SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

With a forecast of rain hanging in the air, we had 9 riders and
co-riders on 6 bikes show up at the Hiawassee Citgo Station. They were:
Glenn Gottlieb (our ride leader for the day), Fred & Carol Henige,
Gordon & Sandy Tomb, Roger & Dottie LeRoy and Tom & Jill McDaris. The
weather was ideal as we rode north to Hwy. 64 taking us through
Franklin, NC. In the community of Cullasaja, we turned north on Ellijay
Road. This was a new road for some in the group as it has plenty of
twists, curves and hairpin turns and takes us to Hwy. 107 where we turn
right for about 5 miles to our first rest stop at a service station.

After our break, we stay on Hwy. 107 for only about 3 miles to our left
turn onto Hwy. 281. Another fine twisty road, Hwy. 281 also known as
Canada Road,  takes us along the shores of Cedar Cliff Lake and Bear
Creek Lake before we turn left on Charlie's Creek Road. With some dark
clouds showing on the horizon, we turn left onto Hwy. 215. Just before
reaching the underpass for the Blue Ridge Hwy., we decide to stop and
put on some rain gear. Some donning a complete rain suit while others
choosing rain jacket only. Getting back on the road, we encounter only
light sprinkles of rain before reaching our lunch destination - The
Jukebox Junction Restaurant and Soda Shoppe.

Located at the intersection of Hwy. 215 & Hwy. 276, the Jukebox has been
serving milkshakes, malted drinks, ice cream, root beer floats, etc. for
over 30 years. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their sandwiches and drinks
in an atmosphere sprinkled with wall hangings showing celebrities and
automobiles from the 50's & 60's. And they really did have a jukebox.

After lunch we headed west only about 5 miles on Hwy. 276 and into
Waynesville, NC. Here we picked up Hwy. 74 heading towards Cherokee, NC.
Just before the turn-off for Sylva, NC the sky opens up and we
immediately pull to the side of the road to put our rain gear on again.
Our leader, with no CB continues until he sees that we have stopped.
Getting back on the road in a continuing downpour, one couple takes the
Sylva exit followed by our leader. The rest continue on Hwy. 74 to the
exit for Hwy. 23 and Franklin. Here two couples continue on Hwy. 74
toward Bryson City, NC and one couple takes the exit heading toward
Franklin.

Even though the rain split us into three separate groups, everyone made
it home safe and sound. However, everyone has some wet clothing to help
remember the day's events by. We still call it a fun day, despite the
rain, and our thanks to Glenn for showing us some new roads and a great
lunch stop.