

OLDE STONEHOUSE

WEEKEND

Hardy Arkansas

It was Saturday morning May 4, 6:30 am and the weather was great as we got out of bed and started to get dressed for our weekend trip to Hardy, Arkansas and our stay at the OLDE STONEHOUSE Bed & Breakfast.



Aileen and I (Tommy) were to meet Rick & Vicki Cornett at their house around 8:00 am that morning. We got dressed and packed our trailer and headed to the Cornett's house. When we arrived, Rick & Vicki were ready and we headed out for a GREAT weekend of site seeing, shopping and riding.

We also made arrangements to meet another couple, Steve & Denise Whitaker. Rick knew Denise through his work. We met them at the Cracker Barrel at Arkadelphia.

We left from Arkadelphia on Hwy 7 and AR 128 to Hot Springs. From Hot Springs we got back on AR 7 to AR 27. Then we real hit the scenic route, from AR 27 to AR 16 and then we got over on AR 92. From there we rode AR 25 to AR 167 all the way into Hardy.

After a great day of scenic roads with lots and lots and lots twisters and up and down hills we were at the Olde Stonehouse Bed & Breakfast.

We unpacked and settled into our rooms and it was time to have a nice relaxing supper. We were told of a real nice family owned restaurant that was within walking distance from the B&B. So we started walking in the direction we were told to go. Well it might have been a short walk for some but it was about 3 miles and up hill all the way.

When we walked in the first thing that we were asked was, "***Do you have a RESERVATION?***" You have got to be kidding me, no one said anything about that when we started out on the up hill journey.

Well, after the greeter heard of our plight, she assured us that she could work us in. It didn't take long for us to be seated and I bet we drank down several gallons of tea before our food was served. Then to our surprise, we were given the use of the family van to drive ourselves back to town. It always amazes me of how many real nice people there are in the world. After we all got back safely in the van, we returned the van and we thanked them several more times.

We then spent the rest of our weekend *Shopping, Sight Seeing, Riding and Eating* some great foods. It was a great weekend trip and we all enjoyed it very much

Sometimes not all good things end the way they start out. On our return trip back to Texarkana and after we had gotten onto I-30 in Arkadelphia, about 60 mile from home, Aileen and I had a very heart stopping experience.

We were cruising behind Rick and Vicki and all of a sudden the Goldwing shook real hard and I looked in my rear view mirrors and saw our rear tire flying apart. I let off of the throttle and let it coast to a stop on the shoulder of the Interstate. After an examination of the damage, it was discovered that the tire was still inflated.

Knowing the shoulder of the Interstate was not the safest place to be we decided to ride to the next exit. Fortunately it was only about 5 mile from where we were. We stayed on the shoulder and rode at a safe speed to the exit.

This is where you know you got TRUE FRIENDS..... Rick and Vicki, after they were assured that we would be ok until they returned for us, rode onto Texarkana and swapped their Goldwing out for their truck and trailer and returned to rescue us.

What should have been about a hour trip fro all of us before this happened ending up being about 5 hours. Aileen and I can thank them enough for what they did for us that night. We will NEVER forget it either.

All in all everyone got home safe and we are planning a return trip to Hardy and again, stay at the Olde Stonehouse.

Destination Friendship.....