

The Biking Life

DECEMBER 2005

MAGAZINE

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Cover: Scene from the Veteran's Day Parade, taken down Market Street towards the Arch, members of Kirkwood HOG are pictured.



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Letter from the Publisher

by Jim Furey

I would like to wish Season's Greetings to all of our readers from *The Biking Life* and thank you all as well for continuing to take us into your lives on a monthly basis. Thank you also for supporting our advertisers: they (along with yourselves) make all this possible. I thought the December issue might be a hard one to put together, but then I looked at all the events we attended during the last half of October and the beginning of November, and I knew we would be able to deliver another issue chock full of our area's goings-on.

One of the highlights of this month's issue is a small feature on the Red Hat Honeys. This story and the accompanying picture are a kickoff in our efforts to give more coverage to women riders. Another way we're doing that is with stories on the Ladies Garage Parties hosted by **Doc's Harley-Davidson** and **Gateway to the West Harley-Davidson**. It seems we are not the only ones reaching out to women: both of these events were great successes. If any of the ladies out there are thinking about becoming riders, contact these dealerships to see whether they are offering another one of these nights. They were very informational and fun—well worth the time.

Some of the other events we attended included the inaugural Bike and Badge Ride. This event was sponsored by **St. Louis Honda Powersports** (among others). The ride was very well organized and a lot of fun. We at *The Biking Life* thank Tim Bonagurio from St. Louis Honda Powersports and Officer Dan Davis of the St. Louis County Sheriff's Department for inviting us to play a small role in the event. The Bike and Badge Ride turned out fantastic and was very well supported for a first-time event. I personally am already looking forward to next year's event. We were proud to help sponsor the Toys for Tots Run, which was also very cool. I'd like to give a big shout out to all the Marine Reserves for the help they provided. The route took us to several of our advertisers, and the participants all had a great time. Pat (the owner of **City Custom Cycle**) was very generous in his donations to the run, as were Gene Akers from **Iron Hog Cycles** and our hosts at the final stop, Mike and Leta from **Club 21 Rock**.

At this time of year the chances to ride are a little slimmer, but there will still be days when we can get out. Whatever you do over the holidays, we here at the magazine hope your celebrations are enjoyable for you and your families. The events listing for this month is a little scarce, but continue to check out the web site for any updates. Until next year, have fun and be safe.



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Bike and Badge Ride Benefits Local Heroes by Al “Slow Talker” Wilson



October 9 marked the start of something big. Don't know what? Well, have no fear, for I will give you the 411. October 9 was special because it was the inaugural Bike and Badge Ride. This ride was the brainchild of Tim Bonagurio, General Manager of **St. Louis Honda Motorsports** (located on south Lindbergh in south County), and Officer Dan Davis of the St. Louis County Police. These two men hatched the idea of staging a motorcycle ride to benefit the Backstoppers organization and the good work they do helping those who help all of us: the law enforcement officers and firefighters who willingly put their lives on the line when emergencies occur.

Tim took the idea to Dave Mungenast, Sr., owner of St. Louis Honda and a big backer of all things having to do

with motorcycles. Mungenast has a long and illustrious history with motorcycles, which you'll read more about in a later issue. Mr. Mungenast—in addition to being a biker himself—is, along with his business associates, one of the most generous men in the area when it comes to charities and how he can help others. With this background, he immediately latched onto the idea and said, “Let's make this happen.”

The three planners decided to create a calendar, pins, and t-shirts to commemorate the ride and set up a team to design these items along with a promotional poster. Tim contacted Kent Meisemann, our crack photographer (no, that doesn't mean he takes pictures of rocks), to see whether *The Biking Life* would like to help get the word out about this event. Being true to our desire to always give back to the community that has so richly given to us, we leapt at the chance to help.

On the morning of the event, I woke up and looked outside. It was a little dreary looking, so I checked out weather.com; it was cold, too, but undaunted and wanting to provide support for the organizers, I got dressed and headed to St. Louis Honda. By the time I arrived, a good portion of the more than 300 bikes that would take part were already there, and as I registered and visited with friends old and new, more riders continued to pull into the parking lot. A wide array of motorcycles was evident, with everything from Harleys, Hondas, Triumphs, and Moto Guzzis represented. There were cruisers, dressers, sport bikes, and just about



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every other kind of ride—a celebration of good folks on two wheels. I briefly wondered whether there was enough room for such a large number of bikes, but there was plenty of space for everyone. The calendar girls were there to sign riders' calendars if they so desired.

The organizers chose a route that took us through the rolling, twisting hills of southeast Missouri to the Mississippi River Bridge at Chester. From there it was up Highway 3 in Illinois to I-255 and a rendezvous with America's Cheerleaders at the South County Hooters. Hooters stepped up in a big way to sponsor this event, and another major sponsor was Lauton Systems.

This was a fun, free-form kind of ride. It only had a defined start and end point, so whatever riders chose to do or wherever they chose to stop was totally up to them. The riders received a nice sendoff from Corrina Collins of KTVI Channel 2, and one of their crews was on site filming. I got behind early, so I stopped at a personal favorite—**TJ's Bar and Grill** in Pevely, Missouri—for a little breakfast. However, later I ran into a good number of the riders at **Mary's** in Ruma, Illinois. This place is a staple on a lot of southern Illinois rides because of its good food and friendly staff. I know others found their own stops: I'm sure **Pop-**

A-Top in Ellisville, Illinois, as well as some of the bars in Evansville had their welcome mats out for this group of riders. There was a small glitch in the map, but that only led the group on a scenic detour and left them with a story to tell at the end.

Plans are already underway for next year's ride. If you want a Bike and Badge calendar or a commemorative t-shirt or pin, they are on sale at St. Louis Honda Motorsports. I don't have to tell you that these would make excellent stocking stuffers. Also, the Backstoppers are always in need of donations; if you visit bikeandbadge.org you can find a link to the Backstoppers web site to make a donation. I had fun and am making plans to attend next year. I hope you'll join me.



