

The Bikes For Beds Poker Run took place on September 8, 2018. This benefit for the Sunshine Rescue Mission homeless shelter was hosted by Grand Canyon Harley-Davidson & the Roadhouse in Bellemont, AZ. My thanks to SRM Director Shaun Rost for his help with this article.

This inaugural ride was well-received & supported; with a bit over \$10,000 being raised. Well done!

The self-paced ride departed from Grand Canyon HD in Bellemont, AZ. The route was ≈ 120 miles; offering a beautiful ride through the Northern Arizona ponderosa pines on Interstate 180, and back along Historic Route 66 through Williams AZ. Stops included Sportsman's Warehouse in Flagstaff, Valle Travel Stop in Valle, and Wild West Junction in Williams. The last stop & end party were at the Road House Bar & Grill in Bellemont.

While we aren't able to share the winners names, we can let you know about the very cool prize packages... 1st prize was \$100 cash & a 2 night stay with dinner & drinks at the Wild West Junction Hacienda Suite in Williams AZ (Estimated value \$500). 2nd Prize was \$50 Cash + a \$100 gift certificate for tattoo from Woody's Tattoo in Flagstaff. 3rd Prize was \$25 Cash with a pair of Nike Sunglasses and cleaning kits from Northland Eye Care in Flagstaff. (Estimated value \$75).

This Family-friendly after party included a car show with 1st – 3rd trophies and cash prizes. The Eagle Radio Station - 103.7 was onsite, giving away prizes and doing live interviews. Buick of Flagstaff had a display of their new cars to view plus they had games and giveaways. There was live music by 'Hired Guns'. A BBQ lunch was available. Adult beverages could be had at the Roadhouse. There were raffles and a silent auction table. Plus, you could stroll over to the nearby Grand Canyon HD and dream over the new motorcycles. Things rapped up around 4pm.

Shaun sent along this message, "A huge thank you to our donors and supporters to make our first Annual Bikes for Beds Run a success: Hurst Firestone, Coco's Restaurant, Sizzler, Buffalo Wild Wings, Pizza Hut, Texas Road House, Mike and Rhonda's The Place, Galaxy Diner, Home Depot, Beaver Street Styles, Woody's Tattoo of Flagstaff, Northland Eye Care Flagstaff, Grand Canyon Harley Davidson, Roadhouse Bar & Grill, Sportsman's Warehouse, Valle Travel Stop, Wild West Junction Williams AZ, 103.7 the Eagle Rocks, Church for the Nations Flagstaff, Auto Rehab, FLEA Flagstaff Law Enforcement Association, Flagstaff Family Food Center, Mike's Bikes, Arizona Hired Guns, La Fondas, Great Circle Media, Fred Nackard Wholesale Beverage Company, Mama Burger, Himalayan Grill, Taverna Greek Grill, & Bearizona."

Sunshine Rescue Mission, Inc has provided food and shelter to the homeless in Flagstaff for over 57 years. Shaun added: "The Mission at 124 S. San Francisco Street in Flagstaff, Arizona has been providing a safe place of shelter, recovery and transition for over sixty years.

"Our Ministry assists individuals from every walk of life as well as jail, prison, addiction, or the street. Our tagline is to: Rescue, Restore, and Re-engage.

"Rescue – We Rescue our guests from hunger and the streets, providing a safe healthy environment from the elements, substances, and violence. In 2017 we provided 82,565 meals, rescued 68.1 tons of food from local grocery

stores, and housed 46,127 bed nights. 3,388 individuals and students volunteered.

"Restore – We provide our guests and residents with foundational classes that help them regain their confidence and self-worth. Daily we offer opportunities for moral and ethical growth through character development, giving them the skills to get jobs and the tools to maintain a job; and the fortitude to avoid the substances that have plagued them in the past.

"Re-engagement- The outcome of healthy rescue and restoration leads to a solid Re-engagement back into the community. There are two dimensions for a healthy re-engagement. Community and job acquisition.

"Our New Life Foundations program is a twelve month live in house program with daily classes, in a drug and alcohol free environment. We have a Jobs for Life class, along with a certified recovery course called Genesis. There is an in house working program where they can learn a trade and receive certification within our kitchen, bicycle and auto detailing programs. We also help with job placement within the community along with housing in our transition living community named Dorsey Manor. Dorsey Manor gives an individual another twelve months of low cost living with a savings program to help them obtain their first place on their own.

"My name is Shaun Rost I am the director of The Mission and its programs. We have community events like the 'Bikes for Beds Poker Run' to raise money to keep these programs available as well as making the community aware of what we do and what is available for people in need. I personally want to thank all our donors, supporters, bike teams, and participants who were involved in our first poker run. [Signed] Shaun Rost, Director; Sunshine Rescue Mission & Dorsey Manor Transitional living community, 124 S. San Francisco St. Flagstaff, AZ 86001"

Plans are already underway for next year's 'Bikes For Beds'. Announcements will be made when a date & other details are set. Learn more about SRM at their website <https://srm-hc.org/>

Betsy

