

Nomaden MC Toy Run & Sleigh Ride



In southern Arizona, the Nomaden MC have been supporting their community through their Christmas Spirit for the past 28 years. We appreciate the opportunity to share news of this undertaking. Thank you to NMC member Rocky and NMC Secretary Buffalo Fred, for your help with this story.

This fundraiser is a two-part process. The entire event is Family-Friendly.

The Toy Run takes place in October, this year on the 8th. It is a party at the Clubhouse in Huachuca City from noon – 6pm. There's no ride. They want everyone at the clubhouse having fun. Fred explained, "For our Toy Drive we try to present to the community a less chaotic and casual side of the Nomaden MC and bikers in general. We try to provide a charity for a good cause that allows the local community to see and interact with all bikers and enjoy a day together." We're told that this is the main event in order to collect toys & money for the families. Money goes to buy clothing and toys that weren't collected but were on the children's wish lists.

There are kids games, face painting, vendors, raffles, silent auction, & door prizes. In addition, two Jumpy castles, a dunk tank, popcorn and ice-slusly machines were provided by event sponsor Dustin Garza, Manager of High Jump Party Rentals. Music was by the band 'Nightlife', a local band with a good following. Gary, the owner of the Outlaw Saloon in Tucson, sponsored the performance.

Those families who want help, fill out an application. Fred shared, "We accepted applications from the citizens within Cochise County, The Forgach House (Woman's Shelter), Habitat for Humanity, Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA) ~ a Vets organization who passed along names of

off-base military families in need, Giving Tree, and the Carmichael Elementary School for underprivileged families. Our efforts were discussed & approved through the Huachuca City Council and the Joint Services Committee Board, Chamber of Commerce for the Greater Sierra Vista Area."

There were 44 volunteers helping out that day... "15 Club Patch Members, 11 Ole Ladies, 3 Nomaden Family Members, 6 close Nomaden Friends, 6 members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA) Auxiliary and 3 Soldier volunteers. Many of the friends and volunteers included their family members to help support this charity event."

Rocky filled in, "The Wednesday prior to the Sleigh Ride (when the toys are delivered to the families), the club gets together and wraps the toys, separates them by family, and gets things ready to deliver." The Sunday of the run, we have a volunteer Santa that rides with us. He and his helper distribute candy canes to all the kids and we present the gifts to the parent(s). They put them under a tree. If they do not have a tree, we will try to obtain one for them."

This year's Sleigh Ride took place on Sunday December 18. According to Fred, "We collected Toys, Christmas Trees, clothing, and food items. We pitched in with countless hours of family time and many road miles looking for sponsors and talking with potential beneficiaries. This year's sleigh ride provided 18 needy families/44 children with toys, clothing, Christmas decorations, and food items to celebrate the Christmas holiday. Most of us donated funds and gifts to help make sure that we had enough to provide to those families. As far as we are concerned, the giving of ourselves and providing for our community during the Christmas time of year is

priceless to us."

We learned, "There were 23 participants for the Sleigh Ride... 12 Club Patch Members, 8 Ole Ladies, and 3 Nomaden Family Members who were the photographer, Santa, and an Elf. Santa's truck was the sleigh (in Nomaden colors of course)."

The Nomaden MC would like to thank, "a few of our extraordinary regular sponsors: Gary of Outlaw Saloon (Tucson), Jim Goad of Mr. Shed (Huachuca City - HC), Ms. Patricia Stanphill (Bouse AZ), Sulfur Springs Electric Co-Op (SSVEC) (Sierra Vista - SV), Dustin Garza of High Jump Party Rentals (SV), Second Amendment Family Gun Shop (SV), Trapper Jon's (SV), Phillips Eye Care (SV), Primo Vaper (SV), Ron Hoffman of RV City (HC), Town of Huachuca City (Mayor and Council, Fire Dept., Police Dept., and Public Works Dept.), and Soldier volunteers: SSG Scott Ness, SSG Matt Young, SSG Susan Parker, and their families."

Fred concluded by expressing, "This event is the one charity event that the Nomaden MC Brothers hold annually to give our support for the community during the Christmas season. 2016 is the 28th year we have sponsored this wonderful event to help our local community. We are blessed to be able to help a few that are truly in need of our support. Our success not only shows our efforts and hard work but how much the Sponsors, local citizens, and bikers care throughout Cochise County."

Thank you again for sharing your story. This is a commendable effort & we are so glad to be able to recognize Nomaden MC here. Kudos!

Betsy & Bruce

Photos from the Nomaden MC Facebook page @ /nomaden.mc