



Feb 2023



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President's Ramblings



We are planning more overnight trips this year and I think this will be exciting for many Members. Please come to the Feb meeting as some of these details will be discussed in more detail. I have asked Scott to discuss if we want to do the Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army this year in the Feb Meeting.

I hope to see you all at our Club meeting on February 11 at Clampit's Country Kitchen, 9 AM for breakfast and 10 AM for our meeting. I will be in Colorado skiing but Scott will be conducting the meeting.

Don Hewett
AER Club President

Our first ride on day one of this New Year was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who participated. We had 34 as best as we could count who rode with us part or all of the way to Petite Jean State Park Mather's lodge for lunch with other Chapters from around Arkansas. It turned out to be excellent weather for January. The only problem is the place is not big enough to accommodate about 45 people to be seated at once. However, they were serving buffet style which helped the process. There were about 8 or 10 folks who had to wait for the second seating. I love using and supporting our AR. State Parks but I think next Polar Bear Ride needs to be a larger buffet restaurant.

The Steering Committee and I had a planning session Jan 26. We had a very good meeting with many sharing lots of good ideas. We attempted to select the best of the best and move forward implementing them as we usually have done

2023 Activities



OFFICIAL AER EVENTS

2023 Staff

President

Dion Hewett

Vice President

Scott Pennington

Treasurer

Butch Robbins

Newsletter/Webmaster

Valerie Hewett

Ride Coordinator

Jan Miles

Membership Enhancement

Mike Neal

Facebook Administrator

OJ & Jan Miles

Meet to Eat

Dan & Angie Drennon

Quarter Master

Dan Drennon

Safety Enhancement Advisor

Vin Hayes

January

1/11 - Polar Bear Ride

February

2/23 - Valentines Dinner - Dolce Vita, HSV

March

3/21-23 - Mena, Ed Cones planning

April

4/17-20 - Mountain View, Pinewood Cabins

May

5/18-20 - Arkansas District Rally

June

6/20-22 - Devils Den, Jan planning

August

8/19-9/1 - Rockies Trip, Vin planning

September

9/9 - Club Picnic at Avery Paviliom

October

10/7 ar District Rally
Green Country Spyder Jam

November

11/6-9 - Leaf Peeping Trip, Jasper
AR District Ride

December - Christmas Party-Scott & Don

Ride to Hope

Brush led a great ride to Tailgaters in Hope, Arkansas. The weather was chilly but the guys were properly geared up. We had 6 riders, 6 bikes, and 1 car.. Yes, I wimped out and took my car. I had been wanting to get more videos of the group riding and this gave me a good opportunity to do it. I let them know ahead of time and they did not disappoint. I loved how each rider had their own special greeting as they passed. Brush introduced several of us to Tailgaters. They have great hamburgers and interesting decor. Our riders were: Brush, Scott, Don, Dick, Thad, and Andy. We had a total of about 240 miles. Thank you Brush for an excellent ride!!

Pictures by Sherri Pennington



Ride to Hope



Ride to Hope



Ride to Hope



Ride to Hope



Ride to Hope



Ride to Hope



Ride to Hope





Motorcycle Tips

For the safety note this month, please open the links to these two instructional videos. They are about 8 or 9 minutes each. Remember; **FAST IS FUN** and **SLOW IS HARDER. PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE**

Vin Hayes

[Motorcycle Tips & 2 drills for low speed control](#)

Click on “Skip ads”

[How To NOT Drop Your Motorcycle In A Parking Lot | Motorcycle Training Concepts](#)

Click on “Skip ads”



Ride to Mena

Don's Day Ride to Mena

It was a little chilly to start but it was to warm up to 60 degrees in the afternoon, so, a good day for riding! We had a great ride over to Mena and had lunch at the Little Italy II. Everyone enjoyed their food. Don discussed during lunch that being it was such a beautiful day, we could extend our trip by going up toward Queen Wilhelmina St. Park and take a good little road back down to 270 and back to our original route. Dan and Angie and Dot decided they would head back home after lunch. The rest of the group went to Wal-mart to fill up with gas. I noticed there were two large piles of snow still left in the parking lot. I stopped there to wait for everyone to finish filling up with gas. Honda Rick questioned me about the condition of Hwy 88 going up the mountain and that it might not be clear of snow. I assured him that after two days since the snow, it must be cleared by now. So we hauled on up the road on AR 88. We had gone about 5-6 miles where the road was clear but snow on the sides of the road. As soon as we passed the first pull-off overlook, the road was not clear any more. There were three ruts that were clear where I assume four wheel vehicles had gone on up the mountain. So, with no good place to turn around, we decided to keep pushing forward. We just had to go slow and stay in the ruts. This was OK for a 2-3 miles. Then we stopped and had another meeting and decided to keep pushing forward. Just around the next curve, we noticed the hill ahead and the entire road was covered with snow from one side to the other. No choice now but to turn around. We've all heard of making a three point turn. Well, we learned how to make a six point turn with the bikes on the snow. We each helped each other make the u-turn without dropping any bikes and headed back in the direction from whence we came. At this point, Rick had already laid his bike down in the snow and Don had also.

Now we head back toward Mena. Rick had some trouble on the way back and dropped the Gold Wing a couple of times. Everything was OK and we finally made it back to the area of road which had been cleared.; Finally, the road looks clear from one side of the road to the other. Don is back in the lead after our latest mishap. He came around the curve and hit a small patch of ice that on one could see. Rick was second in line behind Don and he said the rear of the bike just went to the right and he was down sliding across the highway and stopped with the rear tire against the guardrail.

Ride to Mena

Now the front of the bike is headed back up the hill. No matter how many of us tried, we could not stand the bike back up because the rear was up against the guardrail. Ken was on his Harley trike. He said I think I have a strap in the bike and he did. He backed down and we tied the strap onto the front forks (that's obvious because there are no rear forks) and pulled the bike forward about two feet and we could then stand it up and Don could get on it. Then Ken pulled it on up on the roadway where Don could turn around and head back down the hill toward Mena. Thankfully, Ken was there with his trike, otherwise, we would have been waiting for a tow truck.

Don changed his route to add a little more excitement to the ride and got Waaaay more excitement than we had hoped for on this trip!
Don should of listened to Rick!



This is what happens when you look back in your mirrors wondering why there is nobody behind you and wondering where did they go? Don made this same mistake with Valerie on the bike years ago and we slid down the pavement. Of course Valerie went to the hospital again. Vin is way down at the bottom of the hill looking back to see what happened.

Ride to Mena



This is one of the big piles of (dirty) snow at Wal-Mart in Mena

This is what happens when you look back in your mirrors wondering why there is nobody behind you and wondering where did they go?

Vin is way down at the bottom of the hill looking back to see what happened.



Ride to Mena



**This is how you
make a 6 point
u-turn! One
bike at a time.
We were all
successful!**



**Well, Vin has
successfully
made the u-turn
and headed to-
wards home!**

Ride to Mena



Don's Harley
against the
guardrail! No
way we can
stand it up!

Hooking Ken's trike up
with a strap! This
worked very well.

Thank Goodness he was
along and had a good tie
down strap.



Pulling Don
out from the
guardrail.

Quarter Master

The Quarter Master has patches, pins, etc. Whatever the Quarter Master has, it is for sale.

It is like the Club Store.

A coffee pot was donated some time ago but I do have 4 binders of historical pictures, newspaper articles, etc that Angie put together in scrap books. Also I have a wooden box that was used for 50/50 some years ago.

Dan Drennon