News and Notes from around the Lake

by Dennis “Henbo” Henley

What’s To Do in December?



Hopefully, we’ll get some days to ride this month. We all know that around here it can be 70 or 7 degrees from one day to the next. If it is 45 degrees or better, I’m out there. Not far from home, maybe, but I’ll ride from shop to shop, checking out stuff to buy as gifts for family or friends. It’s a good time to shop at places you go by but never stop at because you don’t want any down time when it’s nice out. With Christmas weeks away, if I can’t ride, I’ll go by the shops and stops that I don’t visit as much during riding season. For one reason, I like to look at the new and used bikes on display. My family gets biker stuff as gifts. One place that has it all is **The Leather Man** on the strip in Lake Ozark. If you have not been there in a while, you need to check it out. They have anything a leather fanatic wants or needs. If you can’t find it there, you can’t find it. They have boots, jackets, chaps, vests, shirts, gloves, helmets, bags, wallets, and all kinds of gift items and fun stuff...all at very reasonable prices. Lake locals know where it is, and visitors will find it easily on the strip. They also opened a new food court next door with all kinds of cool Lake stuff. The Leather Man has been there a long time and has been a mainstay business on the strip for as long as I can remember. For good gifts for you or your biker buddies, check ’em out.

Don’t forget the other businesses that are all open at this time of year. A lot of weekend shoppers visit the Lake area in December. They can check out **Lake of the Ozarks Harley-Davidson** for great gifts or gift certificates, purchase some gift service for their man or woman riders at **Custom Motorcycle Creations** on the strip, or check out the cool shirts in J.D.’s shop. For the big spenders, how

about a new Vengeance at **Bikers Alley**, a new Victory at **Seebold’s**, or some neat stuff at **American Hog**. For you guys and gals around Richland, **The Chopper Shop** is a place that packs a lot of stuff, including some neat shirts and sweatshirts, in a small package of a place. They’re located across the street from the police station by the water tower.



I’d like to wish a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year to Shirley at **The Rail** (she is always open), Chad at **Mexicali Blues**, Dean at **The Rock** (which has the coldest draft in town), Ken Homm at **Riskys** (hoping for more great bike nights this year), J.D. Kudart at Custom Motorcycle Creations (thanks for the great service and for helping my bike look sharper), Derek and Annette at **Lake of the Ozarks Harley-Davidson**, Frank at **Bikers Alley**, Brian at **American Hog**, and Mike at **The Leather Man**. Without support from advertisers to help keep this magazine going and getting to you—the bikers who live and visit the Lake area—*The Biking Life* would not exist here at the Lake. We are the only magazine that covers the Lake and surrounding area events on a monthly basis for free. For our readers who own businesses, if you get a sale from someone picking this up—and 10,000 people a month do, here and in the greater St. Louis area, as far south as Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and as far north as Quincy, Illinois—the reasonable cost of advertising in the magazine could be well worth the investment. To all our current advertisers, THANKS. Please call us for rates or I’ll bring some information by for you. Our web site and phone numbers are in the front of the magazine.

Upcoming Events

As of the middle of November, the only upcoming event I know of is the New Year’ Ride sponsored by the **Lake of the Ozarks Motorcycle Association** (30 degrees, 30 miles; 50 degrees, 50 miles, etc.). Call the number from the list in the back of this issue for more information.

Chili Cook-Off at Yeagers Harley-Davidson



Saturday, October 29, at **Yeagers Harley-Davidson** in Sedalia, Missouri, the local chili chefs and common sewers, I mean connoisseurs, consumed much needed fuel in the form of spicy meats, various beans, and sauces concocted into a stew called good ol' American chili. The Yeager family, who will soon be celebrating 50 years in the Harley-Davidson business, hosted the event in the lot by the shop on a great fall day. We have been blessed with great weather this fall—it was 80 degrees on November 9. I hope you took advantage of it. I did that day and rode to Sedalia, becoming a true common sewer of that wonderful stuff. We Lake residents don't limit ourselves to just the Lake area. We venture out to even the farthest reaches of the planet, and the ride to Sedalia was great riding. Up Highway 5 to 135 to Cole Camp, then on Highway 65 to Yeagers. They had free refreshments as well as the chili, a 3-piece band (The Naked Boys), and some good sale-priced stuff inside. I even opened up the moth trap and bought some new shirts. I spoke with Larry Yeager a little while and looked around at some new 2006's and some of the pictures around the shop. With 50 years in the business, you must be doing something right. About an hour from the Lake, it's worth the trip right up the highway going into town. You can't miss it.



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Red Hat Honeys Mostly by Queen Mofo

We are a group of “mature” women who enjoy each other’s company and happen to share a motorcycle addiction. Most of us are around 50 years young and either ride our own Harleys or ride behind a significant other. That is the only “rule” we have: you must ride your own or on someone else’s Harley-Davidson. We decided in November 2004 to join the worldwide organization of the Red Hat Society to show how proud we are that we have made it to this stage in our lives and to be involved in something that only requires us to have fun and nothing else. So, that’s exactly what we do—we get together once a month for what we call an “outing” (never use the word meeting). We have lunch (usually dessert first) and/or go shopping and/or go for a ride...whatever the hostess for the month has planned.

Since our inception last year, we have done a little bit of everything. We’ve had a sleep-over at my house (I am the Queen Mother of the group), several lunch and shopping outings, and an overnight ride to Eureka Springs, Arkansas. We all have nicknames: if you are 50 or over, you can be a queen or duchess, and if you are under 50 you are still a princess and have to take a princess name. For example, I am the “Queen Mother” (the ladies affectionately call me Queen MoFo). We also have a Queen of Organized, a Duchess of Purple, and a Princess Lady Di. Our Queen or

Princess names come from something we do really well or something we really like, as in Duchess of Rum and our Queen CoCo, who is in charge of all things chocolate.

