

North Harbor Hot Hundred
It's hot, hot, hot
The Fisher Report
By Greg Bulldog Fisher

I got over to the park at 5:45 A: M. It was barely light and the air was thick with excitement or was it the humidity. There were 150 riders at the start time. The most I had ever seen in Tuscaloosa for a bike ride. At the registration table was a map of the course on a plaque. We were asked to sign it. This was for our dear Peggy who was in ICU from her bike crash. We also got a coffee mug and a T-shirt and a bag of goodies, no not the headache powder.

After the ride Dave took the plaque out to the hospital to give to Peggy. The start of the ride was a little dicey with all those riders and the narrow streets and speeds over 25 in town. I decided before the ride that I would not be back in the pack, although it kind of worked out that way. I rode with Gary some, Brian Abbott some. I rode mostly with Phil Hardee and Mike Shelton and his friend John. Mike is a very nice guy and a good, strong rider. A true gentleman reminds me of a fellow I know in Canada. The day was sunny the whole way. It was muggy that morning and a little warm. It didn't get hot till midday .We finished the ride at 2 P: M. The big difference in this ride was the rest stops. They were great and the people at the stops were wonderful. The weirdest one was at a cemetery in Green County on the way to Union. The bridge was still out below union so we had to take a detour. When we got to Snoddy road, one of the guys (John) had to take the sag because of his heart condition. He still rode very well. Larry had a funeral to go too and couldn't do the ride like we did. Mike and I met Larry on Wesley Chapel going the other way out to meet Gary and then ride back. I really enjoyed this ride even though I had some thigh cramps and the always foot cramps. This was on the tale end of the ride. They said about 50 did the whole hundred. There were two fast groups and then us and some behind us. There was a group that did in 4 hours and something, NOT ME!!!!!!!!!! I would like to Thank Barry Lawrence, Larry Pierson and all the volunteers that worked so hard to make this a great " North Harbor Hot Hundred ". For the countless hours and phone calls and pacing the floor and sleepless nights, you have utmost gratitude and respect. The turnout was much better than expected and the origination was tremendous. The best thing to me was the support people at the rest stops. These people were a delight and made a tired and hot soul feel much better when it was time to return to the road. I would like to thank the folks from DCH that provided the sag. There was fellow who road with us that was glad to see them. We were just coming out of Union and this fellow had a heart condition. His heart rate couldn't exceed a certain limit. The hills were keeping his Heart rate up to high. We go about three miles and when we got to Snoddy road , there was the sag. He got in the truck and was taken back to the Park.

I want thank Dave Casebeer and Wayne Tuckerman for what I thought was a good job marking the route. Hey it isn't easy marking over a hundred miles of roadway. I also want to thank DCBC for their support and participation in the ride. It showed the folks up in Jefferson County that we can put a big ride and do it very well.I believe this has the

makings of something really big. The biggest ride in Alabama? I am already looking forward to next years ride. Again thank you for taking an awesome task and making it a thing to remember for years to come.

Bulldog