



# *New Life Riders*

*Motorcyclists Serving God and Community*

[www.newliferiders.com](http://www.newliferiders.com)

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*Dear Friends,*

*Can you imagine Labor Day is here? I am having a hard time believing that I am writing the September newsletter. How quickly the summer has come and gone! The cool autumn breezes beckon us to ride the back roads and revel in the colorful beauty of the changing leaves. The opportunities to ride and enjoy the company of fellow bikers abound over the next few months!*

*I am sure that many of you reminisce/think about the past when you are sitting all by yourself. I know that I do it frequently, sitting here in Whitehall Manor.*

*Recently, I thought about the first time I went to a Major League Baseball game. It was held at the old Shibe Park in Philadelphia. It was the same year (1953) that the Philadelphia Athletics change the name of Shibe Park to "Connie Mack Stadium," in honor of their longtime owner and manager.*

*A friend of mine named Raymond, who I went to school with and lived across the street, asked his father to take both of us to the game to watch the Philadelphia Phillies. They were actually a pretty good team back then. Raymond's dad had us sit in the right field grandstands so we could watch all the action, but my interest went beyond what the ballplayers did. I was mesmerized when the grounds crew came out before the game started.*

*I have to tell you that I was the kid who got in trouble at school looking out the windows, instead of paying attention to the teacher. I wanted to know why various cars, trucks and machines did what they did. How were they manufactured? I was full of questions back then.*

*Getting back to the game. The grounds crew thoroughly manicured the field and smoothed out the dirt. When they finished their work, the infield was perfect, until the players ran back in.*

*Don't we really need to take time in life to "smooth things out" for ourselves and our relationships with others? Our Lord and Savior calls on us to live without fear and in peace with one another. In order to do that, we need to smooth out the rough spots, both in our own lives and in our interactions with other people.*

*However, we don't need a tractor or a field grate to drag behind it. Instead, we need a simple commitment to the God we serve and a pledge to obey his foundational commandment to Love Our Neighbor.*

*Think of how much smoother our life would be if we simply loved each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. Love can bring forgiveness, and it is critical that we forgive others if we expect God to forgive us.*

*Just for the fun of it, the next time you go to a ballgame, take a look at the grounds crew. Watch what they are doing. They hold the secret to smoothing the field. Likewise, if we watch and follow the Lord, He will help us smooth out the rough spots in life.*

*Speaking of rough spots, a dear friend recently told me about an event she attended, where a group of people were very loud and obnoxious in the way they presented the Gospel. What they were saying was true, but in a very irritating way. In 1 Peter 3:15, we are told to share our faith with “gentleness and respect.”*

*As always, keep doing the good stuff. I look forward to seeing you down the road!*

*Until next time.*

*God bless  
Riding with Jesus,  
Bob Dillon  
[www.newliferiders.com](http://www.newliferiders.com)*



*God bless America.*

*"Do something wonderful, people may imitate it." — Albert Schweitzer*

***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)***