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February 2007

MAGAZINE

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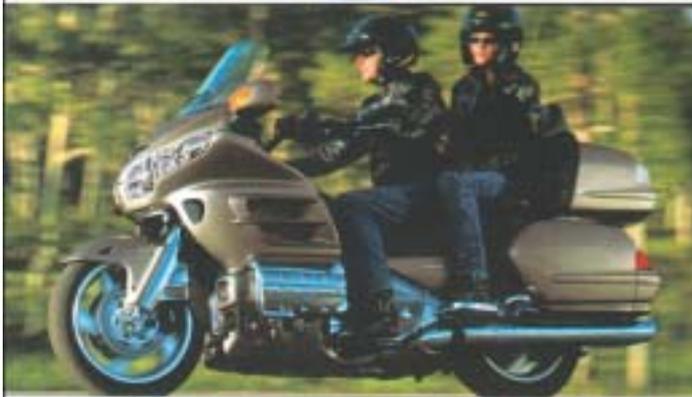
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Letter From the Publisher by Jim Furey

February, the month featuring Valentine's Day and the Bike Show in St. Charles, is upon us. It is also the month before Daytona starts, and we all know that means the start of the riding season. January was another action-filled month for us.

I am very excited by all the promise the new year holds. Every year **The Biking Life** magazine has grown and widened its circle of influence; more and more groups and organizations seek our support for their events. I take great pride in this because one of our stated goals has always been to provide service to the riding community. Additionally, when the people that run these organizations use **The Biking Life** to get their message out, I am proud because they are bikers themselves and they choose to use **The Biking Life** because they know it really does reach the riding community.

While it is incredibly cool to provide service to the riding community in our area, there have been demonstrated instances of the magazine reaching an audience well beyond our region. Last year we ran an article on the Patriot Guard Riders, of which I am one. When this group got some national attention, CNN contacted me to learn how to get in touch with the group. Additionally, I have been approached by people throughout the nation about what can be done to aid downed riders and have provided information to them wherever possible. We at **The Biking Life** feel it is important to support others, local or otherwise, and you never know when a good deed done for someone in another location may help someone here at home in some way. In another instance of the magazine reaching far beyond our area, an author from the British Isles submitted his book for us to review. His experiences will be featured in an upcoming issue as will "Rev's" in an interview we will be doing with him about his book which chronicles his struggles with personal demons and how his faith allowed him to be saved.

This principle of providing service has been demonstrated many times throughout the magazine's history as we have also provided free printing of benefit flyers where we could. Speaking of benefits (how's that for a segue!), we are once again proud to be supporting the USO with our **3rd Annual Forget the Ribbons—Show the Green Benefit on February 23rd at Jack's Iron Horse**; our partner in this event is Larry Flynt's Hustler Club. We are going to have some outrageous items for the auction and attendance prizes and we are working on a very special giveaway, but you will need to check the website to find out more. Okay, I'll tease you a bit; it has to do with an advance screening of an upcoming motorcycle-based comedy with a fantastic cast. For further details, you'll have to check our website during February. I invite all of you to come out to this event. If you bought **The Biking Life 2006 DVD**, you know this is an event we filmed at last year, so if you would like to appear on the 2007 DVD, this might an event you want to attend!

I hope your month is fun-filled, and don't forget, now is the time to get your bike or bikes into a shop to be ready, not only for Daytona, but all the great riding ahead!

Black Jack Leather

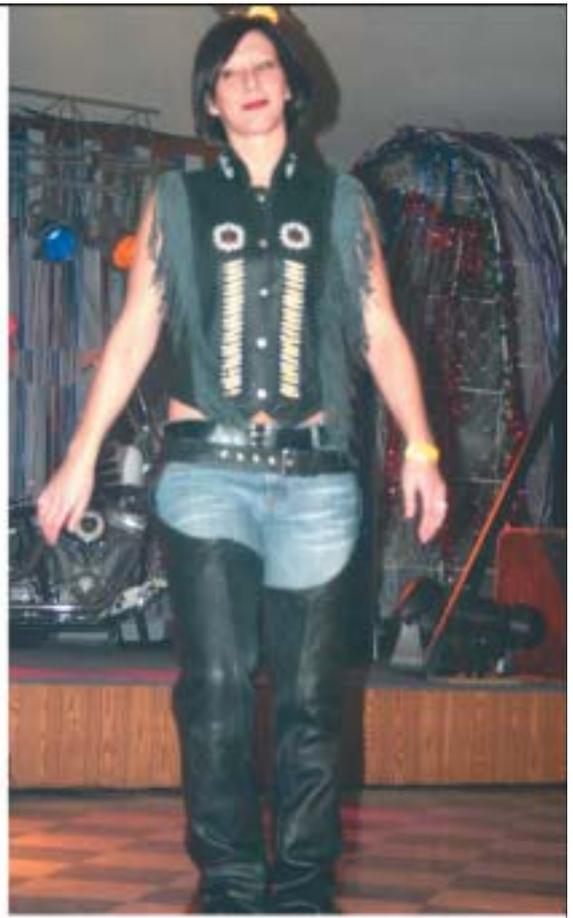
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Lake Builder Reels in the Big ones By Jim Furey

Since we haven't been able to make it to any Lake of the Ozark events for a while, this month we decided to feature one of the Lake's best known motorcyclists, the owner of **Custom Motorcycle Creations**, J.D. Kudart. I was lucky enough to meet J.D. several years ago, and since then I have been truly impressed by the bikes he creates. There are a lot of motorcycle builders, and they do good work; however, there are only a few who are truly creative, and J.D. is among that select crowd.

One of J.D.'s latest projects was a build he did for Rick LaFatta. Rick, after hearing of J.D.'s talents, visited **Custom Motorcycle Creations**. No doubt he checked out some of the sharp bikes in the showroom and knew this was who he wanted to build his bike. He told J.D. what he had in mind, and together they set out to choose either the necessary parts to create this ride or, where there was not product available that fit their design plans, J.D. did what he does best—he fabricated them. Rick was the designer of the bike, but J.D.'s fabrication of the fenders and tank are what breathed life into the design.

J.D. told me that building a bike is like painting a picture, and I can tell you from talking to a lot of builders, the best

ones are artists. However, he also said that while building iron sculptures is his passion, the core of his business is everyday service and painting. These are the things that truly pay the bills in most shops, but building bikes like this artist does brings people to your door for all things motorcycle related.