If you would like more information on the Red Hat Society, you can visit their web site at www.redhatsociety.com; it will give you a little more insight on the reason we wear the red hats. We also have a group web site that explains our philosophy on life: rhhh.net. Thanks for your interest in our little group of “mature” ladies.

Publisher’s Note: We at The Biking Life are very interested in all women who ride or enjoy riding. This article about and picture of the Red Hat Honeys is an introduction to the group. Their home base is Doc’s Harley-Davidson, so check out the web site or contact the dealership to find out how to get in touch with the group. You can also e-mail me at jim@thebikinglife.com and I will forward your interest to the group. Hopefully, this will be the start of a series of articles on some of their adventures as well as those of any other women riders who feel like sharing their stories.



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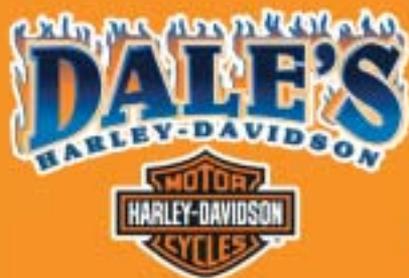
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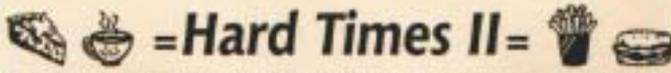
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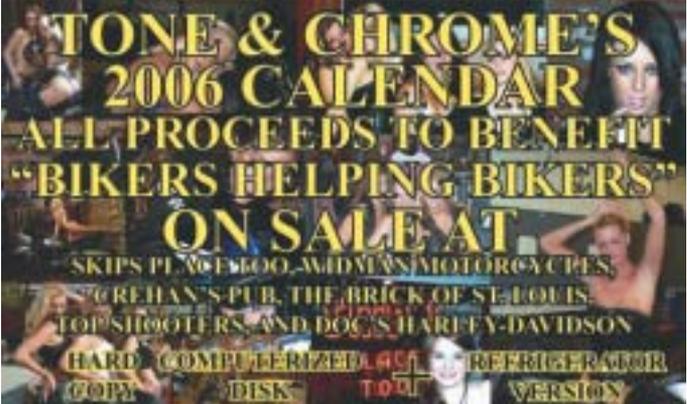
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Women's Garage Party at Gateway to the West Harley Davidson

by Joy Newberry



Another Saturday night out with Jim. He lets me know just before we arrive that we are attending the Women's 1st Garage Party at **Gateway to the West Harley-Davidson**. I figure I will let him do all the work and I will just enjoy the party! However, when we arrive the participants make it clear that this party really is for women only. Jim asks me to cover the event and take some pictures. I am laughing as I agree and Jim slinks away to a back office to hide with the few men that are there.

I just had time to grab a glass of wine and put a seafood sandwich, a couple of cheese cubes and some veggies on my plate before attending a session. No time to sample the chocolate fountain, but I knew there was another break coming up after the next session!

There were four sessions: fashion/function given by Lauri McIntosh, finance by Stephanie Poole, parts of a motorcycle/picking up a bike after you've laid it down by Rhiannon Berkemier (assisted by Patti Rockett) and the different types of motorcycles by Jamie White. The attendees were divided into 4 groups; each group attended one of the sessions and then rotated to a different session following a break.

I attended the session where we learned/reviewed the parts of a motorcycle and picking up a bike. It was a fun, interactive session. The presenters had labels on the various parts of a motorcycle when we walked in the room. Later they removed them and handed out the labels to the attendees who then placed the labels on the correct parts. I learned where the rocker box cover is located. Great job by the attendees – they really knew their stuff!

After a break where I got to sample some strawberries dripping with chocolate from the fountain and another glass of wine, I attended the session where I learned about the different types of motorcycles. Jamie talked a bit about how she got into bikes – she began at around 3 years of age with a 3-wheeler if I remember correctly. By this time after 2 glasses of wine, I must admit I was feeling a bit mellow. Jamie said she took the Rider's Edge skills course and highly recommends it. She also said that she hadn't realized how important it was to find your passion and go for it – she obviously has found hers on a motorcycle! She suggested that you find a bike you like - one that feels comfortable for you – and then make it your own. This session was also interactive as the ladies were invited to sit on any of the bikes in the room.

When the session ended, I wandered to the one on fashion/function; however, I only caught a few minutes of it. Lauri had some sunglasses that she was demonstrating. The sunglasses had several sets of interchangeable lenses so that your eyewear is always perfect whatever the weather or time of day. She said you can even get them with prescription lenses – perfect for those of us like me who can't see a thing without corrective lenses of some kind!

Once all the sessions ended, the men were allowed out of the office. Matt announced the winners of a free Rider's Edge course and a cruise for two. The ladies spent some time talking, shopping and sampling some more of the food and drink before leaving. The evening was a huge success for everyone!

This party was very well attended with around 80 participants, all of whom looked as if they were having a great time! There were girls (little girls who came with their moms) up to at least one lovely lady in her 80s. Some of the women had their own bikes, some rode as passengers and some had never even ridden on a bike. This was a good opportunity for everyone to learn in a nonjudgmental environment while enjoying lots of good food, and camaraderie. If you get a chance to attend one of these parties at **Gateway to the West Harley Davidson**, go for it – I know you will have a lot of fun! To find out when the next Garage Party will be held, you can call 314/845-9900.



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After hanging out for a while, we left for our next stop: Big Johnson's in scenic downtown Washington, Missouri. This was a very big, sharp-looking bar located down on the

riverfront. Washington is one of the many Missouri River towns that are using the natural landmark of the river as the centerpiece of their downtown renovation. The staff



here took good care of us, and the food smelled terrific. Unfortunately, I had grabbed a bite at the American Legion Hall, so I wasn't hungry.

It was getting later in the afternoon and time for us to head to Hermann, Missouri, our final destination. The stop here was a place called Simon's, and it was packed with folks having a great time. I ended up with two pair, my best hand ever on a poker run (pretty pathetic, ain't it?). I didn't finish in the money, but I had a great time. Thanks to Terry and Sue, the owners of TJ's, for putting on another awesome event. I had a great time and it was as fun as I thought it would be.

