

Le Tour de Bogue Banks

By Mike Hargett

The second annual bicycle ride in support of the Hope for the Warriors Foundation was held on April 21. The ride was named Le Tour de Bogue Banks to describe its circuitous route through some of the towns of Bogue Banks, starting and finishing in Atlantic Beach and visiting Morehead City, Newport, Cape Carteret, Emerald Isle, Indian Beach, Salter Path and Pine Knoll Shores.


The event was a great success as it attracted 160 bicyclists from all over North Carolina and Virginia with varying skill levels who were willing to ride either the 42.6 mile long course or the 10 mile short course. Their participation resulted in raising a total of \$16,500 for the Hope for the Warriors Foundation. The goal of Le Tour de



Bogue Banks was to increase our local community's involvement in a cause that has as its mission to enhance the quality of life for US service members and their families who have been adversely affected by injuries or death in the line of duty.

The weather was perfect, and to show true community support, Mayor Trace Cooper of Atlantic Beach, Mayor Jerry Jones of Morehead City, Mayor Richard Stanley of Beaufort, Mayor Derryl Garner of Newport, Mayor Art Schools of Emerald Isle and Mayor Ken Jones of Pine Knoll Shores participated in the event. Major General Tom Tempel (US Army Retired) from Pine Knoll Shores was the master of ceremonies.

At the sound of the starting bugle, cyclists roared off the starting line, and although the course was not designed as a race but a ride, several finished the 42.6 miles in less than two hours. That's well over 21 miles per hour on machines without motors. Many Wounded Warriors and their families participated showing us they still lead the way in spite of any of life's bumps in the road. All the cyclists seemed to finish with smiles on their faces, knowing they participated in a great cause and made a difference for our service members who protect our freedom and our country. This is an annual event, and we're hoping for even a bigger turnout next year. God bless America!



Visit
Our Design
Center

www.gotgranitenc.com

MARBLE • GRANITE
TILE • VETROSTONE
ICE STONE
VETRAZZO • QUARTZ

252-515-6382
1117-A N. 20th St.
Morehead City, NC