It took three months to complete Rick's bike. It might have been done sooner except there was a trip to Sturgis in the middle of that build. The bike was featured at last year's Kansas City Wide Open Bike Show where several other bikes that J.D. had built were entered, including a couple he put together for Gary Huddleston. One of these was the bike with no down tube, just another example of what this genius is able to do. His bikes did well at this show, but that should come as no surprise since pretty much no matter where he shows his bikes, they come away as winners.

That last statement is not an opinion, it is a well-documented fact. His bikes have won Best of Show at the Easyriders Tour Show in Kansas City, the Biker Build Off last year at Neosho, MO and he has done consistently well for years at the Magic Dragon Show. Since we sat down to gather info for this story, his bikes have also scored strongly at the St. Louis Wide Open Bike Show and recently garnered honors at Roctoberfest in Columbia, MO.



In addition to being a master builder, he is also one of the founders of the Lake of the Ozark Motorcycle Association. This collection of riders from the Lake area is a blast to hang out with. I have done this in the past and look forward to doing it again this summer. If some of you can't make it to the Lake this summer, then watch these pages 'cause at some point they usually make a trip to St. Louis which would provide you an opportunity to meet them.

This is all very cool stuff but I would be totally remiss if I didn't mention all the work for various local charities that J.D. and his wife Jan do. This past summer they were the major organizers behind the Bike Nights at **The Fish Tank** on Hwy W, and they, along with other sponsors like Seebold's Motorcycles, made these a big success. While



this couple is no stranger to putting together fun events, one of the things that impressed me most about these Bike Nights was that a good portion of the proceeds went to a local shelter. It is always cool to see people who are interested in giving back to the community that supports them. If we use that milestone to judge these folks, they are truly excellent people. Next time you're in the Lake area stop by the shop and check out some of J.D.'s masterpieces.



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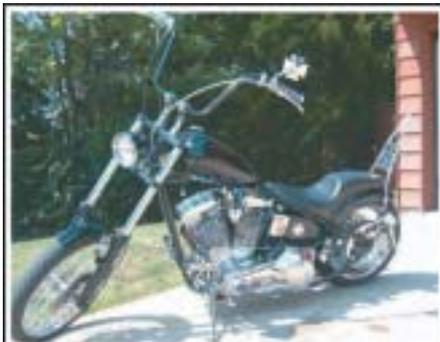
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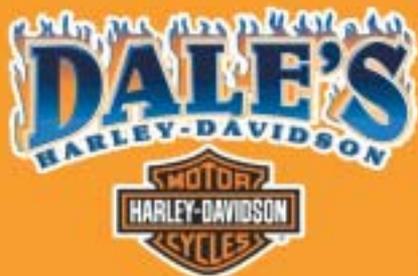
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Springs and ending up in Gamby.

While on this route, and again crossing over the great Divide, Joyce (who isn't real fond of the cold) got a bout of elevation sickness, which flatlanders riding out here should be aware of. Thanks to the hippie who gave us the water—it really did help. One of the nice surprises was that although there are a ton of bikes being ridden in this area, most riders are safe, sane, and sober. Unfortunately, most of the car drivers were complete gits who were only worried about how fast they could get where they were going or tourists who seemed to pull over every 5 feet, both of which are real pains. After breakfast in the not-so-biker-friendly town of Gamby, we rode past beautiful Lake Gamby and on to Rocky Mountain National Park. When we left at 7 AM it was 48 degrees (during the first week in August). About 15 miles past the lake, we crossed over Milner Pass (the last of the Divide passes), where Route 34 becomes the Trail Ridge Road—the highest continuous road in America.



The Trail Ridge Road is a toll road (\$20 for bikes) that runs through Rocky Mountain National Park. It starts in a lush green valley and eventually winds up the mountains. We spent 11 miles above 11,000 feet and rode another 4 miles of fairly narrow, no-guardrail type road above the tree line through a tundra-like environment at more 13,000 feet. We were joined for a while by a photo-op squirrel and a hummingbird that almost landed on the red bike. At Howard's Pass, we rode all the way up on switchbacks to the Trail Ridge high point at 14,000 feet. From there you can see glaciers as old as time and as thick as 10 football fields. Elk and bighorn sheep sometimes wander right in front of you (be careful on a bike with loud pipes, the animals will bolt and it ain't a fair fight), and you may get to view creatures that only live above the timberline (like the marmot, which is sort of a hedgehog/porcupine mix). Up at the high point, it was sunny and 42 at 11 AM.

After that cool ride, we rode out of the park on the 12% grade and on to the lodge and gift shop at the Estes Park end of the road. We had elk stew and got out of our leathers, as it was now warming up. We took Route 7 out past Meeker in order to get a view of the Stanley Hotel, the inspiration for Stephen King's *The Shining*. From here the rollercoaster ride into Golden saw the temperatures go up, and as we got closer to Denver, it got even more unbearable. The rider in me said, "Go, make some miles," while the voice behind me said, "I'm sick, it's 103 degrees in the shade, so let's stop and call it a day." I finally relented to Joyce's request.

The final day saw nothing but highway as we left Limon, Colorado, at 12:30 AM (and it was still 80 degrees outside) and rode all night when it was cooler, playing tag with big trucks and being a two-wheeled radar detector for a Chevelle. After enduring the heat of the day in eastern Kansas and most of Missouri, we arrived home 784 miles later, very tired and kind of sick, at 6 PM in Festus.

It was a tough trip. Kansas sucks for the most part. Still, the Rockies are so breathtakingly beautiful that the trip was worth it. We got to see wild buffalo, elk, and other critters that you just don't see in your own neighborhood. This—like the Smoky Mountain trip—is a trip every real touring rider (or biker, for that matter) should make. The big red bike performed well: although cruise control would have been nice, at least it came home on its own. Remember, you're only here once: go somewhere, do something. Your bike will go past the nearest bar. So, until our next big adventure, see you on the road...Killer and Joyce.





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USED HARLEYS

Going Home
 by Jim Waters
 President, Good News Riders CMA, St. Louis, Missouri

“You may live to sail the seven seas,
 Or climb the highest mountains if you please,
 Become a logger of giant trees,
 Or a monk with years on bended knees.
 But the most difficult journey according to some,
 Is to find the road that leads back home.”
 (Excerpted from Jim Hodge, *Wing World*, October 2004)

What is it about going home that is so uncomfortable for some of us? I personally hate reunions. There are just some people I don't want to see. Things happened years ago that nobody knows about or remembers but me. We all have skeletons in our closets and times that we just don't want to relive.

