

Ride For Freedom

By: Skypilot

On August the 9th, 2008 I was asked to be the Keynote Speaker at a rally which was in it's 15th year running. Of course being the POW~MIA Affairs Officer for my club "The Vietnam Vets M/C I said yes.

The event has been organized for the fifteenth year by "The Forget Me Not" lead by Bernie Bingham, a group from Berks county Pennsylvania, he always had a Gold Star mother by the name of Molly (99 years old her son was killed in Korea in 1952). Unfortunately Molly had a mishap and slipped off the back of the bike she was on. You talk about a woman giving heck to the paramedics for not letting her finish the ride. Next year we are putting her in a side car.

Our club the Vietnam Vets M/C always are at the front of the pack followed by Forget Me Not, then the Reading Motorcycle Club and followed by several other motorcycles, Hot Rods and other vehicles of course with a Police escort. They ended with over 400 bikes and I couldn't count the number of vehicles.

When we arrived at our destination various people spoke. A Commissioner from Berks county stood up and talked about a person in his area asked "why are there no POW flags flying in Berks county to include government buildings. Well as he explained by the time he was finished all the government buildings flew the flag, which made home owners follow suit.

One Marine stood up and read all the names of those who had been returned followed by "WELCOME HOME SIR" by everyone in the crowd, Bernie read the names (99) that still had not been returned followed by "WE ARE STILL WAITING". After Bernie finished "God Bless The USA" was played. I then followed with a motivational talk about how I flew my POW flag 24-7 and will until the last one has returned, that we can't give up, we had to keep calling our representatives daily demanding the return of our Heroes. After all "They fought for our freedom, we cannot and shall not forget theirs". My heart felt such a healing and I never felt so positive. I know Berks County will never give up. Currently I'm was told the next letter I receive will be from the White House to talk to the President. to ask why are government has forgotten these AMERICANS.

Janet Clauser still wore the MIA bracelet of Ralph H. Angstadt who became missing October 18, 1966 (her Older Brother). Pennsylvania's MIAs have went from 133 down to 99. 34 doesn't sound like a lot, but ONE will do!

Remember when you pray for our POW~MIA return and their families, remember this small County who had one of the biggest turn outs then most others since I've been speaking at events over the past eight years. By the way our state has every representative to back House Resolution Bill 111 to get a POW committee started. ALL NINETEEN OF THEM!

Until next time Ride Safe, Ride Free and pray for our missing and our Troops now serving our Country. " Keep on Triken' ". May the GREAT SPIRIT ride with you.

Skypilot

Vietnam Vets M/C POW~MIA Affairs Officer

State of Pennsylvania



Legendary Record-Setting Vincent Motorcycle To Be Sold

Published by Cyril Huze September 16th, 2008 in Editorial.

Marty Dickerson, Vincent and Bonneville. Does it tell you something? Young Dickerson was already obsessed with racing when he traded in his Triumph Tiger for a near-new Vincent Series B Rapide. Back in 1948, even die-hard enthusiasts were hardly aware of the British-built OHV 1000cc machine despite that these 50-degree V-twins were the fastest stock motorcycles available. Marty's purchase didn't disappoint, in fact its maximum speed exceeded his long held expectations. A regular in southern California speed trials, Marty was soon cutting 120+mph runs on his free-running Rapide through the traps at Rosamund Dry Lake. The West Coast Vincent dealer, Mickey Martin, commissioned Dickerson to visit potential dealer outlets located throughout the southwestern US in an effort to increase Vincent sales. When arriving at a dealer destination, he would inevitably be challenged by local 2- and 4-wheel "hotshoes". Invariably, the challengers failed to recognize the machine on which he'd ridden into town and, irrespective of how tired or unprepared Marty was, he was never beaten! In 1951 at Utah's famous Bonneville Salt Flats, Marty and his "Blue Bike" earned the second fastest speed of 129mph. The next year, the pair achieved the fastest time and the AMA Class C record with a speed of 141.72mph. (Class C rules restricted un-faired machines to pump fuel, an 8:1 compression ratio, and for riders to sit conventionally.) A year later, in 1953, he raised that speed and grabbed yet another Class C record at

147.56mph – a record that remained unbroken for the next 20 years! Encouraged by these "victories" Marty returned to Los Angeles and began a series of improvements to his machine. Having become synonymous with Vincent, Marty has traveled the world as the British brand's ambassador, attending rallies, races, meets and even acting as Honorary Judge at the 2007 Legend of the Motorcycle when Vincent was the featured brand, the last time Marty and the Blue Bike were reunited in public. In 2000, after more than half a century of ownership, Marty sold the Blue Bike to a prominent Vincent devotee in Texas where the bike remains in a preserved "as last run" condition. This motorcycle is being offered for sale at Bonhams' renowned annual auction at the Petersen Automotive Museum in downtown Los Angeles on Saturday, October 25th. Interested parties may register to bid by e-mailing at motors.us@bonhams.com or calling 415-391-4000. Taken from Cyrilhuzeblog.com



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I find it really sad that the citizens of this country have seemed to of forgotten what happened 7 years ago this past 9/11. I have failed to see the response of people working together on a common goal (America) as I did for a time after the tragedy. We are all one in the greatest nation and yet we forget what we stand for.



Lorie and I went to UWSP this past 9/11 and thought in remembrance of the 2983 fellow Americans that perished on that day. To look at all those flags and realize that we were the only ones there except for a student from Eagle. She remembers because her dad is a fire fighter. But it seems many that were not personally affected

by that event, have been hardened from the courage and belief we all shared many times in our history.

To wrap up, please remember the days, people and events that shaped the U.S.A. Attend Veterans Day, Memorial Day, 9/11 and let's show the world we ARE all one voice and remember those that don't have a voice to be heard because of their sacrifice.



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