

## Tamale run and the Blues ride report

By Alan Henderson Wednesday and Thursday 4-12 and 13

The notice for this ride has been on the web page for several months and was open to all. This was just a day before the Juke Joint Festival started. The thing that made this Ride to Eat different was that there was an option to make it a 2 day ride. The ride started at our normal starting point at the Fleetway in Madison. Dan, Bobby Bassett, Laurissa and Alan started out and we picked up Billy Tate in Gluckstadt and Bobby Brooks in Rolling Fork, what a crew!

We headed out north through Gluckstadt and then hit Virilia road in Canton then 49 N and 433 to Rolling Fork. The weather was great and the temp was mid 70's. As we all know, rolling Fork was devastated by a tornado just a few weeks back and the sights were unbelievable. On to Greenville on Hwy 1 and then Lake Village to Rhoda's Famous Tamales and Soul food where we met up with Bill Worden. This place was a shack with only 4 tables. We took them by surprise and used up half their seating. This was the most unorganized restaurant I have visited but after about a 30 minute wait we all received our food. "Most" liked the tamales and fried chicken but the vegetables had sugar added that was not to any of our liking. The ride up was good but next time find a different lunch spot. After lunch, Billy Tate and Bobby Bassett headed home and those remaining followed Alan on a very rough afternoon of riding. Greenville is larger than you might think and when you get out of town the roads are very neglected and all there is, is farm land. Well this is the MS Delta. I have been through the Delta on highways 49, 61, 3, and 1 many times but never on the back roads. Lots of farm equipment everywhere. In one sharp curve I met a very large Cat 4 wheel drive tractor with duels on all 4, pulling 2 large dirt pans. This monster took all of both lanes and the look on the operator's face was just like mine! Now here comes a highlight of the trip. For supper we went to Does' Eat Place in Greenville. Once again this was another shack but this one had an armed guard. They are a simple place Steak, French fries, and Tamales are all that is on the menu. We did not test the Tamales but boy that 2# ribeye was fantastic. After supper we rode off into the sunset headed to Clarksdale. After a short 1.5 hour ride that was watched by more cops and troopers than I have seen in a long time we made it to the Shack Up Inn. Are you seeing a trend? This is a great place that is basically a bunch of shacks, grain bins, and a cotton gin for the accommodations. The best is yet to come and when our Taxi arrived we headed to the Ground Zero Blues Club. We had several "**Non- Bud**" beverages to wash down the day's dust and listened to some very good blues music. Back at the Inn Dan and Bill shared a 2 bedroom shack and Alan and Laurissa stayed in a grain bin. It was not 5 star but was good none the less. The Thursday ride home was relatively short but the forecast was rain. We all slept a little late and then headed home. Bill took the road back to AR while Dan, Laurissa and I Headed south on HWY 61 and 49. At first, I thought we would miss the rain but after breakfast in Greenwood our luck changed. Light rain at first but the closer to home we got the heavier the rain. This was the heaviest rain I have ridden in, in a while. So after this "adventure" I will say it was good, but next time I will skip Rhoda's and the patched up and potholed filled back roads.

**PHOTOS BELOW**





























