In Luke 15:11-32, the scripture tells the story of the Prodigal Son. The basic outline is that the son asks his father for his inheritance. The father gives it to him and the son takes it, travels a little, and parties it away. When his money was gone, so were his friends. Been there...done that! The story goes that the only job he could get was taking care of pigs. He lived with the pigs and ate with them. Then it got so bad that he couldn't stand it any longer and decided to go home. The father saw his son coming down the road and ran out to meet him and welcome him back home. On top of giving his son a warm welcome, the father threw a really big party because he was so glad his son had come home.

Jesus told this story to illustrate His love for us. There is nothing you have done—no matter what the skeleton is in your closet or how you have lived—that God won't meet you where you are and help you find your way back home. Finding the road back home is not hard; just ask God to forgive you for your mistakes and He will. We all need to take this road home.

Do you know how to do this? Do you need help to talk to Jesus? If so, ask any Christian biker at your next event, contact one of the following people, or call me. The CMA Missouri State Coordinator is Clark (Lucille) Doughty, 816-697-3077, wingman@wcblue.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 or e-mail me at h2osjk@prodigy.net.



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Fast Eddie's Bon-Air, 1530 E. 4th St., Alton (618) 462-5532

Kopp's Korner 838 E 7th St Alton (618) 465-9833

The Loading Dock, 400 Front St, Grafton (618) 786-3494

Porky's 1543 E Edwardsville Rd Wood River(618) 254-9380

Woodstock Lounge, 638 Broadway, Alton

Wild Goose Saloon 1505 W Main St Grafton(618) 786-8888

Belleville

Crehan's Irish Pub, 5500 North Belt West 618) 234-6500

Dutch Hollow Barn, 533 Dutch Hollow Rd. (618) 235-5868

Linda Lou's 1310 Dutch Hollow Rd

Mitch and Nancy's League Lounge, 1501 W Main St (618) 277-3643

Robin's Nest, 1614 Mascoutah Ave. (618) 234-7432

Sheridan's Frozen Custard, 5326 N Illinois St

The Antique House, 3701 W. Main St. (618) 235-3434

TR'S Place 4901 Concordia Rd., (618) 277-7135

Cahokia/Dupo/Sauget

Brandy Inn: 103 Water St. (618) 337-1101

Chopper Chairs (618) 531 - 3222

Carmi

Danny's Pool Room: 119 E Main Street in Carmi (618) 382-9987

Caseyville

Dog House Bar and Grill, 601 N Main St (618) 344 -9781

Caddyshack Saloon, 2865 N. 89th St, (618) 397-4704

Collinsville/Edwardsville

American Pride Collision 427 East Main St, C'Ville (618) 345-7872

Ardie & Tiny's 100 Joe St. C'Ville (618) 345-4933

Good Times, 834 S Morrison, C'Ville

Our Place, 704 Henry St, Edwardsville (618) 655-1255

Jacksonville

Don's Place, 207 W Morgan St, (217) 243-2112

Maryville/Glen Carbon

Judy Inn, 3730 S Hwy 157 (618) 288 - 9182

Sharky's Sports Bar, 2537 Vandalia, (618) 344-0826

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Smokey Joe's, 3998 Lake St, (618) 931-2279

The Village Inn, 4015 Pontoon Rd., Pontoon Beach (618) 931-4497

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Long Branch Saloon, New Canton, IL (217) 426-2022

Sawyer's Creek Riverview Cafe and Saloon 11011 Hwy 79 South Hannibal (573) 221 - 8221

Sparky's, 221 N 5th St, (217) 224-7527

Sportsman's Club 111 N Capitol Ave., Mt Sterling, IL (217) 773-9096

The Other Place, 105 S Main St, Hannibal, MO (573) 221-4114

The Back Porch, 715 Oak, Quincy, IL (217) 223-8800

Southwestern Illinois

Bobek's Sports Bar & Grill, 1324 Jamie Ln Waterloo, IL (618) 939-8300 fax(618) 939-2901

Copperhead Tavern 24266 Hwy 96 New Canton, IL

Crawdaddy's, 121 W Main St, Mt Olive, IL (217) 999-2090

Falling Springs Club, 2200 LePere Ln. Dupo, IL (618) 286-4440

Fountain Inn, 1912 Fountain Rd. Valmeyer, IL (618) 935-2266

Freeda's Bar, 2071 Main St Renault, IL.

Gallagher's Get-A-Way, 102 S. Richland, Freeburg, IL (618) 539-5208

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Jody's, 1301 9th St, Highland, IL (618) 651 - 9301

Just Sue's Tavern, Evansville, IL (618) 853-4425

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The Dawg Haus 102 S. Main St. New Douglas, IL 217-456-7072

Sports Page Inn, 2635 Old State Rte 3, East Carondolet (618) 286-5628

Thirsty's, 415 Vine St, Eldred, IL

Willie's Corner, 128 W. Market, Red Bud, Ill 62278

Springfield

Knuckleheads, 2000 Peoria Rd., 62702 (217) 789-1488

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Roadhouse 100, 2763 Highway 100 (636) 451-2007

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Jack's Iron Horse Bar and Grill: 12950 St Charles Rock Rd (314) 209-1280

Lake of the Ozarks Area

Backwater Jacks Lakeside Bar & Grill Lake Rd. to Beach Dr (573) 348-6639

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Risky's Sports Bar, Hwy 54 West of Square Camdenton (573) 346-9740

Rock Island Line, "The Dam Bar" Bagnell Dam Strip Lake Ozark (573) 365-8911

Salty Dog Lakeside Bar & Grill, Lake Rd 54-37 (Jeffries Rd) (573) 348-9797

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Double D's Hangout, 9853 S. Broadway, 314-615-9100

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House of Rock, Ronnie's Plaza.

