

Hello Region 18

Hope everyone's summer is going well and you're getting a lot of riding in. We've been busy as a region. We've already had two of our major parties. The Awareness run and the Big John Cronk Memorial run. Attendance at both of these events could have been better but the weather was definitely a factor at the Awareness run. We about got blown away from the wind and then it rained. Oh well like they say, you can't control Mother Nature! We had a great time despite the weather. I would like to mention what an awesome job Merry & Cody did. Neither one of them stopped the whole week-end. There was a lot of people who stepped up and helped to make this event a success. From the set up crew, our new events coordinator Scottie got his first on the job training from the old farts. Thanks to John, Frisco, Mexican, LeRoy, Kevin, Fat Pat, Cody, Dan, Chains for the set up and tear down at both events. A big thank you to Michelle for doing the breakfast. The kitchen bitches Barb, Linda and Merry and Michelle kicked ass in the kitchen. The auction people, Kathy & Teresa were stellar usual. Thanks to all the great people who donated items also. CMC came out to sell beverages, wish the crowd was a little bigger for them, but thanks again to them. The highlight of the day was the youngsters who donated their talents to play the best music. They were definitely a hit! Would also like to thank the Loose Cannon Military Vets for coming out to cook us breakfast Sunday morning. It was delicious. Thanks to Mike for the music the rest of the night and anyone who brought wood for the fire. It was an awesome fire. If you missed this party you missed a good one! Thanks to all who helped and all who came out to support Awareness.

We also had our Memorial run which started off with a dedication of a tree and brick at the VFW in honor of our past member Kickstand who was also Commander of the VFW. We raised a new flag and had a little ceremony with lots of memories of Kickstand shared. Thanks to the Vets for sharing your memories and participating. He was an awesome guy and is greatly missed. A big thank you to Ed Daniels for donating the tree and getting the brick done. Also Kevin Conner and Mexican for digging it up and planting it. We then headed out on the run which was so nice. The weather cooperated with us this day, it was beautiful out. Thanks to Dan Eby for the great ride and all the road blockers, you all did a great job. We had good eats after the run then had the flag retirement ceremony. Thank you Tom Diaz and Adam Thorn for emceeing this. It was touching as usual. Thanks go out to Kyle & Jan for hosting us again this year. Sure am glad Big John started this region back in the day.

We have a new run coming up in August on the 12<sup>th</sup>. It's the Bad to the Bone poker run.

We also are having the Family Picnic September 9. Watch for flier in next month's Rider.

As you see we have a lot going on. Come out and support ABATE. We are out there fighting for you. At least sell a book of raffle tickets for the cause!

Our next meeting is Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup> the SECOND Sunday @ 2:00 @ VFW in Maybee. Hope to see you there!

We're off to the Field Meet! So glad it's back! Good times with good friends! Hope to see you there!

Mrs Mexican