

# International Female Ride Day

May 6, 2017 was the 11th annual International Female Ride Day. This is a coordinated ride with participants all across our state... across the country, and around the world. It always takes place on the first Saturday in May. Countless women participated this year, on all sorts of bikes... large, small, cruisers, sport, off-road, trikes, even scooters!

On the International Female Ride Day Facebook page you'll find images from Australia, Egypt, Israel, Ireland, Canada, India, Mexico, Brazil, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Japan, Italy, South Africa, Panama, Germany, Spain, Finland, France, Poland... As well as closer to home... Kansas, Michigan, Nevada, Texas, California, Colorado, Florida, Arkansas, Oregon, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Maryland, Washington, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, New Jersey, Indiana, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, North Dakota, New Hampshire, & Wisconsin.

And probably more ~ as ladies continue to post their pix.

According to the IFRD website "This is the world's largest and only women motorcycle rider event which is also synchronized across all borders." It encompasses pilots of all makes and models... on this day to celebrate women on their own wheels.

What an extraordinary undertaking! And the response has been outstanding! Each year more rider groups, dealerships, and individual pilots learn about and participate in IFRD.

One such example came from our friend Andreeanne, as we discussed the involvement of *Desert Wind Harley-Davidson* of Mesa. She commented that, "It was great to see all HD dealerships participating this year again." I learned that DWHD had 30 ladies check into the dealership for free breakfast burritos, goody bags and refreshments before

heading out on a scenic 1 hour ride to the Roadhouse in Cave Creek.

The sister store to Desert Wind is *Loess Hills Harley-Davidson* in Pacific Junction, Iowa. The Nebraska & Iowa girls haven't been involved in IFRD... Until now ☺ Andreeanne sure changed that! She traveled to Iowa to organize the inaugural International Female Ride Day there, and invited participation from other dealerships in the area... They ended up with 97 ladies from 3 dealerships in the Iowa/Nebraska area... Loess Hills HD plus Dillon Brothers HD and Holstein's HD ~ both located in Omaha, Nebraska. "I thought since this worked so well here in Arizona - why not have the same thing happening in Iowa. So off I went and put the dealerships together. The countryside is beautiful." It turned out so well that the 3 dealers are already planning on next year's.

*continues on page 18*



# International Female Ride Day AZ Rider

from page 17

Back here in AriZona...

A FB post from Ronda Yancey Allaway out of *Buddy Stubbs HD* noted, "The cool thing is that for the past 3 years all of the Arizona Harley-Davidson dealerships {Phoenix, Anthem, & Cave Creek} have come together to celebrate as one for a giant party.... We thank all who worked so hard to provide the ladies with a great day of riding, food, and fun... Thanks Kevin Price and gang at Roadhouse for the hospitality...."

Attendees included Valerie Thompson ~ America's 'Queen of Speed'. She is the 7-time land speed record holder, with a top speed of 304.263mph. She posted, "Another fabulous day in Arizona! International Female Ride Day. My riding partner Amy Skaling and I rode from Buddy Stubbs Harley-Davidson to the Roadhouse. This is the third year Diva Amy and I started this cooperative event with all the Arizona Harley-Davidson dealerships and so far it's been

a successful growing event. Great to see everyone and meet new friends..."

Shelley at *Harley-Davidson of Scottsdale* shared that 40 gals rode out of their dealership. The overall day was great. Their route to The Roadhouse included a stop at Bartlett Lake.

I learned from Ruth at *Tucson H-D* that approximately 25 riders rolled up from Tucson to the Road House. The dealership's FB comment declared, "It was a wonderful day for riding with a fantastic group of women!"

Brina from *Superstition H-D* in Apache Junction share that 34 ladies rode out from their dealership. SHD had a reception area on the patio for the ladies when they arrived and had muffins and Danish to fuel up before departing, plus SHD paid for the lunch of the lady rider if she rode with their group. The first 30 received goodie bags that included a turquoise bandana (the signature color of the IFRD ride) & more.

There ended up being over 350 ladies dancing, eating, and enjoying each other's company at the Road House in Cave Creek. While some observed a bit of disorganization and some chaos as the group photo was being taken, there is no doubt that, for the most part, it was an outstanding day.

Posts & photos on Facebook from the various dealerships and women who attended helped to paint a picture of this day. It looks like on the whole it was a worldwide success and there was a lot of fun to be had!

Next year's IFRD will take place on Saturday May 5, 2018. Check with your favorite local dealership to see if they have something planned. If they don't already, start putting something in the works! This is YOUR day, Ladies! Make it what YOU want it to be!

Ride safe ~ *Betsy*

[Connect with IFRD here in AZ by visiting this link...](#)

