

The Biking Life



Midwest Rider.com Track Days

Affiliated with Lockhart Phillips and CCS

www.midwestrider.com

BRING TWO BUDDIES AND GET A \$50 DISCOUNT!

For the April event

Track Time for: New Riders of any Motorcycle type: Sport Bikes, Standards, Cruiser
Dates: **April 19th, May 18th, June 13th, September 12th, October 3rd**

Sign up as a Novice and receive comprehensive instruction on riding techniques from experienced riders. Emphasis is on good riding skills that will stand you in good stead for the rest of your riding future. Apply everything you learned at MSF Training.

Comprehensive information on the website.

**Rates: \$150.00 for the April and May Dates,
\$120.00 for the June, September and October Dates.**

Buy all 5 dates and receive a \$100 discount.

Ask us about our large group discounts.

Book 5 or more prepaid and receive 15% Discount.

(Rates reflect increases in fees experienced at the Track)

Ø The April and May Dates will be running a special Novice group targeted at the Cruiser and Bagger riders, a special Cruiser and Bagger section has been added to the Classroom material. Guest instructor is Dr. David Kiefer who has trained Police and Highway Patrol Riders has offered to be on hand as an expert instructor.

For the more advanced street riders we will have Rick Breuer from Learning Curves Racing School for one on one executive coaching. Rick's time can be booked for \$50.00 per hour, which will include time on and off the track. Call 414-327-0140(evenings) to book time or go to www.learningcurves.com

Ø The April and May dates will expect a low racer turnout permitting an expert Street Group to run along side the Intermediate Street Group.

Maximum of 100 riders

The Track will be Green at 8:00 am for experts optimizing available track time. Come and see your local road racing club put on a great day at the track.

Event co-host MCRA (Midwest Cafe Racing Association)

For questions please call Neville at: 314 664 4397 or email at CheezSorce@sbcglobal.net

ENTRY FORM ON LINE

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The Staff

- Jim Furey - Publisher
- Jennifer Furey - Editor
- Casey Langdon - Advertising Sales

- Contributors
- Jim Furey
- Rob 'Bobo' Belinsky
- Al 'Slow Talker' Wilson
- Linda Minarik
- Jennifer Kay
- And a host of others

The Biking Life is always looking for:

Ideas

Content Providers

Advertisers

Sponsors for "Bike Nights"

***So if you have any great ideas please email us
at staff@thebikinglife.com***

Letter From the Editor by Jim Furey

Welcome to the initial issue of *The Biking Life*. One of the many roles I play in life is as an Army Reservist. In this capacity I was mobilized for a year after the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001. I had the bad luck of being forced to spend the year in Tampa, FL, as we at CENTRAL COMMAND would often call it. It is from the time I spent there that the idea of starting this publication arose.



It seems that the biker community in Florida is perhaps a little larger, probably stemming from the fact that you can ride year round down there -- that is, if you can avoid the maniacal cagers racing through the streets or the grey hairs that are going slower than molasses. In Florida (and this phenomenon is spreading nationwide), many bars, restaurants and even shopping areas have "Bike Nights." I had never seen anything like them in my tours of the local area. Yeah, sure, there is the occasional lounge that caters to bikers but not enough of them, and certainly the locations of these places are not gathered together anywhere at least until now. I know there are many evenings when I would like to have a place to go to hang with other riders, to check out their rides and just chill. While I was in Tampa, I ran into a service member who had been stationed at Scott Air Force Base in the Metro East, and we thought this area would be a great place to start something like this. Even now hanging with some of my biker friends and talking about things we've done and things we are going to do fires up the spirit, at least for a while. That is what I am hoping to spur with this magazine: to recruit and list places where people like me and you can get together and admire each others' bikes, indulge in a beverage or two of one's choice and talk about some of the things we enjoy the most, our bikes. You know the topics: cool rides we've been on, how to improve performance, maybe a maintenance tip, and perhaps ideas on how to

further customize or improve the scoots we already have. These are topics that will be included in this magazine.

So it is time for us here in the Bi-State area to have our own "Bike Nights," to have such places to go. These events are intended to be a forum where we can enhance our riding experiences. This publication is intended to be for everyone's enjoyment from the crotch rocket riders, to the riders of ultra customized machines, to the ratbikes. All are equals here and all types of bikes and biker related issues will be presented here. We are all different and now are coming from even more diverse backgrounds than probably ever before but underneath we are all part of a brotherhood, a brotherhood of the freedom of the road. So roll with me brothers.

