



Vision Riders Newsletter, June 2015

Chapter 1038

What's Happening?

June was an interesting month. We had different people at several different activities. Not only did we have the National Rally in Georgia, but we had several rides going on. There are pictures of some of these events throughout this newsletter. There was one ride where only your editor and wife represented our chapter. That was the Ride To Calvary, a benefit ride in Springfield on the 28th. It was well organized and a long one (130 miles). They had 3 stops for needed breaks and food was available at each one with a meal at the end. The organizers had coordinated with different churches along the ride for the stops and they provided their facilities for our use as well as supplying snacks and drinks.

Keep in mind that our chapter will be showing some of our bikes and will set up our tent at the Campbellsville University Car and Bike Show on July the 4th.



Here is our tent at the "Draggin' the Alpine."
Photo by Tommy Watkins.

Snake In The Headlight

Several from our chapter went on the ride in Russell Springs on the 13th. The Caretakers Riding Club sponsored the ride to raise funds for the local facility that provided pro-life assistance to soon-to-be mothers that need help.

We arrived early and had plenty of time to chat with the local riders that were there. One of the riders was a fellow a few years older than your editor. He had previously rode a scooter and now had a new bike, a 650 cc basic machine. He said that he liked it because it was low enough that he could get his feet on the ground when stopped. The bike was 3 days old and still had temporary plates on it.

I was right behind him on the ride and noticed that he kept forgetting to turn off his turn signals, like many of us do. I mentioned that to him and told him that he still must have been learning the features of his new bike. This was at our first stop somewhere in the middle of nowhere.

We took off from our first stop to continue the ride and I wasn't directly behind him until the bike in front of me changed positions and then he was there again. Some of the roads had a lot of curves and I observed that he had no problems keeping up with the group as we rode through them. He was handling his new ride pretty well.

As we began to traverse through some more S curves in a slightly downhill direction, I saw him, as he was leaning through the curve, slide right off the road and go down.

I hit the brakes and pulled off the road as far as I could and got out to help him. Before I could get my seat belt unbuckled and crawl out from under the steering wheel, other riders beat me to him. We got the bike lifted off of him and put the kickstand down. One of the riders helped him remove his helmet and got him in a comfortable position as possible until the ambulance arrived. We were happy to supply a small pillow that we carry for his head.

Meanwhile, all those riders that were behind us were gathered around and some were on each end of the scene to direct traffic. One of the ladies commented that there was a snake in the headlight. I

took a look and, sure enough, there was a baby snake that got lodged between the headlight and the frame that goes around it, along with some dirt and grass from the impact. That snake was in the wrong place at the wrong time. I went back to my vehicle and got my gloves and grabbed the snake and pulled it from the headlight so that no one would get bitten by it. The snake was lodged so tight that when I pulled it out, part of it remained in the headlight frame. I threw what I had pulled out into the weeds nearby.

We were wondering why he went down until I surveyed the crash scene. Someone had thrown out some disposable diapers on the road surface. Whether it was the content of the diapers or the recent rain, it was obvious that the diapers were wet. I have been told that some disposables have a fabric in them that gets very slippery when wet. This was the cause of the crash, diapers, not rider error.

Someone called 911 on their cell phone and it seemed like forever, but really wasn't, until help arrived. There was a fire department truck as well as a first responder, then the ambulance arrived. As the medics were preparing the rider for the trip to the hospital, the sheriff arrived. He surveyed the scene and interviewed several of us that witnessed the crash. He took plenty of pictures, including the diapers on the road.

It will probably never happen that the person that threw the diapers on the road will ever be caught, let alone know about the harm they caused. Most, if not all of us, know to keep an eye out for debris on the road and not to contribute to the trash already there. What we can do is keep this in mind while riding and know that you can find just about anything on the road to cause you to go down, including diapers.



This was at the National Rally in Georgia.
Photo by Ron Mardis

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Draggin' the Alpine Event

During this past month, several Vision Riders helped with the Draggin' the Alpine event in Burkesville. Lonnie Embry puts this event together every year for sport bike riders. Tommy Watkins handles the safety crew for this event, which is the most important part of the event. When you have riders reaching triple-digit speeds and powering through corners at high speeds it is very important to have people placed in key areas to watch for issues or accidents.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the message brought by Dave Gearhardt on Sunday morning. He brought a message that was very well thought out and presented, and he did not back down on a couple of touchy subjects such as racism in America. His message was powerful and accurate and I applaud him for his effort. Thank you, Dave!

My opinion is that we need to keep supporting Lonnie Embry in his effort to bring young riders to Christ by setting an example for them. I spoke with a young rider that attended the event. He said he really enjoyed the event and the day. Maybe we can reach a few young people in this way and bring them to the Lord.

Ron Mardis

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Here is a rough looking crew at the National Rally.
Selfie by Theresa

Always Be Obedient

June 6th & 7th was the Draggin' the Alpine event in Burkesville. A couple weeks prior to the event Lonnie Embry ask me if I would speak during the weekend. After praying about it and getting my thoughts together about what I would talk on, I told him I would. Then I found out at the June chapter meeting that Shane had asked Gearhead to speak. It was just one of those things and I wasn't even going to mention anything about it; God told me to just let things roll right on. But Gearhead spoke with Lonnie the next day and learned about the mix up.

