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MAGAZINE

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Letter from the Publisher

By Jim Furey

First I want to say hello and thank you to all the Mothers that read this magazine. Especially my very own mother who has loved and supported me no matter where my life path has led me and it has led me to some pretty scary points at times. You are the ones to whom we all owe our lives and more than we can ever repay for your love and help.

Next I want to congratulate Dave and Beth Monachella. They were recognized for their contributions to the riding community and it is well deserved. It is also nice to know that when folks look for heroes of the bi-state regions biker community they look first to The Biking Life staff members.

Last month we printed an article based on the ideas of Steve 'Wildman' Harvey about the Hartbauer/ McBride Foundation. Bikers are out there every weekend supporting several different and worthwhile causes and I applaud them. Some of these charities are very 'sexy' and get big sponsorship donations from various dealerships and other major corporations. The Hartbauer/McBride Foundation, aka Bikers Helping Bikers that is right this is a group that aids us when something bad happens to a rider or a member of their family. The board members and the liaisons are all volunteers, no one gets paid for their efforts. The foundation does have some small expenses that aren't covered by board members; they pay some for advertising in this magazine. Only because as a 501 3(c) charity they must have some expenses are they charged anything. The foundation has two major fund raisers every year their dance which happens in June and their poker run which happens in August. There are groups like FORR Local 42 that will hold runs for them and we have held events to raise money to but they get the majority of their funding from these two events. The last couple of years the weather gods have not smiled favorably on their days but that said the attendance could be much better especially for the dance. I know a lot of bikers that don't let weather stop them from riding but it has, when it comes to this dance and ride. Why when we are so willing to do so much for others can't we do a better job of helping those who will help us?. I guarantee you if you have a legitimate need Hartbauer / McBride will be there for you, the dance is June 16th at the Goff-Moll American Legion Post and I challenge all of you to be there for them and us this year.

On to SEMO Run what Ya Brung field events, this has a reputation, rightfully earned as one of the best parties of the year. The new site by Lesterville is great and the local communities support the event well. The hosts want it to stay that way too but they also know that the residents of this area were devastated by the Taum Sauk Reservoir break and they want to help. They are encouraging everyone who attends to bring some canned goods to donate to local food pantries. The people down here are suffering and just a small donation like that from us can make a huge difference to them. SEMO takes place May 18th so head on down there, have a great time and bring some canned goods to help others.

Finally if you are looking for something fun to do check out TJ's in Pevely the weekend of the 5th and 6th for their Anniversary Party. I won't be there but someone will. We are sponsors of a Bike Rally in Springfield, MO and we'd love to see some folks there to. But whatever you do be good, have fun and ride safe.

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Pre-Ride Party at Twister's by John Skala

Twister's Pub and Grill in Weldon Spring was the site of the kick-off party for the second annual 100 Miles For Arthritis ride. Former Blues hockey star Tony Twist and 97.1 FM Talk morning show personality Smash hosted the party on March 25 with more than 75 local bikers. A quick scan of the parking lot at highway 94 and Wolfrum showed a variety of bikes ranging from Goldwings to custom choppers and everything in between. The purpose of the kick-off party was to acquaint riders with the ride for Arthritis and pre-register participants for the upcoming ride on June 3.



While enjoying the fine food and cold drinks, the crowd was informed through presentations by Smash, Twister and Adam "Spanky" Zobrist. Ten year old, Spanky is this years Arthritis Foundation honoree. When you think of arthritis, everyone typically thinks it only affects the elderly. However, it is estimated that over 300,000 children in America, including 4,000 children in Missouri have some form of arthritis or rheumatic diseases. Spanky was diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis when he was only five. With the help of daily injections and the support of the Arthritis Foundation, Spanky is able to enjoy playing soccer, spending time with his friends and playing with his dog Izzy.



A group of dedicated motorcyclists has come together with the Eastern Missouri Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation to put together a ride where fellow riders can enjoy an excellent route with a fun theme while helping raise funds for the Arthritis Foundation. The ride will take place on Sunday June 3 this year. This will be the second of the now annual "100 Miles For Arthritis" series of motorcycle rides. Each year the ride covers a different

route of approximately 100 miles. The theme this year is "Smash and Twists Excellent Adventure". The route will head south from Twister's over some of the lesser traveled scenic winding roads through wine country in St Charles and Warren counties, returning back to Twister's. The ride starts on the parking lot of Twister's Pub and Grill at 1046 Wolfrum Rd at highway 94, about 3 miles north east of highway 40/64 and 8 miles south west of interstate 70. For directions or a map of the area, visit the ride detail page on the official ride web page www.ride4arthritis.com. After the ride, we will return to Twister's for a biker style bash with entertainment provided by The Smash Band.



