



Articles & Features

June 6, 2010

2010 God Bless America Ride *Hitting the Road in support of America's Veterans*

Photos & Story by Kevin L. McIver — Public Affairs Officer

MARTINSBURG, W.Va.— Some 1,500 bikers rode through the Martinsburg VA Medical Center's (MVAMC) Avenue of Flags today to demonstrate their unwavering support for our greatest of heroes—the American Veteran.

“When they roared in here today our Veterans certainly knew they were not forgotten,” said Medical Center Director Ann. R. Brown. “Their deep devotion to our nation's Veterans is truly inspirational.”

Despite rain impacting their journey that began in Greencastle, Pa., the band of brothers braved the inclement weather to hand deliver a check for \$56,000 to the MVAMC.

Since the rally ride first began 20 years ago, more than \$200,000 has been raised and donated through the annual event attended by Veterans, volunteers, Veteran Service Organizations, community partners, families, and friends—all in support of America's courageous Veterans.

“Our nation cannot fully repay the debt owed our Veterans and their families, but we can use this opportunity to reflect and remember what these brave Americans have done,” said Letterkenny Army Depot Commander Col. Cheri A. Provancha, who served as the keynote speaker during the ceremony.

Perhaps Air Force Veteran and volunteer Laurretta Lockhart's words best echo Provancha's sense of purpose. When describing why she was supporting the annual God Bless America Ride, Lockhart stated it simply as we are “Veterans helping Veterans.”



Some 1,500 motorcycle riders participated in the annual God Bless America Ride from Greencastle, Pa., to the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center on June 6, 2010. The culmination of the event that supports America's Veterans included the donation of a check for \$56,000 to the medical center. Photo: VA / Kevin L. McIver

For more articles, view the following local media coverage:

[NBC-25 ABC: Thousands of Motorcyclists Show Patriotism on Operation D-Day;](#)

[The Journal: Motorcycle benefit raises VAMC funds;](#)

[Public-Opinion: 1,500 motorcyclists raise \\$56K for vets during Operation God Bless America XX;](#)

[The Herald-Mail: Motorcycle riders thunder on for sake of veterans.](#)







