

A little report by David Pell,

On Friday night I left the campground up here in Allons, Tn., roughly around 2330 (1130 pm) ---I cranked up the heated gear, turned the extra lights on high and took off. I meandered down Hwy 52, then Hwy 111, then Hwy 52 again thru the fun curvy road over to Jamestown, Tn. I then proceeded to "turn south" on Hwy 127 and ran down thru the woods taking some littler road that really are "Less Travelled". I wound up over around the Sparta/McMinnville, Tn. Area and ran the "Calf-Killer" route. Left there and worked my way down the back side to the River in Chattanooga, Tn. Then for times sake I got on the Big Road—Interstate 24 ran that over Monteagle, then over to Int. 59 South to make the long high speed run down to Birmingham and the over to Meridian, Ms. For the Meeting.

I got there a bit earlier that I had predicted—not really sure how that happened- me being the slow rider that I am----I arrived early enough to go to the coffee shop at BAM in Meridian---met a couple really cool gentlemen there. One of the men was an old Gunnery Sargent Marine, who served in the same slot of time that I did while serving at USMC Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan. It was really cool that he remembered me as being one of the Crew that got wet during a small incident in the Sea of Japan. Another gentleman was up there on his Duc (and a sporty one it was) having his normal Sat am coffee with his buddies. I left there and rode around Meridian for a bit, going by the Old Train Station/Museum, Bonita Lakes Mall, Bonita Lakes Park, and talked to some of Meridian's Finest (PD) getting set up for a little run. Then hooked over to the Meeting at Wieddeman's Rest. for a good little lunch. It was great to see the Members that showed up and I really had not realized how much I missed being at the meetings and lunches, I had missed 3 get togethers previously. After a great meeting at the picnic tables in the square across from the restaurant, I bid my fairwell's to everyone and cut out heading back up to Allons, Tn., which is my "crib" for a bit. My family were out of pocket so I did not have time to go chasing them down for the day and needed to get back to Tn.

I meandered around on some small roads once I got back towards Chattanooga, and even ran a bit of gravel through the State Park north of Choo-Choo. I hit some really hard rain when I got up around Sparta, Tn., and finally made in back in to Allons around 2130.

I turned according to the bike 1102 miles---should have made it an Iron Butt Ride. Really did not think that I was going to be able to turn everything like I did, and was expecting to run out of energy somewhere and check into a motel for Saturday night and ease back in to Allons Sunday.

It was great seeing everyone and it was a great ride----first ride I have had since Alan and Company came up to visit for a cool ride.

Thanks—

Be safe and take care of each other

Dave