The sign-up on Sunday June 3 begins at 11:00 AM with the last bike out at 12:30 PM. You can ride the route solo, in small groups or as a club organized event. Tony and Smash will be leading a group out at 12:00 noon. The minimum donation for registration on the day of the ride is \$30 for the rider and \$10 for a passenger. This includes a commemorative ride pin for the first 300 people to register and admittance to the bash at the end of the ride. You can save \$5 if you pre-register on the web site at www.ride4arthritis.com. In addition to all of the benefits of the basic registration, there are also added incentives and recognition for riders that raise additional funds for the Arthritis Foundation. While on the registration web page, be sure to check out the tools to help your fund raising efforts, making you eligible for the other incentives that are shown on the web site. Set up your own ride web page through the web site to encourage others to join you and create a team to ride on this fun filled day. You can also use the email tool to help get the message out to solicit donations and track your totals as you work toward your personal and team goals. The Arthritis Foundation is the only nationwide, nonprofit health organization helping people take greater control of arthritis. The mission of the Arthritis Foundation is to improve lives through leadership in the prevention, control and cure of arthritis and related diseases. You can make a difference in the life of people affected by this crippling disease. Ride with us on June 3.

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News and Notes From the Lake

By Jim Furey

I recently returned from a quick trip to the Lake of the Ozarks. It had been a while since I had been down to visit my friends in the area. There are lots of exciting developments going on down there. One is that **Custom Motorcycle Creations** is undergoing a remodeling that will make the shop better. Plus I am pretty sure you will now be able to get all the fine gear to make your riding enjoyable there.

While I was down there I also had the opportunity to stop in and say hi to Dean from the Rock Island Line. For the uninitiated this is a nice place right on the strip with cold beverages and plenty of things to keep your interest while you are there. I left there and headed across the street to talk to Mike at the Leatherman. You want leather this place has it and at very reasonable prices and his staff is always friendly and ready to assist you.

I stopped in at a new favorite of mine Eddie's Sports Bar and talked to Mark for a while. It seems we had a connection since he used to live around my old haunts in Belleville, IL. This is a sports fan dream, lots of TVs and plenty of hot waitresses to make your stay enjoyable. Still heading towards Camdenton, it was time to stop in at Tirebiter's and say hi to Christine, this place has a rustic feel to it and is a favorite among the local population with bike parking right out front. In fact there seems to be more and more establishments at the Lake that are featuring bike parking.

Then I did a bit of a touristy thing and visited the Bridal Cave. This is an interesting site with a history of being where the local Osage Indians would go to be wed. I don't know about that but there are some awesome rock formations in and around the cave that make it easily worth the visit. On the way out of town I stopped by Camp Bagnell this place is super, with a huge screened in porch and lots of camping and RV spots, for those who like this. That was pretty much my trip to the Lake, oh there was one other development but I'll tell you about that later.



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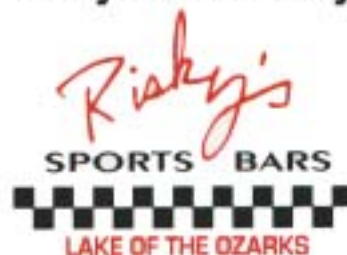
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TJ's Bar and Grill First Show of 2007

By Monty Monachella

Watching the staff at **TJ's Bar and Grill** in Pevely, MO set up for a busy day explains why their events always turn into such a good time. Everybody has a job to do and they bust their ***** to get everything into place to ensure you have the best time possible. The service never lacks with Harold and Phyllis leading the way and even when busy there is always a good word and a friendly face to make sure that you are taken care of!

I personally was so busy saying "Hi" to people that I hadn't seen since last riding season and making new friends that I didn't get to talk to Terry, the owner of TJ's, at all. However, I was able to say hi to his lovely wife, Sue, who was so busy she didn't have time to stop to chat. That's life in the fast lane once motorcycle season starts.

