

Pony Express Run

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The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association {CVMA} Chapter 32-1 hosted the Pony Express Run along with H-D of Scottsdale on Saturday September 29, 2018. My thanks to Chapter Commander Ken "Ghost" Hickins for his help with this article. Photos from the day, shared here from the CMVA 32-1 Facebook page, were taken by CVMA member Taz.

There were 83 riders who participated. It was a self-paced ride. There were also small groups, with a CVMA member leading each one, that you could roll with. This inaugural ride had 5 checkpoints. The route, about 54 miles, started at Harley Davidson of Scottsdale, then went to Cave Creek Guns and Connolly's Sports Bar in Phoenix, Carefree's Desert Gardens Park, and lastly the Hideaway in Cave Creek.

The game was a variation on a Poker Run. They wanted to do it a little differently, and give more people the opportunity to get in on winning prizes. Riders received 'postcards' at sign-in. They re-

ceived a 'postmark' at each checkpoint, to confirm they visited the stop. At the last stop, the cards were turned in to be put in the hopper for drawings. There was a large collection of items, valued at about \$4000 to be distributed; with most everyone winning a prize. There was riding apparel, HD merchandise & gift cards, a membership to the Scottsdale Gun Club, overnight casino stays, lodging, food gifts, & more.

Over & above the prize pool above, there were raffles that you could buy into... including a drawing for a stay at Hannagan Meadow Lodge on the Mogollon Rim.

The day raised \$2200. The monies went to Arizona Mission of Mercy and Operation Freedom Bird.

Ken sent along thanks to the numerous supporters & donors ... including Harley Davidson of Scottsdale, Connolly's, Cave Creek Guns, Hideaway, Hannagan Meadow Lodge, Orleans Casino Resort, Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino, Harrah's of

Laughlin, Riverside Casino, Hon Dah Casino, Southpoint Casino, Aquarius Casino, Top Shelf Restaurant, & Blazin M Ranch. He added, "It was a great first time. We are hoping to do it bigger and better this coming year."

This is CVMA 32-1's main fundraiser. Mark your calendar for the 2nd annual Pony Express Run which will take place on September 28, 2019. BEFORE that, you can get in on their fundraising efforts by visiting their booth at the Peoria Sports Complex during Bikefest. They'll be raffling an HD t-shirt quilt.

Members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association come from all branches of the United States Armed Forces. This is a nationwide organization. For more information, follow or contact CVMA 32-1 online via their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cvma32.1/>

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Betsy