After leaving the run group, we headed down to the Hermannhof Winery, where Joy sampled some of the locally produced wines. Then, when we felt a few drops of rain, we took off for home. The ride home was wet, very wet, and we felt more than a few drops of rain, but this was a small price to pay for an otherwise enjoyable day. Watch our event schedule for events that take place or start at **TJ's Bar and Grill**. They are always great fun.



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BIKERS AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas season just seems like a natural celebration for bikers. Bikers practice Christmas sharing year round. Bikers seem to always try to help their fellow man. Bikers are always having benefits, poker runs, selling raffle tickets to raise money for someone in need. Stopping to help another biker who is broken down on the road is the necessary thing to do. In the biker community, we call these acts "brotherhood"; these acts are also reflections of God's love from us.

Christmas is the holiday when everyone should show and share God's love to others. Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus. God sent His only Son to show His love to mankind. When Jesus walked on earth, He healed the sick, helped the poor and showed His love to everyone and taught us to love. John 3:16 tell us, "God loved the world so much He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him would not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:17 goes on to say that "God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." As Christians we are here to show God's love to everyone. Christians can learn a lot from the biker brotherhood about that. But, loving God and showing God love is the other part of God's commandments. This Christmas season, let us think about our relationship with God and be thankful for the Gift He has given us.

If you have any questions, ask any Christian biker at your next rally or contact one of us. The State Coordinator for Missouri is Jim (Becky) Oliver, 636-332-6814, oliver8050@aol.com; and the Illinois State Coordinator is Don (Vicky) Brown, 217-629-8938, vdBrown77@aol.com. For more information about CMA, you can contact either of the above or call me at 314-434-2282.

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A Day at TJ's
by "Killer" Miller



You know, considering the amount of riding I do, some days just don't seem to fit. This day was one of them. Not only was it the day of the last bike show of the year at **TJ's Bar and Grill** in Pevely, Missouri, it was also the day of *The Biking Life's* first Toys for Tots Run and the first big bike run that my son Kevin went on as his own rider. So, after we got done posing for pictures with the boss and the Staff Sergeant, we went on a little ride. I returned after that, while Kevin went to work.

was a sextet of sportsters, a couple of dressers, some twin cams, and a few older evos. **Don's Speed Shop's** Black and Blue Bike was there, and Kevin Easton, Sr., of **Easton Frames** in Barnhart, Missouri, brought the red beauty that you see in the photos. This awesome bike was just about totally hand built, with the exception of the 127 cubic inch engine. Every show has an "It" bike, and this was surely the It bike of the day—it had everyone saying, "Look at this" or "Look at that." Since this was the bike's last show for the season and it is magazine bound, this may have been your only chance to see it (for now, anyway).

As always, the field events were fun, and one exceptionally pretty blonde was willing to pose on bikes, which made my day (check out the photo). As always, thanks again to the whole crew, Terry, Sue, and everyone else at the best biker bar in Jefferson County. Get them shined up: next year's season will be here before you know it. Happy Holidays from Killer and crew.



The show bikes started to arrive, and they were more than on par with the usual turnout that TJ's is known for. There

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Season's End District 18 AMA Dirt Track Series by "Killer" Miller

While the roundy-round stock car guys race during the chase, Miller Racing had our own thing going on: the chase for the vintage and 250 four-stroke championships. I was running for vintage, and Kevin raced for the 250 crown. The final race at BET saw Kevin do tremendously well (in my humble opinion). It was probably one of the better races that Kevin has ever run; it all just seemed to click for him and he finished second to Norm Widman in the 250 four-stroke and fourth in the 250 C class. The vintage race was protested, and as I write this article, the results are still pending. I won't go into it other than to say that it isn't personal, but a rule that is there should be followed by all, not just some.

The next race was a double-header at Action in Richwoods, and although Kevin couldn't make Sunday's race, he more than made up for it on Saturday. However, this almost didn't happen either, and without the help of the Widman Racing Team (who know what I'm talking about), it wouldn't have. Once again, thanks to them. Kevin got a great hole shot and finished second yet again to Norm Widman and his Suzuki in the four-stroke race. He fell while racing in the 250 C class, but remounted to take a fourth in class. I

finished second on Saturday and won the pre-'74 vintage class on Sunday.



The final race of the season was at Action and, my goodness, what a mess. It wasn't supposed to rain, but man, it did that and sleeted and hailed to boot. It was just a horrible mess, and no matter what the crew did to prepare the track, it was for naught. However, the racing went on, and in a very good race Kevin Miller got the hole shot on the field and actually led the 250 four-stroke race for two laps before Norm Widman passed him and made it stick for the win and the track and district championships. By finishing in second place, Kevin locked up third place in the class. I also managed a second, but it was hard sledding in the vintage class on my C class tires, so I putted around while Brett Haltmeyer lapped me five times to win the class. Still, my second place finish gave me what I wanted at the beginning of the season: the big (although not as big as the one belonging to four-stroke class champ Joe Rosshaven) championship trophy (see photo). It has only taken me since 1982 to win another track championship somewhere, and now that it and (pending protest) the district is done, I am going to retire before I hurt myself or someone else.

Miller Racing and I personally would like to thank Kevin for putting up with me pushing him. Thanks also to Joyce Zobel, Jayne Miller, **Twin City Honda, St. Louis Classic Cycle, Fog Hollow, Widman Motorcycle Sales**, Josh and Barb (for their words of encouragement), Jim Kidman, *The Biking Life*, Ashley, and all the racers that I have raced with the past couple of years. I'd like to thank you for letting this old guy get in your way. Congratulations to all the champions everywhere (a full list will follow in the coming months), and good luck next year. This is Killer and Kevin, towing home.