Thank goodness, my cohort, Killer Miller, was there taking pictures because I couldn't get to everything even though I tried. I did get to eat though—I always get to TJ's early because his breakfasts are so good that I can't resist. In fact, I was such a pig or a hobbit because I had to have second breakfast. The grill was started early to make the BBQ that was available in the afternoon. Have the BBQ or order off the menu—either way, the food is always good and the beer is always cold.

The bike shows at TJ's are just plain fun with the first of the year setting the tone. This year the bikes were all beautiful. Even the ones not in the show looked great and there were bikes everywhere! Parked in front 3 deep from one end of the lot to the other as you can tell by the pictures with the back lot filled too.

TJ and his sponsor put on

a great show. This event was sponsored by Jireh Cycles located at 10 Main St. in Festus, MO. They carry a full line of Harley aftermarket parts and John George the owner is very nice.

In addition to putting on great bike shows, TJ's is the Biker Bar in area. There is always some event going on, or if not, someone is there that shares your passion to ride. This makes TJ's a great place to start or end a good day's riding! Get your name on his mailing list and you'll always know what's happening! Until I see you again keep the rubber side down and be safe



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Generations that ride together...Happy Mothers Day
Kathleen Haverstick

The matriarch of this family boasting four generations of female riders is Jo Ann Crocker. She was first introduced to the Harley Davidson ("HOG" as she calls it) 47 years ago in 1960 by her husband Duke. He bought his first Harley at Doc's H-D on Olive Street in St. Louis. How many of you remember that location for Doc's? Joann & Duke's daughter, Diana, remembers when she and her brother would ride to the store on the bike with them. Duke would tie them all together! Can you see that happening today? Now Diana rides with her husband, Dave Sr.; their son is Dave Jr., and of course, he rides too. When Diana and Dave's daughter, Dana, was 3 years old, she would not let her Uncle Mike out of the driveway without getting her ride first. She is twenty-four years old this month with a daughter of her own, Destini. Destini, whose dad is Daren, is 20 months old and rides on her Dora the Explorer 4-wheeler. She's waiting for her first ride on a HOG as her great grandmother did. Five family members are ready and waiting to take her. These ladies have traveled the United States and Canada on their motorcycles. I could not have found a better family of riders spanning several generations. I found these ladies in my own back yard. Happy Mothers Day to all you ladies; those who ride and those who don't.

Left to right on picture: Dana Norman and Destini Norman on Squatty's bike; Diana Haverstick and Joann Crocker on Dave Sr's. bike



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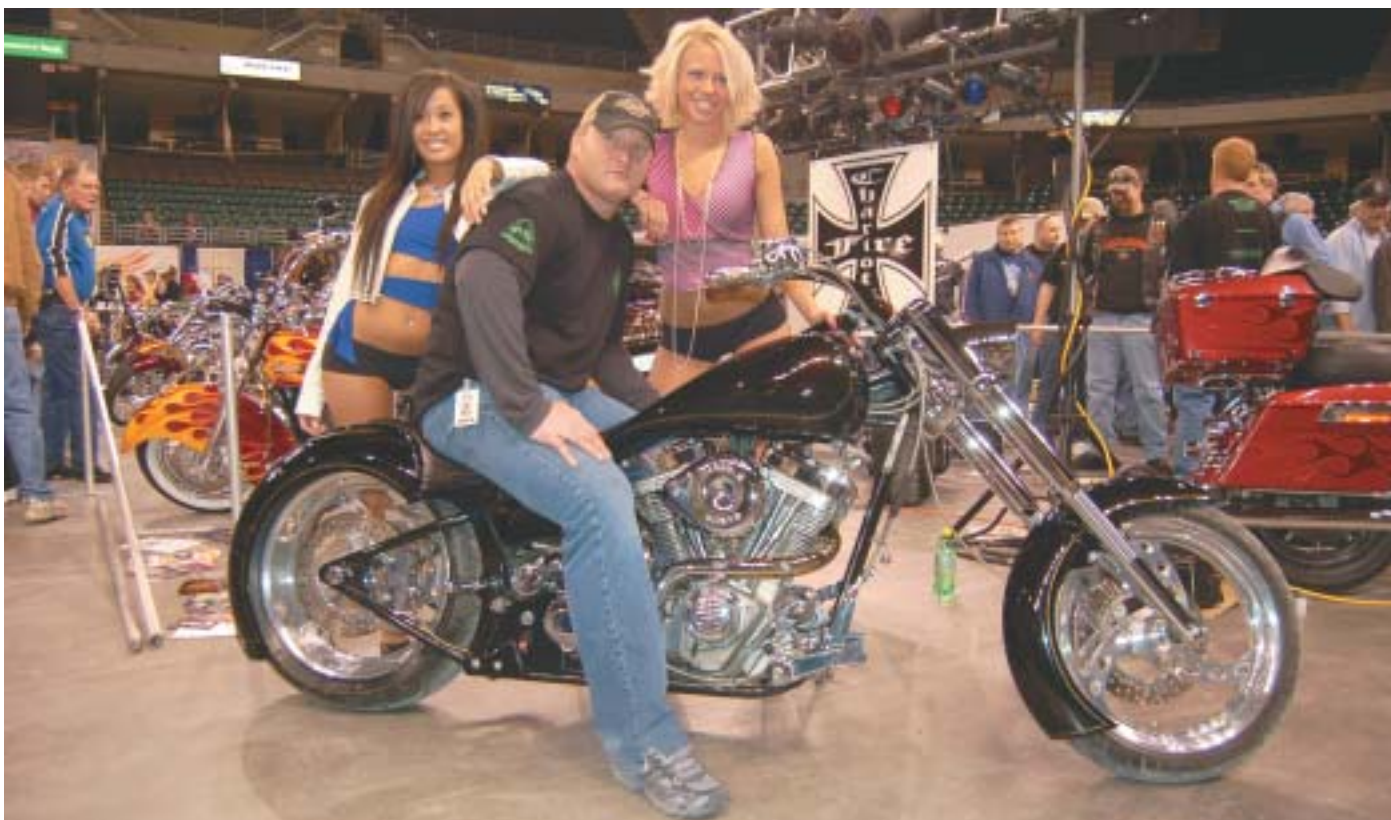
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Dream Bike

