

**Bikers Helping Friends' Wishes, Inc. (BHFV)**

EMS/Memorial Ride & 10th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, June 10th, 2006

Despite the threat of rain hampering attendance, we had a successful and enjoyable ride and celebration. We had approximately 75 bikes and 115 registered guests.

The ride left Kronshage Park in Boscobel a little after noon, escorted by the Boscobel EMS squad. As usual for our memorial ride, we did our flower drops at various locations along Highway 61 to remember and honor three members whom we miss very much: Di Haggerty, James "Wiener" Faust, and Jamie Haggerty. It was remarked later that evening how, after making the final flower drop for Jamie, the clouds that had been threatening rain all morning just opened up to the bright blue skies and sunshine that we rode under all day. Coincidence maybe, but it sure made us feel as though they had parted the clouds so they could come down from heaven and be with us on such a special day.

We continued north with stops at Readstown and then Rockton. From Rockton we took the beautiful scenic roads up over Wildcat Mountain and into Hillsboro for our next stop. After Hillsboro, we got back to doing what we usually do, traveling the curvy and scenic back roads that wind all over south-western Wisconsin. We traveled these back roads to Boaz for our next stop, and then more back roads into Blue River.

Upon arriving in Blue River we were met by the Blue River Fire Department and escorted through town by one of their Fire Trucks. They led us to the rear of the Tamed Tiger bar, where they had the whole back lot fenced off for us and two large tents. The Blue River Fire Department and Rescue Squad had plenty of roast pork, brats, and hamburgers prepared, ready to feed a hungry crowd that had just completed a beautiful day of riding. The Tamed Tiger made sure that everyone had plenty of refreshments available.

We had noticed riding into Blue River that the skies were darkening with clouds once again. Shortly after getting everyone parked and under cover in the tents, the skies let loose with the rain.

We began our celebration with our much deserved thanks going out to all the riders who joined us that day, for it is our guests that truly make our rides successful. We also recognized the BHFV members who put so much work into the organization and execution of our events. We then concluded the remainder of our door prizes for our guests.

Later in our celebration, we held a special presentation of some plaques that we made for our four Founding Fathers: John Bunts, Chad Haggerty, Jeff Faust, and Joe Wehrle. (If you check out the first letter of their last names you will see where the BHFV comes from). We wanted to recognize them for developing the concept that



**BHFV Founding Fathers**



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became Bikers Helping Friends' Wishes, which is to host family-friendly and safe motorcycle rides to raise money for distribution through local charitable donations.

In addition to EMS, First Responders and the Grant County Holiday Project that they regularly donate to, they have raised money for such things as Habitat for Humanity, the Boscobel GAR hall, Juvenile Diabetes, MDA, the Highground Veterans Memorial, Viola Tornado Relief, and many others. Additionally, they also regularly make donations to fire victims, cancer and other disease victims, and fellow riders who have suffered from either accident or medical problems. Since our early years were pretty much a cash operation, we don't have exact numbers, but we estimate that over the past ten years BHFV has donated approximately \$40,000 back into our communities.



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We greatly appreciate that the Tamed Tiger, the Blue River Fire Department, and the Village of Blue River wanted to host this celebration to honor BHFV's 10 years of service and to recognize the efforts of the Founding Fathers, their families, and all the members who have embraced the dream and built Bikers Helping Friends' Wishes, Inc. into the organization that it is today.



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