

Dustin's Memorial Poker Run

This inaugural Bikers With Purpose fundraiser was held on March 30, 2024. The hosts of Dustin's Ride, Crystal and Alan Benjamin, are an amazing couple who are full of love & support for the biker community.

Bikers With Purpose is a grass-roots group of people... bikers, riders, anyone who want to help others in the Community. BWP makes it clear that they are *not* a Club. Over time, they've helped the homeless with blessing bags and food for Thanksgiving. They've helped 3 families who have a member fighting cancer. They've provided Christmas to a family of 11. Their toy drive for the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program provided 10 kids with gifts this past Christmas.

Currently, BWP is putting together a water drive to assist families in need. The kick-off event for that will take place June 8th at On the Green in Mesa. Watch the BWP page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2451819248291097> for details about that.

Anyone who wants to get involved

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is welcome. But Crystal & Alan clarify, "Being a part of the group does not require that you are obligated to help in every cause." People are encouraged to help when they can, as they can.

Back to this day ☺

There was an outstanding response to Dustin's Memorial Poker Run! It was all so incredibly positive & supportive. Sign-in was at Superstition Harley-Davidson, 2910 W Apache Trail, in Apache Junction. Ride stops included Jake's Corner in Payson, Drift Inn in Globe, & Yellow Door Tattoo in Apache Junction before ride's end at On The Green in Mesa.

It was a very breezy afternoon... up to 50mph at times. A rider I spoke with

commented that while some sections of the ride were pretty windy, the scenery was beautiful. Some chose not to take the whole BWP ride. There being numerous events also taking place that day, people were splitting their time to visit more than one party. That was cool. Riders met up at OTG for the end activities. The run went smoothly, with all riders in at OTG by 5pm.

There were more than 30 custom raffle baskets available to win, plus of course announcing the ride winners. Congratulations to all of the winners... of the poker hands and of the raffles!

There is no better way to let everyone know how much your participation is appreciated than by sharing the organizers' own words

"Good morning and Happy Easter! We just want to take a minute or two of your time if we can. Please bear with us as we are still reeling from yesterday's event. This event was put together in memory of my brother, Dustin Murphy as he was a huge part in Kage and I mak

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ing the decision to move forward with Bikers With Purpose. You all honored him in the best way possible.

“We have no words to express the amazing turnout, support and love that was shown to our organization yesterday ♥

“When you plan an event for the 1st time, there is so much anxiety and hope for success that you become overwhelmed with 'what ifs'. The team that helped to build this event/group are second to none! Nolan Steed, Rebecca Crawford-Steed, Ronda Gilenwater-Starnes, James Castañeda, Melissa Hittinger, Alan Benjamin, Betsy Newkirk ... My heart cannot hold the amount of gratitude that we have for each and every one of you. What you all did to make it the success that it was, is immeasurable! Each of you played such a huge part and we can't thank you enough.

“Huge shout out to all of the stops that welcomed our riders with open arms. Superstition Harley-Davidson, Lucille Aragon and Marcus Ottens of Jake's Corner, Drift Inn, Yellow Door Tattoo, Pick.Six.BBQ ... You guys rock! Thank you for all you did to support this ride!

“Jason Bowen, Dave Gilbert, Kandace Berry, Jenn Summers, Morgan, Bri and the entire On The Green crew...as always you created an amazing after party and took care of every detail to the tee! Thank you for all that you did and continue to do to support us and make us all feel like family. To all that came out to support and enjoy our event... thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We hope that you all enjoyed and will join us in future events. To all of the people/businesses that contributed to the raffles...OMG! You all provided some amazing gifts and a lot of them! We had over 30 prizes to raffle and every person that walked by the tables of gifts were so excited to contribute because of the quality you provided. Thank you doesn't seem enough, but Thank you!

“We were so excited to have Cassie Wheeler design our page, sign in sheets, poker score cards, and all other items needed! You did an amazing job! Thank you for your patience and understanding when another idea popped up and you had to make changes. Love you. Enigma, Unholy... Thank you for all that you have done from the very beginning to support and help in any way needed. PANDORA Enigma, your girls rocked it yesterday. Please tell them thank you! Also Kimberly Strub, Brain Strub, thank you for letting us steal Veronica and Zoey for a few to draw the tickets and Kristi Momany and family for coming out and



helping us.

Vicki Roberts we are so honored to have witnessed your reach to the community. We see our members growing by leaps and bounds due to your reach and belief in our purpose. Thank you so much!

“If we missed anyone, we are sorry, as we are still reeling. But know that we appreciate you more than you know. Ok, I think I've taken enough of your time...for now. Lol.. Please enjoy your families today and remember what today is about! Happy Easter and much love to you all...

Mamasan and Kage ♥♥♥”