By Justin Mueller

I believe that almost all of us who ride have a dream bike. You know the one you build over and over in your head adding chrome, changing paint colors and paint schemes, a new set of tins, a monster engine and the list goes on. Well, I had the opportunity to make my dream a reality with the craftsmanship of a great mechanic, Jan Knobbe, of **Chariots of Fire Customs LLC**, and an awesome painter, Doug Heflin, of Doug's Custom Paint & Restoration.

The custom 2001 Iron Horse Classic I bought is no longer. I am now the proud owner of an Iron Horse custom Sled that took second place in the February Wide Open Motorcycle Show Production Custom class. We took the front forks and changed them out to American Suspension 45 mm inverted forks with a 6 degree rake in the triple trees. The bike was lowered two inches with lowering shocks and the rear tire was changed from a 160 to a 200 tire. A belt to chain conversion kit was suggested by Jan so the bike can handle the raw horsepower and punishment Jan accuses me of putting on my engine. Bone crusher pipes blow blue flames at night! As Jan puts it, "It's all about the comin' and the goin' for Justin!" The clutch was also beefed up, and the sheet metal was modified and switched out. Paul Yaffee front and rear fenders were bought and then modified. The front fender was simply raised in the center. The back fender was sliced in the center

removing two inches and a raised panel was inserted along with a raised panel added to the bottom. The front of the rear fender was also dished out to allow for a custom alligator seat made by Gary Tyler of **Chopper Chairs**.

But wait, I'm not done. The rear fender was also modified on the side to accept a one-off sissy bar. The original tank was modified by welding the tanks together and placing a raised section where the old speedo used to be. I bought Independent Cycle handle bars which we cut and lowered 5 inches to follow the streamline of the bike.



cont on pg 16

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A new Dakota speedo was mounted under the handle bars. New Paul Yaffee grips and pegs finish off the look.

I had all kinds of wild ideas about the paint and Doug helped me narrow it down. The paint scheme had to match the overall look of the bike so we went with a subtle look rather than a loud, wild paint scheme. Doug sprayed a chameleon snakeskin pattern on the raised sections, followed by a rattlesnake root beer color over the entire bike and finished up with very tasteful green and gold pin striping.

A project like this can't be rushed. Jan, Doug, and I spent many hours poring over ideas. As parts arrived and the overall look of the bike came together, we all reached

an agreement about how the bike should flow together. Patience is key in a project like this.