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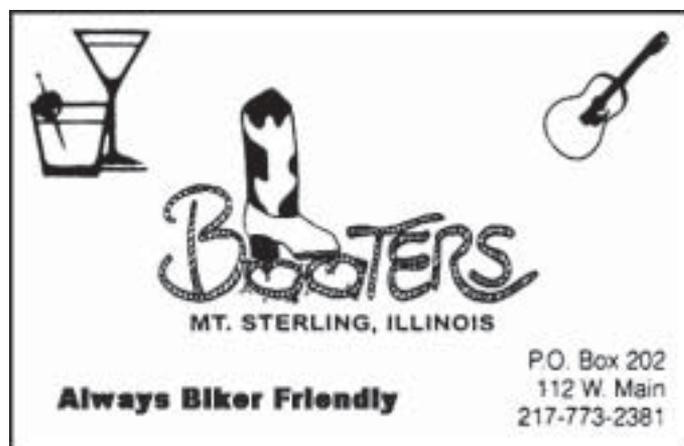
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Your establishment or one that you dig on could be listed here if you tell us about it at bikerfriendly@thebikinglife.com or call us at (618) 628-2911.



An Evening With the Ladies at Doc's by Rob "Bobo" Belinski



This past October Doc's Harley Davidson staged a Ladies Garage Party. This was an outreach to potential female customers. I think this is a great idea. Women were invited to come and find out about motorcycling. Doc's had more than 80 women show up. The attendees varied from those that had their own bikes, to those who rode with others and those who had no possible exposure but just wanted to find out what the buzz is about.

Several members of the Kirkwood Ladies of HOG escorted the ladies around from station to station. There were four learning stations set up, one for motor clothes, one for motorcycle sales, one for parts and one for maintenance. The stations were manned by Doc's employees and as the groups of women came to each station, they made their presentations. I was very impressed by the members of the staff, their knowledge and their ability to field questions making their answers understandable to all in attendance.

In the motor clothes presentation the women were told about the clothing so typical to riders and the practical reasons for why they dress as they do. The safety benefits of leather, the protection it can afford one both from the weather as well as the road itself.

The friendly staff members also talked about how to properly fit a helmet. After 20 to 30 minutes at each station it was time for a break. Patty Bush out did herself with lots of different finger foods and a chocolate fountain too. The fountain was a big hit with most of the attendees.

At the motorcycle sales station the women were introduced to the various families of Harley Davidson motorcycles. This included some history about the models as well as detailing some of the latest changes that were made to them. The session ended with a question and answer period, as

all the stations did. After that it was time to check out how the various motorcycles fit one if you were so inclined.

The parts and accessories station was very entertaining with the presenters having some fun with the guests as well as putting out some valuable information. They spoke to two things, mainly the comfort of the seat which no doubt is very important to the whole riding experience. The second focus of their presentation focused on handle bars and how various types of handle bars alter your riding position and comfort.



The fourth stop was back in the maintenance shop. The Doc's mechanics demonstrated the proper method of picking up a bike after it is down, then members of the audience were given an opportunity to try it themselves. Some basic maintenance techniques were discussed as well. The mechanics also answered all questions posed to them. Probably the highlight for a lot of the attendees also took place in this area as they were allowed to jump on a bike that Doc's had set up on the Dyno. This gave the ladies an opportunity to get used to the shifting of a motorcycle as well as the feel of the powerful engine between their legs and the unmistakable sound of a Harley as it roars down the road.

I spoke to several of the women that attended. They all were positive and loved the experience. I think it was very well orchestrated and that Patty and all the staff at Doc's did their usually awesome job in putting this together. I would heartily encourage any woman having potential interest in riding to watch for the next one they offer, but if you would like to be more proactive call Rich at (314) 965 - 0166 and ask him to set up another Ladies Garage Night.



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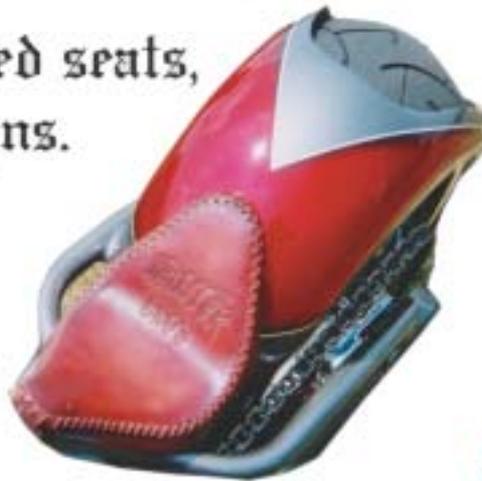
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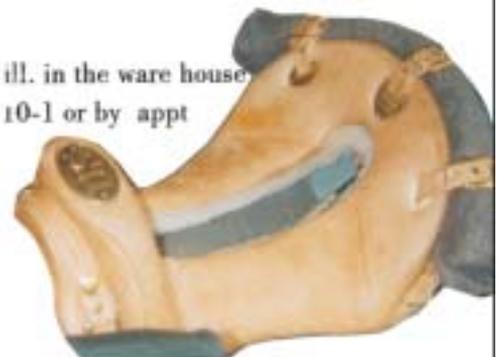


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Upcoming Events

November

23rd Gallagher's Getaway Thanksgiving Party – at Gallaghers in Freeburg, IL 8 to mid-night music by Kevin Heim wings, jello shots and fun.

23rd TJ'S Thanksgiving Eve Wild Turkey Party – at TJ's Bar and Grill hwys 61/67 and Z in Pevely, MO call (636) 475 – 3648 for details.

25th – 27th Gateway, Dale's and Surdyke biggest Sale of the Year

December

3rd ABATE Christmas Party – at the Edwardsville VFW Hall from 6 to midnight for info call Bob (618) 885 – 5769

10th Bush Pilots Christmas Party – at their clubhouse in Alton, IL 6 to ???

23rd TJ's Christmas Eve Eve Party – at TJ's Bar and Grill HWYs 61/67 and Z in Pevely, MO call (636) 475 – 3648 for details

January

8th B & G Swap Meet - at the fairgrounds in Belleville, IL

If your club or organization has an upcoming event you would like listed here please contact Jim Furey at (618) 531-0432 or at events@thebikinglife.com.

