

# Riding For The Wounded Run

Once more, this old reporter had a chance to ride into history; this time with a great bunch of hard-assed Marines. If any of you know a Marine, they are always a Marine, Semper Fi, Urah, and usually hard as nails, even after they retire or just get out. The best part of this ride, even being an Army Viet Nam Vet, was the camaraderie, of the Veteran's Clan. If you've never experienced it, it's quite a show of Bear Hugs and special hand shakes, and the recognition of a unique Brotherhood. And this event was no different. I'm very proud of all who have and are serving this country, from all the branches of the Military. All the services were represented on this ride, but was very much a Marine sponsored event, with a former D.I. (that's a Drill Instructor, for those that don't know) "Gunny" Gregg, emceeing

the final evenings functions.

On Sunday March 14, there were probably 60 riders and guests involved in an admirable quest, Riding for the Wounded Marines at Camp Pendelton, California. Rides like these produce money to help support the Wounded Veteran and their families, while the warriors are laid up and recuperating. This was another way to honor those who have sacrificed for this country's Freedom, which we all enjoy. And some truly pay the price.

This ride was hosted by Ka-Bar chapter of the Leathernecks MC and sign-in was at Ironhorse V-Twins in Peoria. The owner, Tom is a former Marine who helped sponsor this event. He and his staff were very courteous on this ride. {As a side note, they are also very knowledgeable when it comes to Genuine authorized Harley repairs, parts,

and Extended Warranty Service.}

From there it was off to South Phoenix and the Long Branch Saloon, the Desert Rose Bar in Arlington, and the Tin Top Bar on Wintersburg Rd in Tonopah. From there it was back into town at the Sandbar Mexican Grill, for some tasty burgers and the rest of the entertainment.

Jose Chavez was the 50/50 winner, and Steve Borkan won the High Hand on the Poker Run. A lot of door prizes were handed out and by the end, almost everyone had won something. I won the respect of a lot of Marines this day and came away knowing in my heart, that Marines are truly Good Men, for what they try to give back. Even though I will always jokingly refer to them as "Jar-Heads".

Job well done Marines, Urah. Ride Hard, and Be Safe. Later.....

