

International Female Riders Day

May 6, 2023 marked the 17th annual International Female Riders Day aka 'IFRD' Ride. Turquoise was the color of the day; with the ladies sporting tees, headbands, bandanas, backpacks, & more. Founder Motoress Vicki Gray created the IFRD to promote women in motorcycling.

It is an annual gathering of women riders, with synchronized rides taking place all over the World. Photos posted to the Official IFRD facebook page, come from numerous USA states – California to Florida and BUNCHES in between; plus Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, and NO DOUBT others! I had to stop reading ☺

But it was extremely cool to see all these women gathering together in their common love of motorcycling.

Superstition Harley Davidson, located at 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction hosted a gathering for Arizona's riders from across the state. Smaller groups converged there from other locations including Helmet Center (Phoenix), Moto Leathers (Avondale), Chandler Harley Davidson, JP Cycles and Cycle Gear (Mesa). Thank you to the Breyer Law 'Husband & Wife Law Team' for hosting breakfast at Superstition HD with a selection of sweet treats, yogurt, bagels, fruit, coffee, water, & juice.

Preregistration accounted for more than 363 registered riders. There were

certainly more than that with day-of sign-ins. According to the IFRD Arizona webpage, 36 different riding clubs/groups/organizations were represented. *Niiiice!*

What an amazing group of gals! There was so much enthusiasm for the day! All ages were represented ~ riding a wide variety of bikes & trikes. Some were newer riders and others had many years & miles of experience. There were patch holders and independents. No competition... just lifting each other up and encouraging each other. Very impressive & inspiring.

SHD was the departure point, with the ultimate destination being Superior, AZ. For safety reasons, it was determined to break up the riders into smaller groups;

continues on page 15



International Female Riders Day

continues from page 14

rather than the huge roll out that took place last year. Smaller groups of 20-30 departed about every 5 minutes. This is a very well-organized ride, with Road Captains, Medical Support Riders, Sweeps, and a chase truck provided by female-rider-owned Arizona Motorcycle Towing. Some riders chose to hang back; still meeting up with the rest but preferring to avoid the 'parade' format. That's fine too. Whatever works for you. Everyone is encouraged to *Ride Your Own Ride!* ☺

The weather was great for the ride and the day spent in town. Everyone made the trip safely. There was SO much positive response to the day From the riders, the organizers, and the town of Superior.

Superior is a great destination & the organizers had a fun day planned. Main Street in Superior was blocked off for the gals to park their motorcycles. The official group photo was taken on Main also. There were vendors, including Lucky Strike Cycles. The band White Lightnin' played in the park, as well performances by The Superior Dance Company.

Organizer Michelle Theis of the Windsisters shared, "Huge THANKS to all our volunteers and all the ladies for riding out to celebrate IFRD together." She added, "Huge thanks to the Town of Superior and their residents for being great hosts. We had a great band in the park and a vintage WW2 vehicle giving the ladies lifts up and down the street."

On behalf of Superstition HD, Brina sent along this message, "Superstition Harley-Davidson loves their kick ass lady riders! We were thrilled to assist in this AMAZINGLY ORGANIZED event again this year. The energy brought here that morning was INCREDIBLE! We could not have asked for a more beautiful day to celebrate #IFRD!"

IFRD takes place on the first Saturday in May. The 2024 International Female Riders Day will be on Saturday May 4. Mark your calendars!

Betsy