In addition to trying to arrange "Bike Nights" and other biker related activities in the region we will also present other topics. Among these will be a listing of local, regional and national motorcycle oriented events in hard copy form along with points of contact. If you know of such an event let us know and we will include it. Stories of events we have been to or you have been to, we hope to go, places of local interest in the nearby area, and reviews of new bikes and other products plus interviews with motorcycles dealers and bike customizers. We will also provide a page or pages of "biker friendly" establishments of all types, and motorcycle club information will be presented here too; if you would like space for your club, just contact us. We will also offer contests, be it for story submission or for the appearance and style of your ride in the future. If you have stories you think could be published, send them in, if we print them you will be rewarded.

This will be a living publication. Based on your inputs plus what appears to work and what doesn't appear to work, it will constantly be evolving. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please send them to me. Perhaps there will even be a reward for really good ones. If you know of locations that might want to host a "Bike Night" let me know. I look forward to hearing from each and every one of you and perhaps meeting you at one of the events or along the road somewhere.

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It is 7" X 10"

Daytona Bike Week –2003

For the second year in a row I am off for Bike Week in Daytona. I ride just about any day I can over the winter but I feel like this week and this time of year truly start the riding season, especially around here. My trip was a lot easier last year when it was just a cruise across the state of Florida, although it was windy as hell and a taxing ride. This year though my trip will start here at the “Gateway to the West.” I have done a couple of thousand mile trips in the last year, so I decided for this one perhaps hauling the bike might not be a bad idea. Not knowing what the weather holds for the trip down, I think it is one of the few times I’ve ever done the wise thing. I must be getting more mature. So I traded the Cutlass in on a pickup truck and that will be our ride to Florida.

If you ever plan on going to Bike Week you need to get those reservations early to get convenient accommodations. Not doing it this year but if funding permits perhaps I’ll be inviting all of you to our hospitality room there next year. I may try and hook up with some fellow Bi-Staters, though. If I do I’ll make sure I have some of our T-shirts with me. So now, that I got the vehicle and a room; the anticipation and preparation begins.

I looked at various pre-made ramps to load and unload my bike, but thought they were either too



expensive or too flimsy. I decided to build my own. I also wanted to be able to store them



If you get there early; you can find a great spot to watch the world go by on Main Street (above.)

Some nice rides parked in front of a creation of “The Monster Garage” (lower left.)

(Below) The Ice Cream Man From Hell’s truck.



behind the seat of the truck so I cut them in half and put hinges on them. I told a friend of mine what I had done and he looked at me funny. I asked him why and he wouldn't say. But the ramps did fit behind the seat. My traveling companion had some family health issues come up two days before it was time to leave; so now I was going by myself. Well, the fateful morning arrived and my former traveling companion stopped by. I enlisted her help with loading my bike and found out why my friend looked at me funny when I told him of the design for my ramps. As we were loading the scooter on the truck the hinges gave out. Eventually we got it on, though, and I added a cinder block to my packing, thinking that would brace the hinge during the unloading.

I started off on my merry way. The first days drive was uneventful and I stopped for the night at Cordele, GA a pretty nice little town. This stopping point left me with just 3 or 4 hours more to cover before arriving in Daytona. I went into Florida through Waycross, GA, which also takes you near the Okefenokee Swamp and its assorted gators. Then I got on I-95 and took that into Daytona. Did I mention the weather? In a day and a half of driving, I had rarely seen the sun, and was quite often drenched. I was very glad I had not decided to ride there. So I found my motel in beautiful DeLand, FL. I was appalled at what they were going to charge me good money for. After checking in, I found a much nicer place at a more reasonable rate. I unloaded the bike and was ready to head back to Daytona when the skies opened up again. So instead I went to Pizza Hut and grabbed a bite to eat while I waited for the rain to stop.

Eventually the rain subsided and on I rode. The area near Daytona is just packed with bikers and their rides during this time. It is very cool to see all the different styles and variations of bikes. I saw many nice customs, cool crotch rockets, assorted Harleys and some outrageous ratbikes. Everywhere you go the streets are filled with motorcycles, large groups of bikers and also

individuals going their own way. I was one of those, at least at first, although I quickly met some very cool folks to hang with during my stay. I went to Main St. for the must do cruise down the street. The Daytona city fathers have passed some laws trying to restrict the amount of noise that bikes can output. They also have decided to enforce the laws that deter females from exposing some of their better points. The latter was noticeably effective. It seemed that 4 wheeled vehicles were allowed more on the street than in years past.