Joke of the Month

A successful rancher died and left everything to his devoted wife. She was a very good-looking woman and determined to keep the ranch, but knew very little about ranching, so she decided to place an ad in the newspaper for a ranch hand. Two cowboys applied for the job. One was gay and the other a drunk.

She thought long and hard about it, and when no one else applied she decided to hire the gay guy, figuring it would be safer to have him around the house than the drunk.

He proved to be a hard worker who put in long hours every day and knew a lot about ranching. For weeks, the two of them worked, and the ranch was doing very well.

Then one day, the rancher's widow said to the hired hand, "You have done a really good job, and the ranch looks great. You should go into town and kick up your heels."

The hired hand readily agreed and went into town one Saturday night. One o'clock came, however, and he didn't return. Two o'clock, and no hired hand. He returned around two-thirty, and upon entering the room, he found the rancher's widow sitting by the fireplace with a glass of wine, waiting for him. She quietly called him over to her.

"Unbutton my blouse and take it off," she said. Trembling, he did as she directed.

"Now take off my boots." He did as she asked, ever so slowly. "Now take off my socks." He removed each gently and placed them neatly by her boots. "Now take off my skirt." He slowly unbuttoned it, constantly watching her eyes in the fire light. "Now take off my bra." Again, with trembling hands, he did as he was told and dropped it to the floor. "Now," she said, "take off my panties." By the light of the fire, he slowly pulled them down and off.

Then she looked at him and said, "If you ever wear my clothes into town again, you're fired."

Weekly Events

Mon American Choppers on the Discovery Channel

Tues Two Wheel Tuesday on the Speed Channel

Thurs **Hard Riders weekly ride call their hotline for starting point (314) 340-2000**

Sat Ride starting at Mini Ha-Ha Beach on Old Gravois in Fenton meet at 11 AM

Motorheads Monster Mash
by Rob "Bobo" Belinski



would suggest, there's lots of Elvis stuff everywhere. The Halloween dance was really well attended, and I saw representatives from many other clubs there. The Road Raptors were in attendance, as were some of the local 81 guys and a Boozefighter, just to name a few.



All of the attendees had a good time, either listening to the good music being laid down by the band Citizens Arrest, dancing, or just visiting with friends. A costume contest was held, and people were very imaginative in putting together their costumes. I chose not to do the whole costume thing at this event, but I wish I would have. The contest was very entertaining, and I salute all those who did participate, especially the girl in the German outfit: ach du leiber, whatever that means.

Several groups in the area really know how to party, but one group that is on the big party list every year is the Illinois Motorheads. They put on a couple of parties every year for the general public, as well as some rides and events that are pretty much club only. Well, last month was October, so you know what that meant. Yep, it was time for the club's Annual Halloween Dance, held on October 22, and this year was really special because the Motorheads were also celebrating their 25th year.

I had a great time and can hardly wait for the Motorheads Poker Run. No matter where you live, if you like to have fun you've gotta come to a Motorhead event. You can always find out when and where they are in *The Biking Life*.



The dance was held at **Jailhouse Rock** in Trenton, Illinois. This fun establishment is hosting more and more biker events. It's a pretty cool place and, as the name





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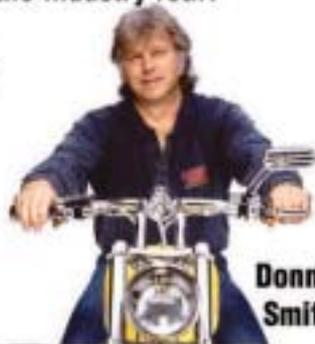
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Magic Mile Comes Down To the Wire by Jim Furey



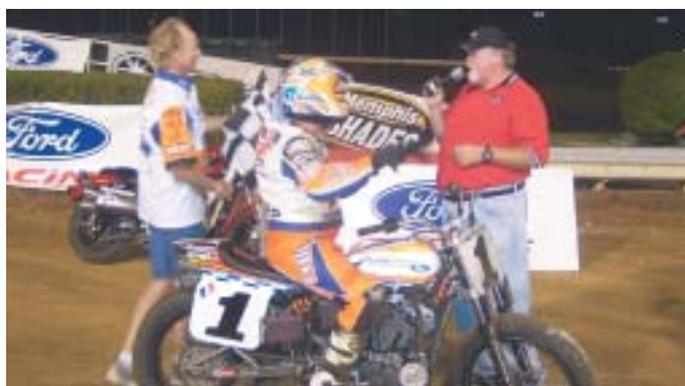
Duquoin and the Magic Mile mark the end of another season of flat track and TT racing as sponsored by the Illinois Motorcycle Dealers Association. Year after year, the folks who put on this series of races go out of their way to provide a great show for the spectators, and this year was no different. I was fortunate enough to make it to both the Memorial Day Mile at Springfield, Illinois, and this season-ending event.

While the racing at Duquoin is fantastic, the nighttime setting adds a little spice to the normal racing. The heats started around 5:00 PM and lasted until the fields for the main events were filled. The setting for the Duquoin Magic Mile is the Illinois State Fairgrounds. This has been a venue for all sorts of activities in Southern Illinois for many years. I know...I attended a concert there in the early 70s. The heat racing was spirited, and many of the crowd favorites were able to navigate their way through them as the sun went down and the racing heated up.



Finally the fields were set for both the Grand National Championship and Sportster Performance Main events. There is something very special about flat track racing, and

this evening was no exception—the racing in the GNC was extremely tight. There were 18 riders in the final, and a pack of five kept exchanging the lead on almost every turn. Challenging Chris Carr—the eventual winner—were Rich King, Bryan Smith, Geo Roder, and Kenny Coolbeth. Another hard-charging racer, Kevin Atherton, was in the process of making a run at the main pack, but he tried to get too much out of himself and his machine and took a spill in turn two. Still, Kevin ran some of the most incredible laps of any of the racers I watched. The riders in the front pack put on an amazing demonstration of their racing skills. As I said before, Chris Carr caught Rich King coming out of the final turn and won his first GNC victory on the Magic Mile. That alone was a milestone, but the win also enabled him to lock down the number 1 plate for the year. I would like to congratulate Jared Mees on a great year; he ended up fourth for the year and is sponsored by one of our advertisers: **Kelly's** in Quincy, Illinois.

