

Strength in Support rumbles into Mission Viejo

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The nonprofit Strength in Support, which provides mental-health services for veterans and their families, is sponsoring a fund-raising motorcycle ride from Irvine to Lake Mission Viejo on Saturday as part of Veterans Day weekend festivities.

The “Strength in Thunder” ride features Rusty Coones, a custom motorcycle-builder who’s appeared in several episodes of “Sons of Anarchy” as Rane Quinn. The 6-foot-5 Coones, once the president of the San Fernando Valley and Orange County chapters of the Hells Angels, owns Illusion Cycles in Westminster.

Others attending Saturday’s event include actress Eileen Grubba, who has played Precious Ryan on “Sons of Anarchy”; Dan Davidson, “Desert Dan” on “Storage Hunters”; and Gretchen Rossi of “The Real Housewives of Orange County.”

The ride begins at the Orange County Harley-Davidson store, 8677 Research Drive in Irvine. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with “kickstands up” at 11 a.m. It ends at the new Hacienda on the Lake restaurant, 27792 Vista del Lago in Mission Viejo.

The cost is \$30 for riders, \$25 for passengers. There are also VIP packages. Ride pins and bandanas will go to the first 300 riders. At the restaurant, there’s free tacos and raffles for those who pre-register for the event. An Eddie Van Halen Wolfgang-model guitar made by Fender also will be auctioned.

Money raised goes to Strength in Support, the Laguna Hills-based nonprofit organization that provides counseling, mentorship and workshops for military veterans and their spouses and families.

“We are very excited and extremely grateful, to not only the motorcycle community for their enthusiasm about our benefit ride, but to our sponsors and celebrities who also wanted to participate in bringing awareness to the mental-health needs of veterans, their families and what Strength In Support does to help fill the void,” said therapist Evan Fewsmith, the group’s founder.

For more information, visit StrengthInSupport.org or call 949-505-5015 Ext.106.