



New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community

www.newliferiders.com

Gideon1520@Gmail.com

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Dear Friends,

May is finally here! With balmy breezes, ice-free roads and numerous charity events scheduled, there is just no excuse not to be riding! Be safe and enjoy the wind in your face!

A story is told of a teenager who approached his dad saying, "Dad, you know that 1911 Harley-Davidson V-twin Model 7D that's been passed down in our family from one generation to another?" The father replied, "What about it, son?" The boy answered, "My generation just dropped it!" It's an amusing story. If it were true, can you imagine how that father would have felt? A bike that the family had treasured for years had been damaged!

Some time ago after reading the tale about the teenager, my thoughts naturally turned to antique bikes. My wife, Kathy, and I were headed out for an appointment. While she was waiting for me, she began thumbing through the pages of a fashion magazine. She could hardly wait to show me several pages of photos of an old motorcycle crossing the Moroccan desert laden with luggage. At first it seemed difficult to determine the make and year of the bike because much of it was draped with ladies' clothing. I wish you could have seen Kathy's face when recognizing the badge (emblem) on the bike, she exclaimed, "It's a BSA!"

Of course, we began reminiscing about our old BSA's. We had a '71 Thunderbolt that we had a lot of fun with and a '34 Blue Star that we restored together and exhibited at shows.

BSA, Birmingham Small Arms, is an ancient company with roots dating back to the 1500's. In 1689 King William III, tired of the expense of importing weapons, commissioned five Birmingham gunsmiths to manufacture a trial order of muskets. In 1861 the Small Arms Association of Birmingham met to form Birmingham Small Arms Company, Limited. The rest, including their eventual manufacturing of motorcycles, is history.

Still pondering old motorcycles and the effort that goes into their preservation and restoration, I recalled a number my daughter, Robin, used to sing. It is called Ancient Words, written by Lynn DeShazo. I began thinking not only of the preservation of ancient bikes but of the struggles and sacrifice those who have gone before us have borne to preserve God's Word for us.

*"Holy words long preserved, for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, Give us strength, help us cope,
In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.
Holy words of our faith, Handed down to this age,
Come to us through sacrifice, O heed the faithful words of Christ.
Ancient words ever true, changing me, changing you,
We have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart."*

When I come to the end of the road, I don't want to be like that teenager and the 1911 Harley and have to tell my Heavenly Father that my generation "dropped it" concerning His Ancient Words, or even more importantly, that I personally dropped it.

My friends, I would encourage you to get to know the Lord through reading His Word, the Bible. If you haven't asked Him into your heart and life, this would be an excellent time to do so.

We update the New Life Riders website www.newliferiders.com frequently. Please keep checking it for biking events and activities that you can attend and let your light shine for Jesus. Be a blessing! Don't underestimate your ability to make a difference in someone's life and don't miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world. May you be blessed as you ride, work and witness for Him.

If you look at the events posted on the website for May, you will see so far we have sixteen. There is no way we could possibly attend them all. However, for those in and around central Indiana, consider riding in the two events I have listed here.

May 5, 2018 - Rev's Run, Motorcycle Charity Ride, Located at Harley-Davidson of Indianapolis New Location, 12400 Reynolds Drive, Fishers, IN. 46240. Registration: 10:00 am. Kickstands Up: 11:30 am. Cost: \$20 per Bike- Passenger free, includes T-shirt while supplies last. This 75 mile ride is a Rain or Shine Event. All proceeds will benefit the Thompson Family Medical Expenses. For more information, call Hammer at 317-727-9346.

May 19, 2018 - 1st Annual Ride for Little Hearts, Supporting Research for Congenital Heart Defects in Honor of Amy Snellenbarger and All Kids with CHD. Amy was born with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, which means she has half of her heart. She has directly benefitted from the Children's Heart Foundation, and the Adult Congenital Heart Foundation and their contributions to research. Ride will start and end at Avon America Legion Post 145, 4812 E Main St, Avon, IN 46123. Registration: 10 am. Kickstands Up: 11 am. Cost: \$25 per Bike, \$15 for Passenger. For more information, call Stacey at (317) 439-3426.

The New Life Riders ride with the two-fold purpose of enjoying the wind in our faces and more importantly, serving God and the Community. You don't have to join or belong to any particular organization to be part of our ministry. Please feel especially invited to come out and fellowship with us. We want you and your family to know that everyone is welcome. Take a night off from dinner responsibilities and join us for good food and great fellowship at our next meeting on Friday, May 4th at 6:30 PM at Bob Evans Restaurant, 6102 Cambridge Way, located off Route 267, just north of Route 70, Plainfield, Indiana 46168.

Ron Moore will be presenting the devotions at our meeting. As most of you know, his messages are always unique and interesting.

The following is a paraphrase of a quote I read on a Bob Evans placemat. "We want nothing more than for you to feel at home. Like family, we saved you a seat. There is a difference, however, from actually being at home. No barking dog, no dripping faucet, no paint in need of a touchup except perhaps on your Bike. So please, make yourself comfortable and enjoy a good meal and great fellowship. And at the end of it all, Bob Evans we'll do the dishes."

Kathy and I hope to see you on the 4th!

As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road.

Until next time...

*God bless
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon*

***Jesus said, "Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God's good news to one and all."
Mark 16:15 (The Message)***