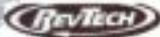


The Harley-Davidson Sportster Performance racing was tight, too. In the final race, Scott Stump just edged defending series champion Chris Hart at the finish to win not only the race but also the series crown. This was Stump's second Sportster Championship, but it took 11 years after the first one for this to come to pass. At any rate, the Magic Mile concluded this year's racing, but tickets for next year's races will soon be going on sale at the IMDA web site. Don't get stuck in the top row, get your tickets now. If you have never seen flat track racing, you definitely need to check it out.





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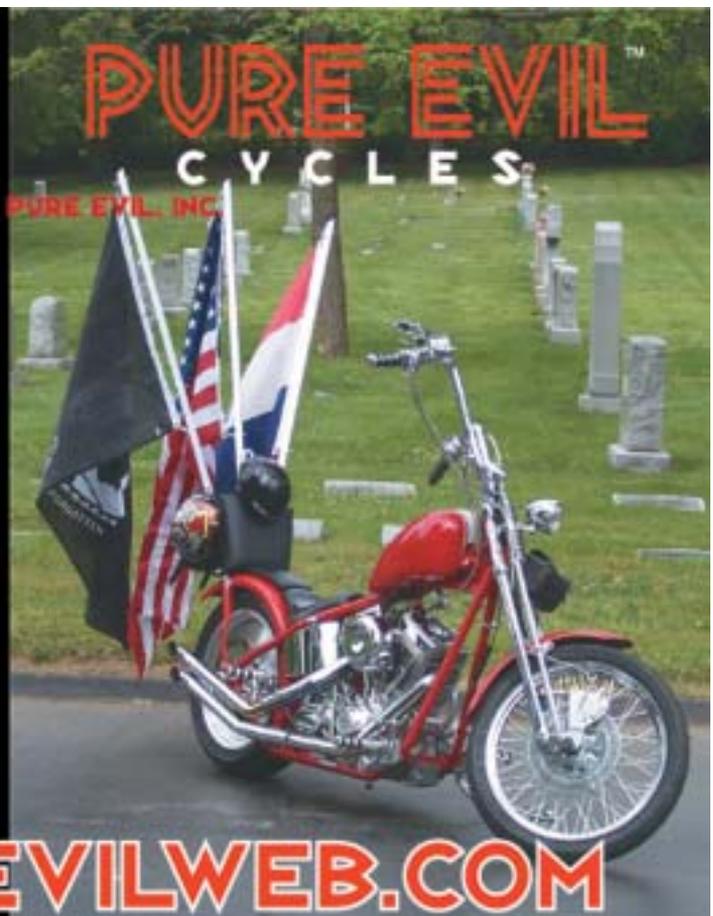
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A Sudden End to a Good Life

Did you ever wish you were someone who has it all? I have, and the guy who had it all (or at least appeared to have it all) was the boss of the company I used to work for, Mallinckrodt Medical. Back in the nineties, C.



Ray Holman was the CEO of the company and I was a sales manager. He drove a Porsche, traveled the world tending to business, and went to award trips in exotic places, where I got to have a few beers with him. He just seemed like a cool dude in a suit (no tie) who had the ivory tower office and ran a well-known St. Louis company. He was the guy who everyone wanted to talk to and rub elbows with at company functions, even if it was just for a few minutes. He was a civic leader on the list with the other St. Louis bigwigs, and he was also a biker. I don't know what he had—maybe a Road King or an Electra Glide, possibly both. Hell, he could afford it. He was retired and lived the good life. He was involved in the area Boy Scouts organization and was on the boards of Barnes Jewish Christian Hospital and the St. Louis Science Center.

I had just finished my Sunday ride—west of Camdenton, south to Bennett Springs, back around Lebanon, and then

home—when I picked up the paper and saw the article “Motorcycle Crash Kills Civic Leader, Former CEO”. Holman was in Franklin County riding...like we all do. I hope his last ride was as good as mine had just been. Warm, sunny, bright colors rushing past with great roads on a November weekend.

On Friday, November 4, Holman died on his Harley. I don't know what happened. His bike veered off the road was all the paper said. All I know is that this guy I knew as the CEO of a company I worked for and talked to on occasion died doing what I do: riding his bike on a warm, fall day in the country and hoping the day never ends. C. Ray Holman, Ray to his people, a bigwig riding his Harley—like we do, like I do. I didn't even know he rode. He was one of us, rich or poor, executive or blue collar: he rode and enjoyed his ride. If this article finds its way to his family, I'm sorry for your loss. Ray was a good guy. For some strange reason, I feel I know him better now because I think I know how he felt on that great fall day. He died doing something he had a passion for. Another good man down. Enjoy what you have now, don't take chances, and be careful when you ride: Fall is great, but the deer, sun, and leaves can rise up and bite hard.



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First Annual Toys for Tots Poker Run by Kim Kirgan



A while back, I approached Jim Furey with the idea of putting on a Toys for Tots Poker Run. He told me to run with it, so I set about organizing the event, finding places that were willing to be stops, and contacting the Marines to see what they could do for us. I spent many hours putting the run together, and the run on October 16 was the culmination of those efforts.

riders. These dedicated riders braved the chilly morning to show support for the kids. The real heroes from the Marines showed up in their dress blues to work at all the stops. With all the problem spots in the world, these guys still make time to help kids—talk about dedication. So a really big thank you to SSgt. Lee, SSgt. Sloan, Lance Corporal Lang, and Lance Corporal Johnson.

