

July 2003 - Volume 5, Issue 7

## **A Newbies Point of View**

By Connie Beckett

Fun, friends, and fantastic riding. That's how I describe my first Women on Wheels® Ride-In. We began our journey at 6 a.m. on July 4<sup>th</sup>, a fitting day to declare our independence from work and responsibilities at home. Our trip to Prescott, Arizona, was scenic and I enjoyed the winding roads through the Colorado Mountains. The trip through the desert was hot and dusty but worth any discomfort when we arrived at the Prescott resort on Monday morning. I was inspired and amazed at how far some of the WOW members traveled. Most inspiring was our board president, Barb Tillman, who motorcycled with her husband from their home in Alaska. Even though I was a newbie, I felt at home among people with the same adventurous motorcycling "bug."

The activities began with a get acquainted party and modeling show on Monday night. Ruth Schuetz and I were selected (read that drafted) to model clothing. It was fun but I'm not ready to find an agent and make modeling a full time career.

Tuesday evening we went to a barbeque at Young's Farm. We rode a hay wagon down to a shady picnic area and were entertained by a guitar-playing singer while we ate. There was one scary moment coming back on the hay wagon when we were traveling downhill and almost didn't get stopped but like I said, we are an adventurous group of ladies.

The banquet was held Wednesday evening and awards and accolades were made. Dorothy Thompson won money in the 50-50 pot. With her wining the money and Ruth and I modeling, I felt the Kansas Wheathearts were well represented.

All to soon, it was time to leave. The rumble of motorcycles as our WOW friends left to go home greeted the sun on Thursday morning. The ride back to northeast Kansas was quick and good. The best part is that we all made it safely home. I'm looking forward to next year's Ride-In in West Virginia. I wonder if it's too early to mail in my registration.