The overall experience of working with Jan Knobbe of **Chariots of Fire** and Doug Heflin of Doug's Custom Paint was phenomenal. Anyone interested in attempting a project of this magnitude should absolutely contact Jan and Doug to assure your dream becomes a reality.



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\$\$\$\$ PAID IN FULL \$\$\$\$

I was shopping for FORR Bike Blessing supplies and we needed a hand-stamp for registration. Last year we used a "Paid In Full" stamp, but it was misplaced over the year. We had really liked this stamp, but could not find another one like it for this year. We bought "PAID" stamps, but feel this leaves the story and meaning half-finished. (The blessing is still a week away and Kathy is still hoping we'll find the stamps like we had last year.)

The main reason we can ask God to bless us, forgive us or heal us is because our sins (or whatever we want to call them) were PAID IN FULL by Christ. As a Christian, we believe His death on the cross (I hope we all know the Easter story) was the payment for our sins and sickness. In the past, the priests offered sacrifices brought to them by the people and they were burned and offered to God in "payment" for their sins. Christ now was the final sacrifice. When Jesus died on the cross and rose again in three days, it changed the way sins are forgiven. We no longer need to use ceremonies or sacrifices; Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for us. God gave Jesus Christ the "PAID IN FULL" stamp and when you ask Him for forgiveness and into your heart, He erases those sins and covers them with the "PAID IN FULL" blessing we all need.

Jesus Christ desires to be part of your life no matter what your sins are. The first step is that you must recognize Him as your Savior and ask Him for forgiveness and invite Him as Lord of your life. Jesus is the friend and Savior of all mankind and showed His love by giving His own life so that we might have eternal life. Decide now to accept this wonderful blessing and have your sins PAID IN FULL!

If you want to talk about this or want someone to pray with you, please don't wait for the next bike blessing or rally. Contact any Christian biker in your area or call me and we'll pray together over the phone. You can call me at (314) 434-2282 or e-mail me at h2osjk@prodigy.net. The Missouri CMA State Coordinator is Clark Doughty, (816) 697-3077, clarkron38@yahoo.com. If you're from the Illinois area, the Illinois State Coordinator is Don (Vicky) Brown, (217) 629-8938, vdBrown77@aol.com. Our Missouri CMA website address is: <http://cmascr4.org/MO/GOODNEWSRIDERS>

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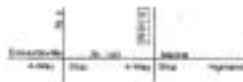
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Sign in from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Last Bike in by 6 p.m.

Sign in at Kelly's, 1901 Broadway in Quincy (222-5579)

\$5.00 ENTRY FEE PER HAND

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BIKE SHOW

Sunday, May 20, 2007

Sign in at Kelly's - 10 a.m. - Judging begins at 1 p.m.

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END OF RUN FUN starts at 6 p.m. Saturday

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Saturday, May 19th

Auction of cut pieces on Sunday, May 20th

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The Priest's Ride

By Jim Furey

On Easter Sunday the Ruff Ryders MC had their Annual Spring Fling Car and Bike Show. This year I made the trip to check it out along with my wife Joy and our videographer Rod Sherrill. Though the weather did not cooperate fully, the longer we stayed, the more people showed up. I heard that later on the crowd really grew and it was a great time. I know we had fun during our time there. Talking to people, and seeing friends new and old. One of the new friends we met was Clyde 'Priest' Strong.

We didn't have the time to stay for the judging but 'Priest' owns one of the sharpest bikes I have seen. It is a 200 Suzuki Hayabusa. For the uninitiated these bad ass bikes come out of the crate ready to go 170 plus and that is only because they've been toned down a little since the day when they would hit 190. Anyway Priest, who lives near "the hill", bought this bike about three years ago from a guy in Michigan. He then took it to Gatlin Racing where he got some of the parts chromed. Seeing how that looked he started buying all chrome aftermarket parts from either the web or from Street Bikes Plus. Hmmm is it just a coincidence that when there is a sharp looking sport bike on the street they've found the owner has at some time found his way to Street Bikes Plus, I think not.

There is another thing that I don't think is a coincidence and that is whenever you see great paint, 9 times out of 10 when you talk to the owner of the bike they say they had it painted by Liquid Illusions and this one was no exception. Darren is one of the top painters in the world and we are lucky enough to have him right here in our backyard. At any rate the design idea came from Priest, and it took two months for him to come up with what he wanted.

