

Seacoast Sport Cycle
Ride to the Races
April 26th, 2009



I called the Lion Café on Wednesday and told them that we would be coming by on Sunday with around 10 folks. “No problem”, they said. Then, seeing the forum and emails heat up, I called them again Friday and said there might be 15 or so. “OK. As long as you’re patient we’ll get you all fed”, they said.



When I pulled into Seacoast on Sunday morning at about 8:40 there were already 20 riders milling around! So, at about 8:50, I called The Lion Café again and told them that there would be about 30 of us arriving in an hour.

Pause. Quiet on the phone – dishes rattling in the background. Finally, “Cool. See you soon!”

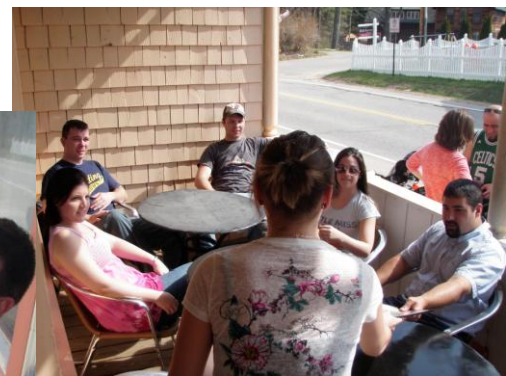
My hat is off to everyone who showed up today. On time, gassed up and with the right gear!

Thanks to Patricia and John for opening up the store and providing coffee and donuts. It’s great to have a dealer help out on these rides and Seacoast has always stepped up!

The weather was ideal and when we left Seacoast at 9:00 sharp, there were 27 bikes and 30 riders. That’s a pretty big group for sure but with Giles riding sweep we made stayed together through Derry, Chester, Candia, and on into Deerfield. The pace was leisurely as appropriate for an early morning, pre-breakfast jaunt across pleasing roads. Sometimes you just leave your hard driving, knee dragging bad boy attitude to sleep it off at home and take you’re transcendent self along just for the quiet fun of it!



When we arrived at the Lion Café they had a bunch of tables set up outside and everyone got seated pretty much right away! It took a while to feed this crew but feed us they did!



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After breakfast we headed north on 107, across Rt. 4 and over the mountain down into Pittsfield. The roads are in pretty good shape considering the winter we had and how early it is in the season. There was still sand here and there but it was mostly well to the edge. It is also amazing to see the 'clearing' off of 107 near Northwood Lake where the tornado wreaked havoc last summer. There is a whole hillside that has been cleared with logging roads cut into the side. I remember last year seeing all the trees laid down over this hill and being able to follow the path across the road, and then, across Rt 4.



We did have some clear road on occasion and were able to pull out an enjoyable pace for bits and pieces! Giles told me later how cool it was riding sweep and watching the LONG snake roll out ahead of him.

Loudon Ridge Road was interesting with the frost heaves and patches of sand but I love passing through the farms and fields and then coming over the top of the ridge and seeing the track 5 miles to the south!

We pulled into the parking lot at New Hampshire Motor Sports at about 12:15! I gathered all those new to the track to the front of the line so we could stick together and I guess we created a bit of a stir when we all rode into the pits!

Most of us parked next to the BostonMoto trailer and I led a group around the Paddock introducing them to a bunch of racers and other cool people!



Most of us hung around turn 3 and watched the races. The racing was exciting and looked pretty good for so early in the season!

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Big thanks to all those folks at the track who were so friendly and helpful! Grazie to the folks at BostonMoto for letting us park at their trailer. And a HUGE thanks to all the racers who took the time to say hi!

Regards,

Dave

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Ride safe.....
.....ride often!