NOTICE OF RIDE EVENT

What: Watchfire 2014 sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Central New York Chapter 103.

Where: PHD to NYS Fairgrounds, then riding with others to veteran’s cemeteries for an honor prayer, and back to the Fairgrounds for the Watchfire Ceremony.

When: Sunday May 25, 2014. Leave PHD at 5:00 pm. Our ride will be a direct route to the Fairgrounds. The ride from the Fairgrounds will leave at approximately 6:00 to 6:15 pm. The cemetery ride will take about 1 hour to 1 hr 15 min. The Watchfire is lit at dusk.

Who: The fairground ride is open to everyone. Anyone you know who is not a HOG member is also invited, regardless of the bike they ride (cars may follow if desired). We will have waivers available to all non-Syracuse HOG riders. The HOG ride will officially end when we get to the Fairgrounds at 5:15 pm. After that you will be voluntarily riding with other non-Syracuse HOG affiliated bikers.

Why: The Watchfire is a tradition which started during the Civil War. After a battle or long march was over, the camp would start a large fire. This would signal to all soldiers who were missing or lost where their camp was. The camp would then watch for soldiers and assist those in need.

Using that time honored tradition, the Watchfire is used in reflection of those comrades who have gone before us and made our nation strong through their service and sacrifice.

The Watchfire also provides the community with an opportunity to respectfully retire unserviceable American Flags. You are encouraged to bring tattered, worn or faded American Flags for respectful burning on the pyre.

The Cost: The Watchfire event and parking are free.

The organizer of the cemetery ride is requesting a voluntary donation of $10.00 for each bike. Donations go directly to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Central New York Chapter 103.

The voluntary donation will be collected prior to leaving PHD.

Contact: Jeffrey Mocyk will be the ride leader. His cell phone number is 315-256-1498, or email at jmocyk@cscos.com.