There are numerous bike manufacturers out at the Speedway. Some of those have demo rides available. This year Victory was allowing riders to demo their new Vegas cycle. This is one sharp looking ride but I didn't have the time to wait to get my chance to try it out. Still I may go to a local dealer and try it. I've heard good things about that model and it looks pretty sharp. There



were also reps from Kawasaki, Suzuki and many more. There are more dealers showing their wares near the Daytona Harley Store. This place is an experience in and of itself. It is the biggest

Harley dealership I've ever been in, and they are a major sponsor of Bike Week and the events surrounding it. There is a Boss Hoss display -- boy, those are some awesome machines, with those big 8-cylinder engines packed in a motorcycle frame. There are many other custom bike fabricators nearby and also vendors selling all manner of parts for cycles. There are other vendors that will create braided leather covers for your brake and shift handles as well as just about anything else you could want.

If you continue on down the road you will cross the intercoastal waterway and then the road turns into Main St. There was a site set up for West Coast Choppers, the home of Jesse James. In addition to several of his Choppers there were two creations from the Monster Garage: the Explorer garbage truck and the NASCAR street sweeper. I had seen them on the show, but seeing them up close and personal gives you a whole new perspective on how hard it is to get those creations from the Monster Garage to work.

There were many other customizers showing their wares along Main St. some had paid for a vendor's stand, but many got to Main St. early, parked their display bikes, and then handed out their cards. They were more than happy to talk to you about their designs. One of the sharpest bikes I saw while in Daytona was a highly customized 750 Honda Shadow: by the time this fabricator had finished with his alterations to the frame, fenders and gas tank it took a good hard look to see that this machine had evolved from a Honda. I talked to the fabricator of this bike for quite a while. He took great pride in his work and it showed. The wide array of motorcycles I saw while in Daytona was astounding.

There are several places that one needs to go to get the full party flavor of Bike Week. One is Froggies. The place is rocking with DJ's well into the night and the bartenders are easy on the eyes. Although, in reality the largest portion of the bartenders I saw were easy on the eyes. Main St. is pretty much lined with fun places,

from the Cruisin Café at one end to the Boot Bill Saloon and beyond on the other. I stopped in most of these haunts and had a good time and met great folks in all. In addition to the spectacle of Main St. and what goes on out near the Speedway, there are a number of events that take place at the New Smyrna Speedway, including a mass biker marriage.

Bike Week at Daytona Beach ends with a "Blessing of the bikes" and then the Harley Parade. Both of these were truly awesome sights. At the Blessing there were hundreds of bikes and probably a lot of folks that the cagers wouldn't have expected to see at an event like that. Then, to watch a long line of Harleys and some others come roaring down the streets with the walls shaking from the familiar thunder that a Harley exhaust system is breathtaking. After the parade it was time for me to load up my gear and head home. The trip was pretty much uneventful, just long miles of driving and thinking about the activities just past and seeing some of my brothers and sisters either riding or transporting our bikes in some way or another. With the way the rain was coming down, I was pretty happy that my bike was riding in the bed of the truck. Still not far into Georgia I hit the best weather I had since leaving my home. I had a great time and met some really fun and entertaining souls on this trip. I recommend this experience to anyone that enjoys the "biker lifestyle" there are a lot of neat experiences to be had but mostly you'll remember the friends you'll make and keep.



Rob 'Bobo' Belinsky

Ride/Save The Loop

What's The Loop?

The Loop is a 23-mile stretch of roadway through a landscape and ecosystem that is uniquely Floridian. This rare and beautiful patch of Old Florida is prized by cyclists, bikers, and runners, as well as by visitors and residents in Volusia county, north of Daytona Beach. I have ridden The Loop and I recommend this to anyone who is ever in the Daytona Beach area. The Loop is actually closer to Ormond Beach but it is one of the most scenic rides I have ever been on. The day I rode it was not the best, it was cool with a slight drizzle. It was still very fun and I saw a lot of brothers and sisters doing the same but you better hurry if you want to enjoy it.

Why does it need saving?