After leaving TJ's, the first stop for the riders was Frank's First Alarm Bar at 7800 Virginia in St. Louis. Their great staff (led by Brandy) made the bikers feel at home and made sure that everyone had fun. Ask Brandy about the bet she made with Jim the next time you stop in there. Our route from there took us out to **Jack's Iron Horse Saloon** on St. Charles Rock Road. This is always a fun place to stop, with an outdoor patio, scads of motorcycle parking,

and some hot wait staff as well. The riders hung out and enjoyed the day here and then it was off to the **Brick Bistro** on Watson Road. Pete Clatto runs a great bar/restaurant with excellent food, and he's always willing to talk bikes with any of his customers. After enjoying all the good things this bistro has to offer, the riders headed to their final destination: **Club 21 Rock** on Old Highway 21. This place is big, has lots of pool tables, and hosts live music every weekend. On this day the music was provided by a band called Off the Record. These four talented musicians volunteered their services at the last minute when the previously planned entertainment had an emergency arise, and they really rocked the house. We truly thank those guys, as well as all who helped make this event a success. If you are looking for band give Gary a call at (636) 464-6935.



The day started out with a cold, rotten morning, and I was concerned that maybe no one would show. However, the sun came up and it turned out to be a fantastic day. Soon I arrived at **TJ's Bar and Grill** in Pevely, Missouri, one of the most truly biker-friendly establishments in the region. Margaret, Shelby, Kory, and I registered 56 bikes and their





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The First Place Hand winner was Deb Travers. She won two tickets to a Rams game donated by *The Biking Life* and \$100 donated by Club 21 Rock. A big thanks to Mike and Lita for that donation. Second Place Hand went to Bill Robinson. He won a leather jacket donated by Pat from **Custom City Cycles**, located on north Lindbergh in Florissant. You really should stop in and check out this shop in its new location. You will not be disappointed. Third Place Hand went to Randy Bellville, who won a pair of gloves that were also donated by the fine folks at Custom City Cycles. We also put on a 50/50 raffle that was won by Paula Dust.

that were given away as door prizes. We collected a little over 60 toys and \$433 in cash donations. Thanks to all who took part in this run— especially Margaret, Shelby, and Kory, who donated so much of their time. A good time was had by all, but if you could not make it to the run there are Toys for Tots boxes in each location of the poker run. Stop by, drop off a toy, and have a couple of cold ones. Plans are already afoot for next year's run, so keep your calendar open.



Iron Hog Cycles from Barnhart, Missouri; **Custom City Cycles**; and *The Biking Life* donated several shirts and hats



Second time around

By Brian Dillender

Alright I'm just gonna shoot from the hip on this one. This is not the first time you have seen a bike built by local St Louis painter Darren Williams of **Liquid Illusions** gracing the pages of this magazine. His first attempt at building a one of a kind custom landed his creation in the October 04 issue of **The Biking Life** & in the September 05 issue of **Easyriders**. Not bad for a first try!

His second bike in my opinion has by far overshadowed his first bike when considering the creativity and blend of the not so typical parts he used and fabricated. So here goes the list....



The frame is a Jolly Roger Custom made to Darren's specs and conceptual drawing. The brass mid-controls are also a Jolly Roger product. It is powered by a 113" S&S Polished engine which is connected to a R.S.D. Baker 6 speed transmission by way of a B.D.L. Top Fuel belt drive. The final drive is a chain that spins the 240 Metzeler tires which wraps a Weld Racing Recluse rear wheel. The front wheel is a 21x3.0 Weld Recluse also wrapped in Metzeler skin. Front suspension is taken care of by a 12" over Mean Street front end & that just about covers the typical off the shelf parts.



Moving on to the not so typical... The Strange brake calipers are made for top fuel drag racing and the carb is a 2 barrel Demon made for circle track racers. The hand controls which are meant for euro café racers are mounted to Darren's own handlebars. The handlebars are not all that



Darren and good friend "Radical" Randy fabricated in house. Using minimal tooling they also fabricated the gas tank which not only holds fuel but also acts as an air induction for the carb from the left side. The inverted elephant hide seat and the rear fender it resides on are also one of a kind. "The rear fender is so tight to that tire that an ant couldn't even limbo between them" Darren tells me. The sissybar, oil tank, exhaust, motor mount, intake manifold, Tag light/mount & caliper mounts are also from the minds of Darren & Randy. The life blood of this highway dagger is pumped through copper lines and they have been hand bent so that they flow well with the lines of the bike.

The frame is painted root beer and the sheet metal is a bone white type shade with black pinstripes garnished with the occasional spider or skull. Being an accomplished airbrush artist you would expect to see a more radical paint job maybe? Darren states, and I would have to agree, that the profile of this bike speaks for itself. Looking like sleep deprived mad scientists Darren & Randy accomplished all of this from concept to finish in 60 days.

This is Darren & Randy's second time around so if the third times a charm, I can't wait to see what's next.



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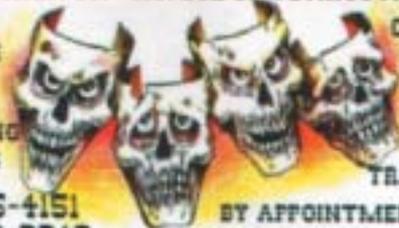




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Tattoo of the Month



This month's tattoo of the month is one the arm of Bill Klug. I met Bill at the Rat Run. He told me that growing up in the 50's & 60's he was a big fan of Ed "Big Daddy" Roth 'aka' the Rat Fink and all his wild creations from bikes to cars. He was happy to finally meet him at a car show in St. Louis and get his autograph just two months before he died. The Von Dutch flying eyeball and the rest of my sleeve is from my days as a hot rod owner & builder. All my ink was done at "Etched In Flesh" in Festus, MO by Tony my son. He's a great artist and has many of his own flash art on display at the shop. if you don't see any thing you like, just give him an idea and he will create the perfect tattoo for you. Bill closed by saying "I'm the just the canvas he's the artist."

If you think your ink belongs here send us a picture and a story to the address in the front or email it to tats@thebikinglife.com.



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