Iron Horse Saloon, 7928 S. Broadway, Saint Louis, MO (314) 631-

Scott and Beverly's Some Other Place Other Place 1500 Lemay Ferry Rd. (314)892-6969

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Southeast Missouri

BoonDock Bar & Grill,-22712 US Highway 61 Morley (573)262-8899

Bootheel Saloon -Highway 142 Poplar Bluff

Branding Iron BBQ,763 Maple Valley Dr,

Farmington (573)756-1100

Branding Iron BBQ,1903 E Jackson Blvd, Jackson, MO (573)243-0007

Bullwinkle's Pub, Hwy T off Hwy 60 E Poplar Bluff (573) 778-9278

County Ice House,H Highway, Benton (573) 545-9988

Danny's Place, 1102 Linn Street, Sikeston (573)-471-9984

Farmer's Bar & Grill, Highway 62, Risco (573) 396-5572

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LeeBo's Road House & Bait Shop - Highway 84 East, Caruthersville (573)359-4493

Mona's Clymax II - 215 Ward Ave., Caruthersville (573)333-3003

Pockets, 1444 Independence Cape Girardeau (573) 335-2233

Scotty's Sports Bar & Grill - 4802 West Village (PP Hwy.)

Poplar Bluff (573) 686-9300

Stevie P's, 207 Second St. Quin

Wheels Sports Bar & Grill, Highway 25 and Highway 62,Malden (573) 276-5512

Wild River Pub & Grill, 3765 Hwy W, Farmington

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Joe and Linda's Tater Patch, off I-44 Exit 186 (573) 368-3111

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Club Listings

.A.R.M (Association Of Recovering Motorcyclists) Chapter 13 - Support and brotherhood for bikers in recovery. Meeting and event dates vary.

A.B.A.T.E

Backroads Chapter - Meetings are held the second Sunday of the month at 10:00am. At Pop-A-Tops in Ellis Grove, IL. On Rt. 3 for more information please email rogers93@htc.net

Freedom By Choice Chapter – Macon County area our monthly chapter meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of every month starting at 1:00 p.m. at the DAV (unless otherwise noted)

Great River Chapter – Meetings the second Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM sites vary for more info email greatriverabate@msn.com.

Missouri Gateway Chapter – Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the V.F.W. 10817 Midland, St.Louis,MO for info email webmaster@abateformissouri.com.

Peo-Taz Chapter – visit www.peo-taz.org for more info

Piasa-Gateway Chapter - chapter meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of every month starting at 7:00 p.m. Our meetings are held at the VFW Post 7678 in Cottage Hills, Illinois - located at 121 S. Williams Street.

Prairieland Chapter - meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of every month starting at 1:00 p.m at the Prairieland ABATE Building located at 1901 N. Railroad Av., Decatur, Illinois

St. Clair Co meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month - 7 p.m., at the Fairview Hts. Elks Club, corner of Old Lincoln Trail and Hwy. 161, Fairview Hts. IL.

American Legion Riders, Chapter Two - Meeting: Fourth Wednesday, at 7:30pm, at American Legion Post 162 For More Info Call: Rich-314.832.2469

Association MC Jonesboro, AR visit www.associationmc.com for info

Bikers Against Child Abuse:

Central Missouri Chapter meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Lake Ozark Fire Department on Bagnell Dam Blvd., at 7:30PM. All bikers and bikes are welcome for info (573) 216-3014

East Missouri Chapter Meets on the third Sunday of every month at Moose Lodge

2625 Woodson Rd. Overland, MO At 10:00 am, all bikers and bikes are welcome Call toll free 877-773-8790 or visit our website www.bacausa.com

Southeast Missouri Chapter - Meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11:30AM @ Daytimers (located at Daytimers Lounge, 829 S Kingshighway Cape Girardeau, MO.

Bootleggers MC - welcomes all brands of bikes monthly meeting First Saturday of the month Lon Bishop (Pup) Pres (618) 251-6160. Please call this number for further information.

Christian Motorcycle Assn: (CMA) 2nd Thurs 7:30pm, Fire Mountain, 8925 Watson Rd., Crestwood, MO. Call Jim at 314-434-2282

Cosmic Riders Motorcycle Association - a new chapter in Waterloo, Illinois. our Website is www.cosmicriders.com or call Moondog 618-363-6614 email: moondog@htc.net

Cross Road Riders Meetings on the 2nd Sunday of every month at the Union, MO public library, just off of Highway 50. Contact

Lonnie Stallmann at 636-583-4871, llscaer@hotmail.com or Phil Tolliver at 636-239-4055 or ptolliver001@charter.net

Cycle Disciples M/C - The club meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM at their clubhouse located at 15910 Kensington Street, Kansas City, MO. Phone 816-914-5119 or contact webmaster@cycledisciples.org.

Good News Riders 2nd Thurs 7:30 PM Ryan's 8925 Watson Crestwood, MO. Call 636 296 3120 TTP://midwestrider.com/goodnews.jpg.

Servant Riders – meetings on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at Treasures of the Kingdom Christian Bookstore, 525 Lincoln Hwy, Fairview Heights, Illinois. All are welcome. For info contact Roger Snyder 618-233-3443 or e-mail cmariders@charter.net.

Semo Son Riders - www.cmausa.org

Steelhorse Prophets – www.cmausa.org

Chouteau Island Partners (Off Road MC Group) 1st Thursday of month HTTP://w.icss.net/~squirts/island.htm Look for Tom Downing through the web site.

Dream Weavers Motorcycle Club – meetings 1st Thursday of the month at the Woodriver VFW at 7 PM visit geocities.com/dreamweavers for more info.

Euro Motor Union of Greater St. Louis: meetings are held at 7:30 pm 1st Tues Sports Page Inn, Old Rte. 3 South of Dupo IL. (314) 994 1257

The Fat Boys 'Ride with Pride - every Third Sunday to ride. We meet from 11:00am - 12:00pm, then roll at 12:12. Meeting spots change each month, so check the website each month. This is a Fat Boy only Ride, for info e-mail Trick at www.thefatboys@charter.net

FOG MC – Freaking Old Guys Motorcycle group must be 45+ to join all bikes are welcome for info or to join email budtrk@hotmail.com there will soon be a website also fogmc.com.

Freedom of Road Riders:

Local 7- Meetings are 1st Sunday of each Month 4 PM, Location is the Shoneys Restaurant 1475 South Jefferson , Lebanon, Missouri, www.local7lebanonfrr.com

Local 20 – meetings last Sunday of the month 1 PM at Dexter, MO Eagles Hwy 25 North www.angelfire/mo2/roadriders

Local 24 - Meetings 3rd Sun of the month 6 PM at VFW Hall, 10817 Midland, St. Louis, MO

Local 25 - meetings the 4th Thursday 7:00 PM at the American Legion Hall in “Old Town St. Peters, MO” (636) 278-5910.

