

Feline Fun Run



Benefit Ride for the Friends For Life Animal Rescue

This event took place on Saturday May 14. It was the very first event undertaken by this group, The Reason Riders Association [photo top center]. Thank you Bishop, Founder & President of the Reason Riders ~ for sharing your day with our readers.

“The Start Point was graciously hosted by Desert Wind Harley Davidson, located at 922 S. Country Club Dr, in Mesa. Approximately 60 riders signed up; representing some clubs and also some independent riders.

“Participants registered for the run, rolled their first dice, received a free custom bandanna, and enjoyed a complimentary light breakfast. They were also given the opportunity to enter into prize raffles for various baskets.

“The ride route took a short loop around the Valley of about 127 miles. It was a self paced, non-escorted ride of about 2.5 hours travel time. The first stop was hosted by The Roadrunner Saloon in New River AZ. The Roadrunner happily donated a number of items for raffle baskets and offered special pricing to Feline Fun Run riders. The route then continued to the west into Peoria, stopping at GoAZ Motorcycles West. Participants received their dice roll score and were treated with cold drinks and a chance to browse the beautiful and rare machines on display in the cool A/C. The riders were then directed to proceed to The Duce in south Phoenix for drink and appetizer specials at a one of a kind boxing and event style bar. Once the dice were rolled it was on to the end stop at Joe's real BBQ in Gilbert AZ. Finishing participants concluded the ride with their last dice roll and an authentic BBQ lunch on the patio. Family and friends arrived to join some of the

riders.

“It was a ‘family-friendly’ day, with activities available at the end party, including cornhole games and a special appearance by the AZ Roller Girls in full dress uniform. There was a large grassy area for folks to sit in the shade and enjoy the day.

“For those who were interested, there was a group of volunteers that took small groups to tour the Friends for Life rescue facility. Riders and non-riders alike visited the FFL cat house and met Bowie the Cat, this year’s featured animal.

“The Dice Challenge winner was awarded a free two-night stay at The Phoenician Resort, with free golf and dinner at Relish Burger Bistro. There was also a low score winner that received a frilly pink basket of cat-themed items. It was supposed to be a joke but they loved it. Other prize winning items were custom beer glasses, a leather riding jacket and tank bag, t-shirts, and gift cards.

“A little over four thousand dollars was raised from this event. After assessing costs to host the run, more than \$2900 was donated to the care of the animals at Friends for Life Animal Rescue. This year’s special recipient was Bowie the Cat who had suffered severe injury from abuse. The remainder of the monies collected after Bowie's care will be used to purchase food and medical supplies for the other animals.”

Friends For Life Animal Rescue [http://azfriends.org] is a no-kill shelter in Gilbert, AZ. [from their website] It is a privately run limited-intake organization. Their Mission is to significantly impact animal overpopulation through aggressive programs focusing on rescue, spay and neuter, adoptions, and education. Donations of cash, goods, & services are always appreciated. Learn more at their website about adoptions, shopping rewards directed to FFL, and volunteering.

Bishop added, “... this event was the first time The Reason Riders had hosted their own event. Much of what occurred was an emulation of other successful events we had attended in the prior years. We are hoping to infuse other future events with more activities and games and to expand our charity focus into many other areas. We are hoping to be able to host another ride in the coming seasons and to lend our support to many of our community’s events.

“Special Thanks go out to The Modified Motorcycle Association of Arizona for support and guidance, The New Founders of Freedom, The Green Knights MMC Chapter 28, 98 KUPD Radio Station for helping to spread the word and using their social media outlets to help. Thanks also to stop hosts Desert Wind Harley Davidson, The Roadrunner Saloon, GoAZ Motorcycles, The Duce, and Joe's Real BBQ. Also a huge thanks must be given to the families of The Reason Riders for tolerating the long hours and absence of the Riders for the cultivation of this event.”

Learn more about the Reason Riders Association at their website <http://reasonriders.com>. You can also find them on Facebook at [/ReasonRiders/](https://www.facebook.com/ReasonRiders/).

The Reason Riders Association is currently hosting a Bikers For Blankets Drive. They are collecting Blankets for Homeless Veterans here in Arizona. Until October 15, please bring new blankets to Arrowhead H-D in Peoria, Charley's Place in Glendale, Saint Nick's Tavern in Phoenix, Timmy Tees in Phoenix, and the VFW at 804 E Purdue in Phoenix. RRA is working with Operation Marshmallow and the US Military Vets MC to distribute these blankets to homeless Vets throughout our state. Donations can also be made via Paypal on <http://reasonriders.com/> Please direct any questions to 602-377-8519.