

Logan's Run 2012

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Logan's Run, a Valley favorite and the traditional last run of Bike Week in Arizona, took place on Sunday April 1st. For the first time, sign-in took place at Logan's Valley Motorcycles 1440 W Main St, Mesa. It was an excellent idea. Coffee and donuts were enjoyed as people registered, checked out the shop, chatted, and reviewed the route. The run mapped out at 100-120 miles.

After departing Logan's, stops were at: The Tap House in Fountain Hills... here you could buy an extra card for \$3. Next stop was at Spirits Bar & Grill on Main in East Mesa.

American Legion Post 91, at 922 N Alma School in Chandler, hosted the next stop. There we met some nice people including barkeep Tina, and ALR members John, Leo, and Ron & Donna Andrews. Here, [if you hadn't already done so] riders could buy an extra card for \$5... with the understanding that you could be saving your hand ~ or just making a donation to a good cause. ☺

A short ride down the road was the lunch stop at Iguana Mack's, 1371 N Alma School. Road construction between Post 91 and Iguana Mack's made for some squirrely moments, but all riders made it through safely. This was a food stop only ~ no card draw. The musical duo 'Struck Match' was performing on the patio. Plates of pulled pork, beans, & slaw fed many a hungry tummy. All the food was donated by Iguana Mack's for the event.

All these miles led to the last stop at Chester's Harley-Davidson, at 922 S Country Club in Mesa. Last card was due by 3pm; but if you waited that

long to get there, you were missing a great show by Mogollon.

Audiences large & small get wrapped up in their showmanship & performance. Today was no different. There was lots of love and positive energy. Fans were dancing and clapping as the band covered many music styles from rock to old country... plus shared some fan-favorite originals. It was announced that Mogollon is already scheduled for next year's Logan's Run.

During a band break, announcements were made from the stage. High hand winner Tim Kessler collected \$650. Grace Mason received \$350 for Second place. Thanks go out to the generous folks at Spectra Electrical for donating the \$1000 purse to the Poker Run. There was a tie for Low between Steve Evans & Gary Rassmussen. One received a gift certificate from Jimmy John's on Baseline; the other a bottle of Jager with a swag bucket. A live auction wrapped up the fundraising for the day. The 50/50 split to the winner was \$440... It was won by a very happy gal with a big smile on her face ☺

Among the things that were different this year? ALL 100% of donations made by participants this year actually went to the beneficiaries. Donations from sponsors including Chester's HD, Law Tigers, Spectra Electrical, and Iguana Mack's helped make that possible.

Kudos to all who helped bring this run back from the brink of cancellation... including the Chester's family, Logan, the sponsors; and the Mesa chapter of GWRRA & Post 91 ALR Riders for handling the

stops.

The Logan's Run organizers took an extraordinary step by separating themselves from AZ Bike Week and therefore not being an 'officially' recognized event. But, not being under that ABW umbrella freed them from a LOT of financial obligation that must be paid out by ABW benefit rides before a penny goes to any charity. This dedicated group deserves huge credit for stepping up and going outside the box on behalf of this year's beneficiaries. This year, donations went to the Special Olympics {www.specialolympicsarizona.org} local chapter, the Gilbert Roadrunners; and to Love House {<http://lovehousekidsprogram.org/>} ~ which was chosen in appreciation of ALR Post 91's support of the event. Both are 501 C(3) charities.

So... there was obviously a big change to the set up of this year's event. How'd it go? Attendance and donations were down a little from previous years... but that's to be expected with any major transition. What's important is that this event will be building back up again & going forward, with the support of the motorcycling community.

Next year, plan to support this Valley tradition. It's already been announced that Logan's Run 2013 WILL again wrap at Chester's HD, with Mogollon on stage. THE TRADITION CONTINUES... Be part of something special. Logan's Run WILL continue to close Bike Week in Arizona. See ya there!

Bruce & Betsy