Local 28 - Meetings the 1st Fri of the month, 7 pm at the Pulaski County Shrine Club, Hwy 17 South, Buckhorn, MO. For info email local28@earthlink.net or visit <http://home.earthlink.net/~local28/>

Local 32 - Meetings first Sunday of the month 1 pm, at LeeBo's Roadhouse Highway 84 East, Caruthersville, MO

Local 34 – meetings third Weds of the month at Bullwinkle's Pub Hwys T and 60 East Poplar Bluff, MO www.forr34.org

Local 35 – Meetings on the 3rd Sat of the month at the American Legion Hall in Artesian Park Clinton, MO at 5:00 PM

Local 38 - meetings the 1st Sunday of the month 11:30 AM at TJ'S Bar & Grill Hwys 61/67 & Z in Pevely, MO

(636) 464-2941.

Local 42 - meetings the last Weds of the month 6:30 PM at Roadhouse 100, 2763 Hwy 100, Gray Summit, MO 636-629-1390.

Freedom Riders – welcomes all bikers and bikes to come ride with them email to Ride4JC1@aol.com for more info.

GATEWAY River Rats meets the Second Saturday of the month at 11 AM at Good Times Tavern, 200 N Main St, Dupo, IL; please check the web site for details. – HYPERLINK “http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gateway_river_rats/” —http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gateway_river_rats/

Gateway X-treme Riders Assoc - STL MO area including Metro East IL Club is primarily for owners/riders of Honda VTXcruisers. All bikes are welcome. Web site: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gatewayvtx>

Gold Wing Road Riders Association GWRRA Have various meeting locations in the Metro St. Louis Area. Check out the one nearest you at www.stlouisgwrra.homestead.com

Honda Sport touring Assn. St Louis regularly-scheduled ride is First Saturday, which starts at the Eureka MO Quick Trip at 9 am (summer) or 10 am (winter). Visit <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/MO-SIL-HSTA> for info

Illinois Motorcyclists Rights Association - an organization that concentrates on the street riders' rights Website is ilmotorcyclists.org

In Country Vets Motorcycle Club - members are all Vietnam Veterans who served in-country. Must own motorcycle of at least 500cc., any type for info visit www.icvmc.com, or phone 618-910-3698

Knights Of The WORD MM – for more info visit <http://www.knightsoftheWORDmm.com>

LOMA (Lake Ozark Motorcycle Association) Events/Rides Hotline (573) 480-7433

Marion Roadrunners Riders Group – an all bike, rider group that gets together on Sundays and rides, meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the Eagles Hall in Marion, IL. The meetings are open to every one. More info

as well as events are available on their web site www.marionroadrunners.com.

MidSouth Riders - Northwest Tennessee www.midsouthriders.com

Midwest Trail Riders Assn. Email mtra@ridemtra.com www.ridemtra.com Event hotline (314) 314 434 5095

Midwest Cafe Racing Assn-Ride Line (314) 481 8078 Email Rideline@mcraracing.com or www.mcraracing.com

Missouri Mules Motor Club Inc - Meets every Thursday at 7:00PM at: Judy's Fireside 2128 Woodson RD Overland Mo. 63114 314 429 0555

Missouri Road Dogs - Sikeston, MO, e-mail Moroaddog@aol.com for more information

Norton Owners Club -Interested parties can contact me directly at my address shurst01@mail.win.org or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gnoa>

Outlanders – All motorcycles, family oriented org promoting fun events without negative attitudes, drugs or alcohol. Meetings are the last Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM at the New Horizons Park, 205 W. McArthur, Cottage Hills, IL. <http://www.outlandersweb.com>

Patriots MC Paragould AR call Don (870) 240 – 3925.

Reelfoot Lake Night Riders - Tipton, TN www.reelfootlakenightriders.com

Road-Dragons MC – Franklin Co MO all bike club email cad@road-dragons.com

River Road Riders, All Brand Motorcycle Club meetings are held the 2nd Weds of the month at the Alton Sports Tap 7:00 PM

Road Raptors Riding Club meets at Fairview Heights, IL VFW Hall on Rte. 159 at 7:00 PM first Wednesday of the month all bike brands welcome, for additional club information. <http://www.r3c.org>

Road Riders for Jesus Alton IL meets the 4th Thu each month 6:30pm Golden Corral 2723 Corner Court Parkway Tom 314-922-5670

Road Riders for Jesus Belleville IL Meets the 2nd Mon each month 6:30pm Amarillo Tex's 4204 W Main Glenn (Hogdaddy) 618-972-5875

Road Riders for Jesus Decatur IL Meets the 3rd Tue each month 6:30pm Round

Table Restaurant 2959 N Oakland Dr Bob 217-620-4196

Road Riders for Jesus Effingham IL meets the 3rd Mon each month at 6:30 pm Ponderosa 131 N. Keller Drive Fred 217-342-6430

Road Riders for Jesus Joplin MO meets the 4th Sat each month 8am Petro Truck Stop I-44 & Hwy 43 Ron 417-843-3965

Road Riders for Jesus Kingdom City MO meets the 1st Sat each month 8am Petro Truck Stop 3304 Gold Ave Randy 573-564-6167

Road Riders for Jesus Lincoln IL meets the 3rd Fri. each month 6:30pm Wendy's 2815 Woodlawn Rd Cleo 309-562-7370

Road Riders for Jesus Litchfield IL meets the 4th Sat each month at 11am Maverick 1403 Stamer Rd David 217-324-2467

Road Riders for Jesus Montgomery City MO meets the 3rd Sat each month 5pm Maggie's Truck Stop New Florence Jct Randy 573-564-6167

Road Riders for Jesus Mount Vernon IL meets the 3rd mon each month 6:30pm Ryan's 4615 Broadway St. Ron 618-266-7129

Road Riders for Jesus North St Louis County MO meets the 2nd Sat each month 9:30am Grace Church St Louis 2695 Creve Coeur Mill Rd Maryland Hts Mike 636-940-9033

Road Riders for Jesus Peoria IL meets the 2nd Mon each month 6:30pm Pizza Works 3221 N Prospect Peoria Heights, IL Terry 309-231-1670

