

### Some Dirt on the Son Light Riders

I remember back in the early 70's when my younger brother was into motocross bikes. He had a small Honda 125. It was fun watching the kids in the neighborhood fly over hills and race through the dirt. We had a subdivision with lots of empty fields around it. But that wasn't for me, fast cars and bigger bikes was what I was into.

We did have an old Bultaco dirt bike that I found in a barn. And after replacing a piston and jug we had a real screamin' machine. I'm not sure anymore but I think it was like a 350cc. It had a huge rear tire and took 2 men and a boy to kick that thing over and over and over... Finally the machine would come to life and my brothers and I would do things with it that boys do. Who could go the fastest, jump the highest, skid the farthest on his chest with the old Bultaco tumbling close behind? "I'm glad to say I never won that one!" Probably one of the craziest things we did was to tow each other behind it while on a skate board. Good thing dad and mom were at work! Life was easy back then.

I had forgotten about motocross over the years, until my wife made a suggestion that it would be nice if CMA would go up to Dyracuse Recreation Area to see if Son Light Riders could volunteer our service. We had never been there before but had driven past a couple of times and wanted to watch. But we were to late or on the wrong day or something like that.

So, John, our Chapter President got a hold of a guy, who knew a guy, who was related to a guy, who talked to someone, who said, sure they were always looking for volunteers. The Knucklehead Club was already flagging corners and doing a great job, but the more help the better.

Early Sunday morning John and Donna, Jim and Barb, my wife Sherry and I, headed north for a short 20 minute bike ride to Dyracuse Recreation Area. When we arrived there were quite a few people and bikes there. The sounds and smells were fantastic! There is something almost magical about racing fuel, dirt and rubber!

We checked in and asked what our duties for the day would be. They said most of the positions already were filled, but one whole section needed helpers, "Cool!" I could hardly wait. I must say that when I found out it was helping the smallest class of bikes, at first I was kinda let down.

We had about an hour or so to kill so we went over to watch some races. They have a start line where about 20 or so high performance dirt bikes line up. And then a brave soul stands about 25 yards away holding a board with the numbers on it that tells them when to go. When the gate drops they all come wide open at him and then at the last minute they make a 90 degree turn around a big oak tree. Not to mention that right before the turn they all funnel down into a spot that is only big enough for about 3-4 bikes wide. Man is that cool! We watched a while longer and enjoyed every minute of bikes flying by just a few feet away.

Then it was time for us to go flag some races. We positioned ourselves at the proper points and waited for the race to begin. Guess what!! I was wrong. These little racers were every bit as competitive as the big guys. Some of them flew higher than this old body would ever want to. We had a great time and so did they. Our duties were over too soon and we mingled through the crowd meeting people and handing out CMA rag tracts. We had a great time and were able to meet some really nice people. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to do his work!

By Bob Koehn, CMA-Son Light Riders

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