

CMA-AZ's State Rally 2023

A Small Town Big Celebration

The Christian Motorcyclists Association {CMA} hosted its 2023 State Rally over the weekend of November 2-5. The 'Small Town, Big Celebration' held in Superior AZ was a big success! The gathering was open to everyone to attend and the activities were free to the public.

The Town was very welcoming. Businesses went out of their way to open early and stay late to accommodate the influx of people. Mayor Mila Besich, Town Manager Todd Pryor, the Town Council Members, and the rest of Superior's Leadership were all very helpful in bringing this event together. Councilman Bruce Armitage provided a very welcoming speech on behalf of the town of Superior, at the evening meeting.

My thanks to Cecil Walker, CMA Chapter 2 Chaplain, for sharing photos of the weekend. Thank you also to Beny Neff, CMA Area Rep, for his help with this article.

This was CMA-AZ's highest-attended State Rally so far, with 285+ members in attendance. A large number of riders who were not CMA members were also in town.... Some had already made plans to attend. Others were rolling through town, stopping for breakfast or lunch at one of the numerous restaurants. Once they learned about all that was going on

over the weekend, some chose to stay or come back.

In addition to local attendees, there were Representatives of CMA's National & International Leadership, including CEO/Chairman of the Board John Ogden Sr and wife Ms Becky (from AR), Board of Directors members Roger and Raileen Wilson (AZ/AR) & Bob and Wanda Sanberg (CA), Senior VP John Ogden Jr and his wife Executive International Ambassador Holly Ogden - also of Arkansas.

Activities were held at Besich Park and other businesses on Main Street. The People Games were held at Porter's Saloon on Thursday evening. These included the Helmet Toss and Tire Toss.

There was a Concert in the Park on Friday, provided by a Christian praise team from Vail Christian Church.

Organized rides include on-road and off-road routes. A group of about 25 riders took a run to Winkelman, about 30 miles or so, to visit the ACMC's Riot on the River. There was also a Scavenger Hunt, which was described as 'awesome'. Superior has an extensive collection of murals. Incorporating some into the Scavenger Hunt gave visitors an opportunity to explore the town & see some of its historic architecture.

Saturday included kid's games and activities; with kids from town & CMA joining in. Two youngsters from town

won bicycles. Very cool.

Bike Games were also held on Saturday. They included the Plank Ride & Slow Race. The Ring Toss is a 2-up game where the passenger tosses rings over a traffic cone, with the rings & cones getting progressively smaller in each elimination round.

The movie 'Pavement is Lava' was shown on Saturday night, with more than 200 attending.

The weekend provided opportunities for Bike Blessings, Inspiration, and Prayer; to go along with Fun, Fellowship, and Camaraderie. The collection of non-perishables for the Superior Food Bank was outstanding. They were most appreciative & delighted; saying the donations are a tremendous help. A truck load of needed supplies was also collected & donated to the Gila House Domestic Violence Shelter. Beny commented, "We were there to be Blessed, and to Bless the Town."

The Christian Motorcyclists Association brings together people who love motorcycles and love Jesus. There are CMA Chapters Nationwide & International. It is the desire of its members to 'change the world, one heart at a time'.

There were great reviews of this event by attendees. Next year's CMA AZ State Rally returns to Superior Oct 31 - Nov 3. All are Welcome!

Betsy