Road Riders for Jesus Saint Charles MO meets the 3rd Sat each month 8am Holiday Inn 4221 Veteran's Memorial Parkway Jack 636-447-8138

Road Riders for Jesus Saint Louis MO meets the 2nd Sat each month 3pm Ponderosa Delores Dr & Hwy 30 Fenton MO John 314-631-5690

Road Riders for Jesus Shelbyville IL meets the 2nd Mon each month 6:30pm McDonald's 1012 W Main St Jerry 217-774-5405

Road Riders for Jesus Sullivan, IL meets the 1st Tue each month The Spot Restaurant 10 E Harridon St.Pete 217-728-7566

Road Riders for Jesus Troy IL meets the 3rd Thu each month 6:30pm at Burger King 700 Edwardsville Rd Mike 618-346-2462

Road Riders for Jesus Vandalia IL meets the 4th Mon each month 6:30pm Ponderosa 2727 Veterans Ave Darrell 618-283-4141

Road Riders for Jesus Wright City MO meets the 1st Sat each month 5pm Church of the Nazarene Hwy 70 exit 200 Rod 636-745-3901

Road Rebels Riding Club – An all brand riding club, for more info about the club email President Rick”Grumpy”White roadrebelgrump@yahoo.com or 618-972-4951

Shadow Riders of Greater St. Louis MO. WWW.Shadowriders-stl.com meet on 4th Tues of month at Manchester Elks lodge at 7pm (314) 477 9976 ext 772.

Southern Breed Kennett, MO Chapter – For info visit www.southernbreed.com.

Southern Cruisers Chapter 47 – St Louis, MO E-Mail - john.platten@swbell.net for more info.

Columbia, MO Chapter – visit the website www.southerncruisers.net or email midlam69@aol.com

Southern Illinois Star Riders meet the first Sunday of each month in Collinsville, IL. Contact wizardandangel@yahoo.com

or visit autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/southernillinoisstarriders/

Southwest Illinois Ronin Riding Club – meets the 1st Saturday of each month at Noon at various area locations. Ride follows monthly meeting. This is an all-brand riding club, call Bonedaddy @ 618-696-7768 or Trainwreck @ 618-973-6405 for meeting location or more information. http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/SW_Illinois_Ronin_RC/

St Louis Motorcycle Club meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at Goff-Moll American Legion Hall, 2721 Collier, Brentwood, MO. Meeting time is 7:30 PM and all are welcome call (314) 771-7100 or visit www.yahoo.com/group/STLMC for more info

Star Touring and Riding Chapter 275- Meetings 1pm 1st Sunday of month at Victory Lane Power Sports in Swansea. A family organization of all bikes. Contact chapter president Jeff Smith, cmsr01@sbcglobal.net, 618-977-2184, or visit www.star275.org

Tribe of Judah Motorcycle Ministry – St Louis Meets 3rd Saturday at 7PM Jack

Sims 636-398-8488 www.tribeofjudah.com

Vendetta’s M/C, Bootheel Chapter - P.O. Box 831, Doniphan, MO 63935 Kzkat1420@gmail.com

Veterans of Vietnam M/C-VoVMC Membership is open to all Honorably Discharged Vietnam Era Veterans. <http://www.vovma.org/VOVMA.html>

Vietnam Veterans M/C – for more information on this club email them at vnvmcillus@yahoo.com

Vietnam Vet’s M/C USA MO (314) 440-1033

Women On Wheels Heartland Chapter meetings are the 4th Weds of the month at 7:00 at Color-Art Integrated Interiors, 1325 North Warson Rd., St. Louis, MO visit www.heartlandwow.org. for info

Harley Owners Groups HOG

Alton, IL. HOG Chapter 4th Thurs of month 7:30 PM at Alton Sports Tap Route 140 & Route 3 Alton, IL..... Ladies of Harley 4th Thurs also at Alton Sports Tap, Banquet room.

Belleville, IL HOG Chapter 3rd Wed of month, 7:30 PM at the ELKS club at corner of Route 161 and Lincoln Trail in Fairview Heights, IL. Call dealership if you have questions (618) 277 8864. WWW.Friezeharley-davidson.com.

Bourbeuse Valley HOG Chapter 2nd Sunday of the month, 10:30 AM at Borbeuse Valley Harley-Davidson 1418 Hwy AT, Villa Ridge meets inside the old store call (636) 451-0106 for more info or directions.

Decatur IL HOG Chapter meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the dealership.

Festus Mo. HOG Chapter 1st Wed of month, 7:30 at Surdyke Harley Davidson 2435 Highway 67, Festus, MO. Please call the dealership for more info (636) 931 8700.

Gateway to the West HOG Chapter 3rd Weds of the month 8:00 PM at Gateway to the West Harley Davidson, 3600 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO, LOH meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Carusso’s in Oakville, MO. at 7:30 PM for more info go to www.gatewayhog.org.

Kirkwood Mo. Chapter 2nd Tuesday of the month at Goff-Moll American Legion Hall, 2721 Collier, Brentwood, MO. The LOH meeting is held at Culpepper’s, 312

S Kirkwood, Kirkwood, MO on the first Thursday of month. Everyone is welcome. Contact (314) 544 HAUG or www.Kirkwoodhog.com.

Ozark Mountain HOG of Lebanon, MO. meetings are held the third Sunday of each month @ 1 pm, at Ozark Harley-Davidson , 2300 Evergreen Parkway,. During the months of May-Sep, meeting are held @ 11 pm. For info contact www.ozarkharley-davidson.com or 417-532-2900

River Roads HOG Chapter 1st Wednesday of the month. 6pm Social / 7pm Business Meetings alternate between TNT Action Sports (Chapter Sponsor at 5101 Oak Street, Quincy) and Tri-State area establishments. For more info www.rrhog.com or call 217.224.1004

Springfield IL HOG Chapter Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month @ 7:00 pm, at Breaktime

St Charles HOG Chapter: 3rd Tues of the month 7 pm at St. Charles Moose Lodge 2705 Interstate 70 or visit www.stcharleshog.com or email webmaster@stcharleshog.com .

