as well. So I guess God planned on us separating for that meal for a reason that only He knows.

We then traveled back to the pit and rested for the ride home on Sunday. On Sunday morning Shane brought a message reviewing our ride and some great insight from the Bible. Our host Dennis from the Pit stayed for the service and seemed to be very interested in what Shane was saying and I felt that he got a blessing from it as well.

Other than some bike trouble we had an amazing trip and everyone returned home safe and sound. Praise God !

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Here is a young man dreaming about the day he will have one of his own to ride. This was at the car and bike show at the University.

Your article here could help fill some empty space.