

MOUNTAIN CRUISERS

Mountain Cruiser Ride to Mark of the Potter and Sharkeys 8-31-2011

We had a nice tight little group this morning, four bikes and seven riders. It was so nice to have Dwight and Donna with us and Mike and Carol made their inaugural ride with the group this morning. Also our newest member, Joe Jones, elected to ride even tho it was his wedding anniversary. He did mention that he and wife, Marcia, had been out the previous evening.

Sam took us on a scenic ride on some roads never before traveled by some of us; down Asbestos Road and Joe Black Road and on over to a quaint little business called the Mark of the Potter on Highway 197. This used to be a grist mill on the Soque River. We had a history lesson of the area and a little tour down into the workings of the old mill and out to a deck where we saw 18 inch long trout gathered for a feeding. A fisherman's haven until we realized there is no fishing allowed. In fact we did see a poster on the wall for a rustler caught in the act of catching one of these beauties. I understand there is a reward out for his return to justice. (See below) We were all enthralled with all the pottery items displayed throughout the mill and some of us couldn't do without taking something home. Each item was unique and beautiful in its own way. Each potter, of which there are about 40 local folks, has his or her own distinctive way of 'pottering'. This was a surprisingly pleasant experience.

On we went to Sharkey's. Sam had heard some conflicting reports on the Philly Steak sandwiches, which were the Wednesday special, so he corralled our waitress, Nancy, and encouraged her to make sure they were just right as we have 'so much influence' on the rest of the world that it would make a difference. It seemed we were all satisfied with our lunches and soon headed back toward home. Some of us stopped to browse at Goats on the Roof and Sam bought some Road Kill Rub Seasoning for his next batch of chicken for the grill. Ummmmm, can hardly wait.

Next week's ride is up in the air. No, we're not going in a hot air balloon, we just don't have a plan yet. Maybe a juicy apple crisp from Blue Ridge or Ellijay would be nice. Another idea is to try the new Armadillo Grill in Blairsville. We've had one very favorable report and the prices are reasonable.

Also, there has been much talk about the BBQ Place near Blairsville called Jim's BBQ. Many of our neighbors have experienced this wondrous eatery. We plan to ride there, just for lunch, on Friday the 9th. Anyone interested can meet at Linda's at 10:15 that day. KSU at 10:30. We have to arrive early or won't be able to be seated for a while. Skip breakfast 'cause this will fill you up for the day! Make note: Friday the 9th for lunch.