Joke of the Month Cowboy Phrases Ruined by Brokeback Mountain

1. “I’m gonna pump you fulla lead!”
2. “Give me a stiff one, barkeep!”
3. “Don’t fret—I’ve been in tight spots before.”
4. “Howdy, pardner.”
5. You stay here while I sneak around from behind.”
6. Two words: “Saddle Sore.”
7. “Hold it right there! Now, move your hand, reecal slow-like.”
8. “Let’s mount up!”
9. “Nice spread ya got there!”



Upcoming Events

February

3rd - Easyriders V-Twin Bike Show Tour Memphis TN

10th - Mardi Gras Ball by Gateway to the West HOG 7 to 12 at Arnold Merrimac Elks in Imperial, MO \$15/person

10th - Polar Bear Run by Motorcycle Riders Memorial of Illinois sign up after noon meeting at City Limits in Benton, IL

10th - Wild Bill's 2nd Annual Wild Game Cook off 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Ted's Motorcycle World 4103 Humbert Rd. Alton, IL

10th - 11th - Wide Open Bike Show at the Family Arena in St Charles, MO

11th - Chili Cookoff by Shoal Creek A.B.A.T.E. Chapter 1:00-????, VFW, Greenville, IL in-house poker run, 50/50, live auction, door prizes all donations benefit Food and Toy Run

11th - William Willie Wegner Benefit from 1 to 5 at Marrs-Meyer American Legion Post 991 11001 South Depot, Worth, IL

11th - Jeff Williams Motorcycle Swap Meet This meet will be held at the State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, MO \$5 per person 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

17th - Hot, Sweet and Sticky Dance by Piasa Gateway A.B.A.T.E. 7:00-midnight Alton Moose Lodge, 526 East Delmar, Alton, IL

17th - Women Only Garage Party at Legacy Harley Davidson from 5 to 7 PM in Effingham, IL

18th - A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois Swap Meet and Bike Show 10 to 4 at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center 9th and Adams Sts in Springfield, IL

23rd - 3rd Annual Forget the Ribbons Show the Green USO Benefit, Jack's Iron Horse Bar and Grill on St Charles Rock Rd live music and lots of great auction and door prize items call (3134) 322-7883 for info

24th Shooting Match Benefit for Tim Foor at 100 MPH Clubhouse on 8300 Bunkum Rd in Caseyville, IL starts at noon

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Polar Bears in Pevely by Killer Miller

Polar Bears—The words make you think of the cold, don't they? And well they should. I guess that's why the first run of the year is the Polar Bear Run. Although this year wasn't as mild as last year, it was still more than comfy enough to go for a ride. After partying with a bunch of my CFMA brothers on Saturday (thanks Batman and Reddawg for the mugs) and partying with some more friends on Sunday, New Year's Day was going to be a little more subdued. Still, I rode the red bike up to TJ's in Pevely, Missouri, for their annual New Year's Day Ride. There was a healthy turnout, and a good time was had by all. TJ's really is a fine establishment and a nearly perfect biker bar, with a big lot, a beer garden, and a place in back where they host bike shows all summer long (just look on the calendar for the dates). All they really need is a band for the shows and then once a month during winter, as well as some PBR or Miller for me. Well, hope to see you out riding (I will be until the snow flies) or at the track this summer. Killer, getting into 2007.





Building Badass Bikes Is a Family Affair by Jim Furey

This month's Bike of the Month was a family project built by members of the Kennedy clan with some help from their friends. The primary builders, though, were Pete Jr. and Pete Sr. who produced a very sharp creation that I ran across at Jack's Iron Horse Saloon on St. Charles Rock Rd. in Bridgeton last summer. As is so often the case, it has taken us a while to get it in the magazine, but it certainly deserves this recognition.

The Kennedys have been riding and wrenching on motorcycles for many years. In fact, Pete Jr. has been riding since he was three years old. After riding for so long, Junior decided he wanted to build his own ride. They looked around and finally found the basket case that they morphed into the bike shown here. Did I mention Junior resides in Maryland Heights, MO and is only 19 years old? The endeavor that created this bike is awesome for anyone, but especially for someone of his age.

They took the basket case home as a box of parts and began the task of building it into a machine anyone would be proud to ride and own. The frame needed

some work to get it the way they wanted, so they took it to Jason Hicks and he performed his magic. The Kennedys could have done the wiring, but they knew Bryan Neal was much more adept at this so they enlisted his help on this portion of the project. Enlisted, hmm, that is an interesting choice of words because young Pete is also enlisting in the Army to provide all of us the freedom that others before him have provided.

Pete Jr. and his dad worked on the bike in their basement and slowly, but surely, they saw it coming to life. I asked him how working with his dad was and Junior told me it was fun, but that his dad told him



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he'd hit him if he screwed up. Junior said he only got hit about 4 or 5 times and thought that was pretty good—so do I! His father did the brakes and they were lucky that the engine was in good shape, although Pete Jr. did tell me they are seriously considering upgrading the cams over the winter.



The paint was done by Hills Air Brushing located in Florida. The Kennedys found them on eBay and were very happy with the paint and the turn-around time. All in all, this project took about a year from start to finish. This sharp ride though is much more than just transportation; it was a bonding experience between a father and a son—the kind of experience that many of us have shared, but which Pete Jr. also chose to share with us.

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Daddy's Dream Girl



An old timer once told me it's not the journey, but the people you meet along the way. Sometimes you run into people that have a story that just needs, told. That was the case with this pretty little '61 Norton Featherbed 850cc nicknamed "Daddy's Dream Girl". This bike was on display at the 4th Annual Louisiana County Color fest motorcycle show. Displayed proudly and entered in the show by Leslea Alexander of Bowling Green, Mo, this bike once belonged to her father, Joe Ready. It was his dream to see this bike restored and brought back to the way it once was. Sadly he passed away last year. Not wanting to see her fathers dream fade away, Leslea took the bike and with the help of her husband was able to finish restoring what her father had started. So there was no second guessing herself when she named the old girl "Daddy's Dream Girl". Now, Leslea and the bike make their way around the bike shows for everyone to admire. I am sure that when her father looks down and sees how both his girls are doing, he brightens up the sky with his smile.



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Mark Langford
1962-2006

As we journey through life, we meet many people but only a few that we can truly call our friends. If you were lucky enough to call Mark your friend, then you were lucky enough.

Mark owned Old School Choppers in St. Louis, MO. He was a Marine, a father, a grandfather, and a valued friend to all who knew him.

Mark lost his life on October 6, 2006, while riding home in the rain. He leaves behind a legacy that will live on forever due to the person he was on earth.

