

In Summary

“**Venture to Vegas**” is a 700 mile bicycle ride from Grand Junction CO to Las Vegas NV for the 27th Annual HDSA Convention (June 8-10, 2012). In 1967, Marjorie Guthrie, the widow of famed folksinger Woody Guthrie, founded the Committee to Combat Huntington’s Disease, which evolved into the Huntington’s Disease Society of America. As in the prior thirteen rides, the purpose of the ride is to heighten public awareness of Huntington’s Disease and to raise funds for family services and research towards a cure.

Route Itinerary

May 27 - Grand Junction CO - Moab UT
May 28 - Touring Day - Arches National Park
May 29 - Moab UT - Green River UT
May 30 - Green River UT - Hanksville UT
May 31 - Hanksville UT - Torrey UT
June 1 - Torrey UT - Escalante UT
June 2 - Escalante UT - Panguitch UT
June 3 - Panguitch UT - Kanab UT
June 4 - Kanab UT - St. George UT
June 5 - St. George UT - Logandale NV
June 6 - Logandale NV - Las Vegas NV
June 7 - Arrival at Red Rocks Hotel /Casino

Ride History and Rider Profiles

In 1997, **Marie** became aware of HD through meeting Carmen Leal, author of **Faces of Huntington’s**, on the Christian Writer’s Group list on the Internet. In June 1998, at Carmen’s invitation, **Marie** attended the 13th Annual HDSA Convention in Denver, CO. After this experience, she was deeply touched. Her Christian faith required action; “... let us not love with word or with tongue but in deed and truth” (1 John 3:18). **Marie** and **Charlotte** met through a mutual friend, and the trio rode across America together in 1999. Arrival at the National Convention has become an annual rite. **Charlotte** will be riding #13 this year, and **Marie** will primarily drive the SAG van.

This is **Gary Heiman**’s second ride for HD (first one in 2011). He is the husband of Barb Heiman, social worker with the HDSA Central Ohio Chapter. and the Ohio State University Center of Excellence. **Gary** has ridden the Great Ohio Biking Adventure (GOBA) eleven times, and is an experienced rider who logs 2000 miles a year in West Central Ohio. Glad you’re on board, **Gary**!

Sherri Kole returns as a rider after a five year hiatus. She first joined **Charlotte** and **Marie** on the **KATY Trail** portion of the ride in 2004. She has a special reason to ride. Her 38 year old son tested positive for the HD gene in 2005. She also has a 3 year old “at-risk” grandson. **Sherri** has completed the two day “STP Classic” from Seattle WA to Portland OR three times. She rode the last 2/3 of the **Midwest Meander** as well as **Rockies to Plains**. Welcome back **Sherri**!

Venture to Vegas is the 14th ride for HD; prior rides include two coast-to-coast rides **Bike for the Cure ‘99** and **Bike for the Cure 2000**, **Border War on HD** (Vancouver, BC, Canada - Tijuana, Mexico), **Ramble ‘Round the Colonies** (Manchester NH - Columbus OH), **Trek Across Texas** (Texline - Houston), **Kick HD on Route 66** (Albuquerque NM - St. Louis MO), **Coastin’ for HD** (Wilmington DE - Atlanta GA), **Midwest Meander for HD** (Kearney NE - Milwaukee WI / Chicago, IL - St. Louis MO), **Rockies to Plains** (Grand Junction CO - Oklahoma City OK), **Cycle the Heartland** (Clinton MO - Pittsburgh PA), **Canyons to Cactus** (Grand Junction CO - Phoenix AZ). **Coastin’ to Carolina** (Bar Harbor ME - Raleigh NC), and **Plains to Lakes** (Belle Fourche, SD - Minneapolis, MN.) Over 21,000 miles have been pedaled, through parts of 45 states and Washington DC. Our fundraising goal is \$35,000 to bring the total raised to \$560,000, and to add another state (Nevada) to our total.

Huntington’s Disease

HD is a neurological, genetic disease, passed from parent to child through a mutation on the 4th chromosome. Each child of an HD parent has a 50-50 chance of inheriting the gene which causes degeneration of brain cells, resulting in the loss of ability to walk, think, talk, reason, and swallow. Onset generally appears at midlife, but in some onset occurs in childhood (juvenile HD) or in old age (late onset). The disease profoundly affects the lives of entire families, as the person with HD becomes totally dependent on others for his/her care. About one in 10,000 Americans has this disease. Since 1993, a genetic test has been available to those at-risk, to determine whether or not (s)he carries the HD gene. The test does not indicate at what age the disease will develop. Your contribution will support efforts to improve the lives of people affected by HD and their families, through programs of research, family services, education, and advocacy.

For more information

Marie 970-250-5997 rmneme@gmail.com
HDSA 1-800-345-HDSA www.hdsa.org
HD Advocacy Center www.hdac.org
HD Lighthouse www.hdlighthouse.org

Join Us Online

During the ride, **Marie** will write a message recounting the highlights and progress of each day. Send an E-mail to **Marie’s** husband at ronneme@gmail.com to request subscription. The ride can also be tracked on the Internet at www.bikeforthecure.org. “Ride along” with us and look for narratives about Arches National Park, Capital Reef National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, the Dixie National Forest, Zion National Park, and the Utah Heritage Highway (US 89).

How You Can Help

I want to help make "Venture to Vegas" bicycle ride a success.

I would like to contribute the following:

Prayers for a safe journey

A donation of any amount \$ _____

Arrange or provide accommodations in homes or churches along the route

Organize a fundraising or awareness event with family, friends, church, or social group

Be a guest rider

****Buy a ride T-shirt \$15-20 plus postage**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

**** T-shirt size(s)** _____

**** Short sleeved** **Long sleeved**

Make checks payable to "Huntington's Disease Society of America." Canadians may make checks payable to the Huntington's Society of Canada. Mail donations to:

Venture to Vegas
c/o Marie Nemec
3087 - A 1/2 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503-9678

****Refer to information about Commemorative T-Shirts on the back side of this brochure.**

Riders

Charlotte Reicks
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Grand Junction, CO 81507
(970) 260-7132 / careicks@bresnan.net

Gary Heiman
1060 Olmstead Road
West Jefferson, OH 43162
(614) 439-9223 / gheiman2@juno.com

Sherri Kole
1519 Alder Drive
Lewiston, ID 83501
(208) 305-4928 / sherrikole@yahoo.com

Commemorative T-shirts

Limited edition, quality pre-shrunk long and short sleeved tan T-shirts are available both along the route and by mail. T-shirt design is a bold Las Vegas sign with dice and playing cards. The back features the names of our ride sponsors and a grouping of "In Loving Memory" names. See website for actual designs.

Send check to Marie Nemec (address on order form) Additional T-shirts cost \$15 (short sleeved, adult sizes Small - XL), \$18 (short sleeved, XXL - XXXL) or \$20 (long sleeved, any adult size). **Make T-shirt only checks payable to "Marie Nemec."** Postage cost is \$4/shirt.

On-line giving

Go to www.firstgiving.com/bikeforcure
The website is fast and secure. It is for donations only; for t-shirt sales, follow the instructions on the inside flap of this brochure.

VENTURE TO VEGAS



***A Bicycle Ride
from Grand Junction CO to
Las Vegas NV through
the scenic redrock parks of
Southern Utah
to raise awareness and funds for
Huntington's Disease research
and family services***

May 27 - June 7, 2012

www.bikeforthe cure.org

**This ride is
dedicated to the memory of
Scott Elwood Lampton
September 9, 1964 - Jan 14, 2012**