The next day Gearhead and I talked about the mix up, I told him there were no worries for him to do it and I could talk anytime. Also, that was the main

reason he was coming down on Sunday, to bring the noon message. What I had planned to talk about was really on my mind; I felt it needed to be brought up someday. Well, as one would know, The Big Guy had already worked it out. Saturday morning as we were getting ready to start the day Lonnie asked me to pray-Bingo! The prayer allowed me to use the scripture God had given me. We just have to be obedient and allow Him to work things through us. The scripture I used in my prayer was Matt: 6-21 "For where your treasure is your heart will be also" and John: 6-63 "It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is no help at all."

God wants us to have nice things (earthly treasures) otherwise they would not be provided. Yes He provides it all!! That's where we have to be careful and not let our heart get wrapped up in all of the earthly treasures and always give Him the Glory first for all the toys, because it is God (the spirit) that gives life, the flesh or earthly treasures will not help us at all.

So always keep God first; be obedient to God and always follow His lead and always, but always, give Him the Glory for all of those earthly toys that He provides us!

Tommy Watkins

RFS Ideas and Suggestions

Editor's note: This article was supplied by our RFS state lead. I have edited it for length.

Part of the job of being state or chapter leaders, is to equip the CMA membership to go touch "One Heart At A Time." I thank each of you for your willingness to help keep CMA Ministry a ministry.

A RFS Secretary had a question for me, so I thought it would be good if I shared it with all KY RFS chapter secretaries.

Question: Can chapter members sell items for the RFS at secular events as well as their CMA state events?

Yes, provided that the coordinator of that event does not object. If its a local event, please inform your chapter President about what you are doing. If it is a state event, let your state coordinator or area representative know what you would like to do.

Always remember that nothing is ever sold from under the CMA hospitality booth/tent. That's a place of ministry and information. Be mindful that all RFS sale items are sold at a separate table area.

Watch the traffic flow, and position yourself between the hospitality tent and the direction in which

people are traveling. Have a sign at your table stating that the proceeds from these items goes towards missions. They will always ask what missions, and then you can tell them about CMA RFS. Have your RFS information available.

One of our chapter's RFS secretary, has a table-sign, with pictures displaying the RFS mission trips. People will walk over to look at the pictures and then give to RFS. Use your creativity.

We have a chapter member that raises RFS funds by silent auctions at different events. I noticed that she organizes her table to clearly identify each item and she gives a time in which auction is closed and she immediately makes sure items are given out and money collected.

One RFS secretary raises money for the chapter by having a "snack" table close to the hospitality booth. Her motto is: "Standing around drinking free water, makes them want to snack on something." It does work; she did well in raising funds for RFS.

One CMA Member is known for being the "Fudge Man." He said that he could not just walk up and talk to people, but he knew God wanted him to witness. So he takes "fudge" to *bike night* and walks around with it in bags for sale, (something like a \$1.00/bag) with a salvation card and information on RFS. He carries bike blessing cards/stickers too. He says that some of the regulars are now standing and talking with him about themselves! He's using RFS fund raiser as a tool to minister. The funds he raises goes towards reaching more lives for Christ.

One Couple makes pop-corn and puts it in decorative bags that you can get 10 for a dollar at Dollar Tree and at bike blessing/*bike night*, they walk around and ask people if they would like to have a bag of pop corn and if could they bless their bikes. With that bag, is bike blessing card/sticker, a salvation tract and RFS information. They have a table set up displaying pictures and information on the RFS, along with prayer request form and a plastic container to submit their prayer requests. They said that when they come back to their table to fold up, there are always prayer requests and love offerings for RFS.

At a secular event, one CMA lady has a table display of pretty scarves for sale for RFS. She takes a rocking lounge chair and, beside her table, she works on making scarves. She says that draws the ladies over to her. On her table in the middle of scarves for sale, she places *question cards*, like: What makes a woman

a lady. or what do I see, when I look in the mirror. On the back of the card, is the answer to that question. Then, on the side of the table is a prayer request form. She says that she never has to walk around to minister, because she found a way to draw them to her. God is using a RFS item for her to minister. She is using the ministry to help raise funds for RFS, to touch more lives. Why the rocker? It makes people sense that you are relaxed, which makes it easier for them to approach you.

Some of you have already started on your 2016 RFS fund raising, with yard sales, cook-offs, motorcycle Sunday, and auctions.

Remind your chapter members that the State Rally is a great place to bring your RFS items to set up a table and display. If you start reminding them now, it will give them time to get their items together.

If you have RFS ideas, please share them with me and I will pass them along to other chapters.

I am so blessed by serving such great RFS chapter secretaries. I became a RFS state lead because I have a love for the RFS. I continue as a RFS lead, because I now have a love for all of you as we work together to make sure the Word of God is touching lives everywhere. Without RFS, we could not minister on the level we do. It makes you think: how many would not hear about God, without CMAers willing to go and willing to give?

Thank you all for touching my life.

Di Wise, KY RFS state lead

2Cor 8:7 Just as you excel in faith, and in love, excel in grace of giving.



Draggin' the Alpine.
Photo by Tommy Watkins