Because some developers want to partially drain The Loop and create a golf course and housing development. This will tear out the roads that make up the Loop and also drain another wetland. There seems to be a large outcry from the locals to protect it. They also have a website with more information: <http://www.savetheloop.org/>. I suggest you visit this site and see if there is anything you can do to assist in this effort.

Below is a picture showing the natural beauty of the Loop.



*This is the size of a
quarter page ad*

*This also would be a
quarter page ad*

Upcoming Events

May

3rd – Missouri Helmet Choice Run Riverside Park, Jefferson City, Mo. Sign-in is from 11:00 AM – 1:00PM when we leave for the Capitol. This rally is to show support for MO's Helmet Law Modification Bills, SB 226 & HB 137. For more information contact Doug Weiss as (660) 647-2057 or at nomohelmets@earthlink.net.

4th - Freedom Rally ride to State Capitol in Springfield, IL; sponsored by ABATE of Illinois.

4th – Motorcycle Rally will be held at TJ's Bar & Grill Pevely, MO. There will be a ride-in bike show, DJs, field events, BBQ and other give-aways. For more information call (636) 475-3648.

4th – Adam Valentine Memorial Poker Run sign up starts at 10:30 at Mueth's Tavern in Smithton, Il and run ends at DJ's Lounge in Smithton, IL. There will also be a 50-50 drawing and a wheelbarrow of booze, a raffle for a cruise and of course BBQ. To donate items or for more information call Mark Demon at (618) 277-2165.

15th to 18th - 3rd Annual Branson Motorcycle Rally This annual rally will be held in Branson Missouri, May 15-18, 2003. Country And Chrome Come Together For This Annual Motorcycle Rally Held In The Live Music Capital Of The World. This is a family oriented event that has been featured on "Corbin's Ride On" program on the Speed network. For more information on the rally, lodging, show tickets, And rally packages Call 1-800-342-6230 Monday - Friday 8:00 Am To 5:00 Pm.

17th & 18th 22nd Annual SEMO Field Events Run What Ya Brung Ruesler's Gulch, MO. From St Louis take I-55 south to the Appleton exit follow the gravel road to the festivities and have fun. No attitudes please, many events, live music, tattoos and camping. For more information call (314) 421-7246.

23rd thru 26th - Mid-America Freedom Rally held at Shriners Park Exit 153, Hwy 44 Buckhorn, Waynesville, Missouri. The Event Kicks Off Friday With Live Music, Camping, Socializing, With Over 50 Acres Of Camping Area, Excellent Ampitheater For Music, Real Showers, Plenty Of Vendors, Food And Cold Drinks. For more information contact Taz Moeller 573-528-1528 or at mmoeller@yhti.net.

June

5th – 8th The 7th Annual Hogrock at Cave In Rock, IL. There will be field events, contests, live music every night. The gates open at noon on Thursday \$30 per person/\$30 per support vehicle. For more information call (866) HOGROCK or visit www.hogrock.com.

6th – 8th The 14th Annual HOG Illinois State Rally in Quincy, IL. This event is for HOG members and their guests only (this event alone would be a great reason to join) there will be numerous events associated with this rally and big fun to be had. For more information call (708) 448-6581

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.

This is the size of a half page advertisement.

These are the size of business card advertisements.



Club listings

Christian Motorcycle Assn: (CMA) Good News Riders 2nd Thur 7:30 PM Ryans 8925 Watson Crestwood, MO. Call 636 296 3120 <http://midwestrider.com/goodnews.jpg>

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.

CONCOURS Owners Group: Monthly Breakfast Rides 3rd Sunday of month Except April which is the 4th Sunday. Meet at Quick Trip on South outer Road I-44 and MO. Hwy W. Eureka, MO 636 278 2276 or WWW.concours.org

Euro Motor Union of Greater St. Louis: meetings 7:30 pm 1st Tues sports Page Inn. old rt. 3 South of Dupo IL. 314 994 1257

Freedom of Road Riders: 1170 SW 225 rd. Holden, MO. 64040 816-850-4996

Gateway Wings (314) 994 8216

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

Harley Owners Group HOG

Alton, IL. HOG Chapter 3rd Wed of month 7pm at Alton Sports Tap Route 140 & Route 3 Alton, IL..... Ladies of Harley 4th Thru. also at Alton Sports Tap, Banquet room