Mark's Marine motto was 'Improvise, adapt, and overcome.' That's what his family and friends are trying to do as they go forward without Mark.

We shall miss that handshake that turned into a bear hug, the sparkle we saw in his eyes whenever he spoke about his daughters and granddaughters, his

friendship, his help, and his pride toward his country and work ethics.

We celebrate your life, Mark. We strive to live by the example you led, have the courage to go on, and the belief in the faith that we'll ride together again.

Ride in peace, Mark.

Dennis @MID-USA





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March of Dimes Toy Run
 By: David "Monty" Monachella



It gets cold and wet in December but not enough to dampen the spirits of a few hardy riders taking toys to children at a local hospital. St. Johns Mercy Hospital invited the March of Dimes out to their neo-natal unit this year. To which we responded with a big yes.

Of course Santa and his wife were there and a bunch of his biker buddies also showed up. This annual ride reminds us of why we do what we do. It's all about the children.

This ride is always just before Christmas Day and it goes to a different hospital every year. We would like to thank St. Johns for having us this year and the March of Dimes for setting it up. Keep your eyes on this magazine, and the March of Dimes web site for information on next year's run. We hope to see you there supporting this great cause.

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SWAP MEET VIRGIN

By Dave 'Monty' Monachella



It's a rainy Sunday morning so what are you going to do? Go to the swap meet of course! Belleville, IL, again hosted the Thunder Alley Promotions Swap Meet at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds.

This rider had never attended the event, so I had no idea how large it would be or how many vendors would be there. The vendors were everywhere! Vendors like **Big Boyz Custom Cycles**, **D & C Cycle**, **Canyon Run**, **American Performance Motorcycles** and many others were offering new parts, used parts, new bikes, used bikes, rolling chassis, tires and wheels. Anything you wanted for your bike, you could find here. In fact, I learned that this swap meet utilized more of the indoor space than any of the previous ones. The event was packed from early on till close with guests picking up unbelievable deals.

In addition, if you needed something super cool to wear like t-shirts or leather, they were available too from vendors like **Strip Club Choppers** and **Black Jack Leather**. The Professor was there hawking his vast array of sunglasses, do-rags and other accessories. **Chopper**



Chairs was garnering a lot of attention with their nice display of seats they'd made. Other shopping opportunities included fancy things for the ladies, patches and people to sew them on and helmet vendors. There was something for everyone and it was a good time just wandering around and looking. I was told that there were new vendors this year and we were glad to see all the variety. I actually found some things that I have been trying to find for along time with no success until the swap meet!

Of course there was food, beer, coffee, soft drinks, beer (or did I mention that already). Entertainment was live music in the Thunder Alley Party Room which also served as an indoor smoking area. Cool! I hate going places and not being able to smoke without having to go outside.

There were bikes for sale both inside the building and outside in the parking lot. To make hauling that bike easy, there was also a nice selection of enclosed trailers, open air trailers, some awesome toy haulers and much more courtesy of Weil-Lombardo Trailers from Belleville. If you are thinking about a trailer, toy hauler or even a fifth wheel, go see these fine people. They took



good care of me there and I'm sure they'll do equally well for you too.

The next swap meet is already scheduled for April 15 and this is truly an event you don't want to miss. We want to thank Thunder Alley Promotions for the excellent job they have done since taking over the meet and we can't wait to find out what enhancements they have planned for the future. See you on April 15, forget about taxes—come to the swap meet!.

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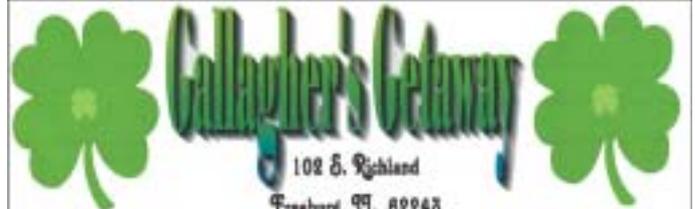
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The question is “Who is Crazy?”

by Bill Vester
American Legion Rider Post 708



We tried to figure this out on a nice early morning with temperatures in the upper 30's with expected high of 45. I followed along in my cage due to my untimely cold. We pulled out of the Fairview Heights VFW around 12:30 and headed for the 1st stop which was the Millstadt VFW. Thanks to a few VFW employees they opened within an hour to allow us to stop for hot drinks. It helped to have the VFW District Commander along, big thanks to the Millstadt VFW. After a little warming we headed back into the chill and headed for the town of Hecker. The stop in Hecker was called the Honky Tonk and the people there were really nice and happy to see us stop in. After a short warming stop it was time to get along again with the next stop being New Athens. In New Athens the quest was completed but the question was unanswered. Here we found the Polar Bear Club and others diving off the dock of the marina into the Kaskaskia River.

Why was the question unanswered you ask, it's quite simple really.

Think about it, here is a group of people willing to ride 35 miles or more in the cold and at some of the speeds we were running I'm sure the wild chill was less than 10 degrees.

Then on the other end of this ride was a bunch of people standing around in swim attire waiting for their turn to jump in a river. The temperature was 45 degrees around the jump area and the water was much colder say 32 or so.

I do not believe it is that we are crazy but it is because we want to have fun and we can.



With that said we saw one last person jump with no fair around, only those who know him. Jim and his wife Joy from this great magazine drove down to film for his '07 DVD and decided at the last minute that he was going in. No swim suit, no towel, just his under shorts and t-shirt I captured his splash and his climb out.

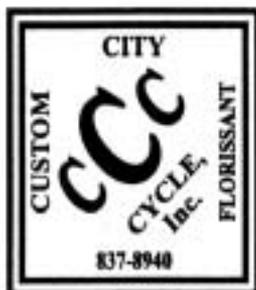
Now this I would say was crazy. Way to go Jim, hope you do not catch a cold over it.



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Tattoo of the Month



This month's tattoo is on the arm of Dale Anderson. Dale is a member of the Road Raptors Riding Club from Fairview Heights, IL. Dale's tattoo is a daily reminder of his service to our nation in the 1ST Gulf War. This is a very sharp looking tattoo and was done by Bert who plies his trade at Screamin Demon Tatto Shop on Lincoln Trail also in Fairview Heights.

If you think your tattoo should be here send us a pic and a little info to tats@thebikinglife.com and you never know.

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