Bellville, IL HOG Chapter 3rd Wed of month, 8pm 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

Festus Mo. HOG Chapter 1st Wed of month, 7:30 at Surdyke Harley Davidson 2435 highway 67, Festus, MO. call dealership if you have questions (636) 931 8700

Kirkwood Mo. Chapter 2nd Tuesday at VFW post 6211 Liberty Ave. off Ashby located at the intersection of page Ave and Ashby Road Directly behind the Jack in the Box. Everyone is invited to attend. 314 544 HAUG www.Kirkwoodhog.com

St Charles HOG Chapter: 3rd Tues of the month 7 pm at St. Charles Moose Lodge 2705 Interstate 70 (South Service Road by Chucky Cheese) 636 723 9365. stcharleshog@primary.net

Honda Sport touring Assn. St louis area 1st Sat; South Central MO 2nd Sat and KC Area 3rd Sat. Pleast join us at any time <HTTP://home.kc.rr.com/mosilhsta> Warm weather meet at Chesterfield Valley Power Sports off hwy 40 West of Boone's Crossing Exit at 9am Kick stands up at 9:30 sharp for spirited ride of 150-200 miles. Garth Haubner at (636) 928 6939 E_mail: glaubner@juno.com or Tom Trieschmann at (314) 692 7463 E-mail ttriesch@inlink.com

Midwest Trail Riders Assn. Email mtra@ridemtra.com <http://www.ridemtra.com> Event hotline (314) 314 434 5095

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

Shadow Riders 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

If your club or organization would like to be listed here please contact Jim Furey at (618) 531-0432 or at clubs@thebikingle.com

Biker Friendly Establishments

Illinois

Alton

Danny's Lounge: 118 W 4th St in Alton, IL (618) 462-6787

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

Woodstocks Corner: of Hwy 367 & Broadway in Alton, IL

Belleville

H's Biker Bar: 1310 Dutch Hollow Rd in Belleville, IL (618) 398-3668

Carmi

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

Mt. Vernon

Players: 300 S 9th - 1 block off the square(rt.37&rt.15) in Mt. Vernon, IL

Old Shawneetown

Hogdaddys Saloon: Main St in Old Shawneetown, IL (618) 922-1389

Springfield

Grman's Harley Davidson Repair: 310 W. Browning Rd in Springfield, IL (217) 522-2557

Hangout Unwind Dance Saloon: 1630 N 11th in Springfield, IL 62702 (217) 525-8591

Northfield Inn & Suites: 3280 Northfield Dr. in Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 523-7900

Lodging Pony Keg Leathers: 2026 S 11th St in Springfield, IL (217) 544-3774 *Harley repair/Leather goods*

Missouri

Fenton

That One Place: 1005 Majestic Dr in Fenton, MO (636) 861-1902

Hazelwood

Cadillac Jack's: 12950 St Charles Rock Rd in Hazelwood, MO (314) 298-8232

St. Louis

Filling Station: 1924 Pestalozzi St in St. Louis, MO (314) 772-3132

Villa Ridge

Shady Jack's Saloon & Inn: 3417 Hwy O in Villa Ridge, MO (636) 451-DUDE

Your establishment or one that you dig on could be listed here if you tell us about it at bikerfriendly@thebikinglife.com

Classified Advertisements

For Sale:

Buell 17 inch Performance Machine mags, mint, \$825 pair, no rotors or sprocket. With VGC Continental VR tires w/2K mi, \$925 pair. Pingle wheelie bar, \$225, with Buell brackets, \$250. Buell Stainless Siamese open pipe, \$115. Buell handlebar and mounts, \$35. S&S "G" car, with air cleaner and manifold, \$125. Buell/Sportster transimssion gear assembly, \$425. Buell S2/S3 tinted windscreen, \$20, mirrors, \$20. Iron Head Sportster 19 inch front mag, disc style, \$125. Front and rear 7 spoke, 16 inch mags, off 1974 big twin, \$135 the pair, as is. (636) 789-2145

The Biking Life will place your classified ad for only \$10, \$25 if you want to include a small picture. Please limit these ads to 25 words or less and no more than 2 items more that that and it will be considered 2 ads. The Biking Life reserves the right to not publish any ad it feels is inappropriate. Please submit all classifieds by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next issue to classifieds@thebikinglife.com

The Biking Life is always looking for:

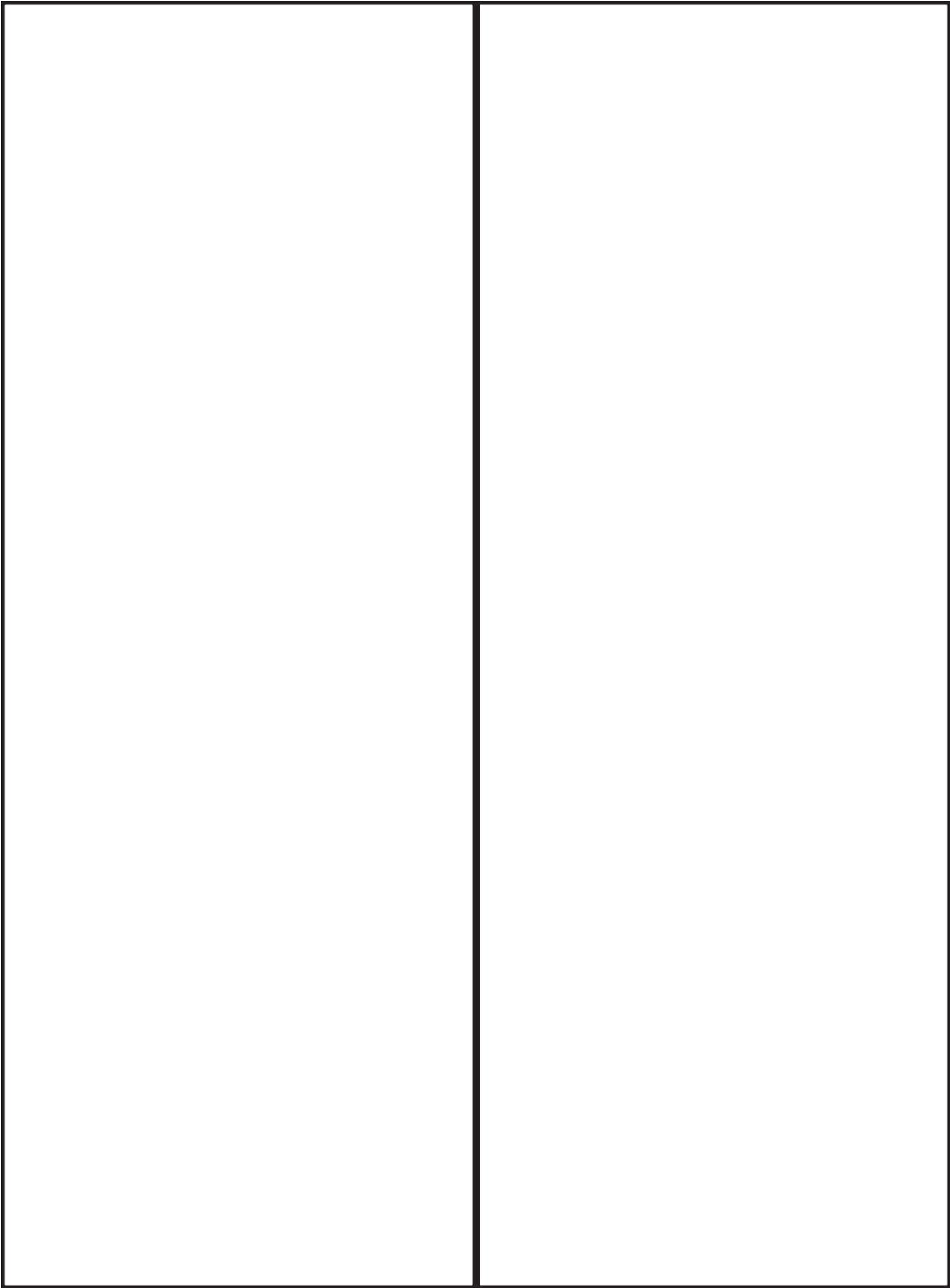
Ideas

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So if you have any great ideas please email us at staff@thebikinglife.com



These are the size of half page vertical ads.

Smiling Jimmy's Cycle Sales
1712 Any Road, Bi-State Region
Parts & Service For all major makes of
MOTORCYCLES
314-777-0000

Authorized Dealer for Motorcycles
We have the best prices on apparel and
accessories
Stop in and see our selection of riding gear
for 2003.