He decided on kind of a chopper feel for the paint scheme, with blue skulls and flames. Then he took it to Darren and let the master bring his ideas to life with his artistry. Once again the master delivered in a big way. The more I see of



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the strong customization work being done on all kinds of bikes around here, especially the sport bikes the more it sparks my desire to own one.

Priest has been riding for the past three years and when asked what he enjoyed doing. He replied cruising fast at 100 plus. He has probably gone flying by at some point in time; otherwise I'm sure I would have noticed this awesome machine before.



I would also like to thank Reggie D. and all the Ruff Ryders for their hospitality at their party and look forward to their next bash.



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Break out of that midweek rut! Come out
and ride with us on Wednesday Nights
We Leave Shady Jack's around 7



Not That Same Ride

By Jim Furey

Have you heard about that new ride? If you haven't then either you don't frequent **Shady Jack's Saloon and Deli, 1432 N. Broadway**, or you don't read my blog on the website, cause I've been talking about it there as well. Well this is how it breaks down, in order to make your Hump Day as enjoyable as possible, Shady Jack and his friends Paul and Ann decided to put together a mid-week ride that was a little different, more of a group ride.

The magazine played a small role in the creation process but all in all it was a collaborative effort. We decided to call it the **Bad Ass Riders Ride or the B.A.R. Ride**. Because that is what it is we start every week at Shady Jack's pretty simple no calling to figure out where to go, we leave there promptly, do you really believe that, somewhere after 7 PM. Then we go and visit local bars on both sides of the river that have a history of being Biker Friendly and not just biker money friendly.

There have been three Wednesdays as of this writing, and the weather hasn't been awesome for any of them however Wednesday the 18th was by far the best and we had a little more than 20 bikes how up. A huge increase from the 6 that were there the first night, that is the night Joy and I were P.A.R. riders. I think if you work on that long enough you'll figure out what the p stands for. That night I know I'm leaving out some names here but maybe I'll find my notes soon. Jack, Scotty, Paul, Ann, Jonesy and several other riders mounted up and headed off on our first ride. We went to **S & J Main Street** in Columbia, IL. This is an awesome place and Sis, the owner, being a rider herself, really knows how to make bikers feel at home with great food and a wide selection of beverages. We hung out for a while and then headed back to Jack's.

The next weekend weathered us out so we just hung out at Jack's, always a good time especially with this crowd. This past week we hit two places, the first being Frank's First Alarm on South Virginia. This is a good corner bar and Frank also rides, as well as being a fireman. Say hi to Brandy the next time you visit this very friendly watering hole. Then it was off to the Broadway Bistro and a chance to catch up with old friend Jessie. I had some of their wings there and talk about good. Also their Wednesday Night lingerie show is something you don't want to miss, although we did.

The bottom line is if you are looking to have fun, and ride some mid-week come on down to Shady Jack's and join us. All are welcome and we will visit establishments throughout the area and the rides will vary in length. I hope to see you there.



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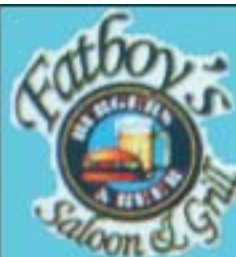
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Upcoming Events

Weekly Events

Tuesday Two Wheel Tuesday - at Show-Mes on Lincoln Highway in Fairview Heights, IL and Cape Girardeau, MO

Wednesday Weasel Wednesdays - at Double Ds Hangout 9853 S Broadway St Louis this is a fun group

Wednesday Bad Ass Riders Ride or B.A.R. Ride - leaves Shady Jack's on North Broadway around 7 PM

Thursdays STUNNA Thursdays - At Paradise 1, 615 Missouri St East St Louis, IL (618) 482-5578 DJ

Thursdays Bike Night at Bikers Corner - at 1924 N Vandeventer Ave in St Louis, MO

Thursdays Bike Night at Chuck-A-Burger St Charles - 3150 Elm Pointe Industrial Dr., St Charles, MO 63301

Thursdays Hardriders - call their hotline (314) 340-2000 for info

Thursdays Bike Night at Geos Wings and More - on West Main in Belleville, IL from 6:30 to 10

May

3rd Legacy and Lonestar Bike Nite at Legacy Harley-Davidson Featuring food and beverages from Lonestar Steakhouse

At Legacy Harley Davidson in Effingham, IL

5th - 6th TJs Bar and Grill Anniversary Party Hwys 61/67 and Z in Pevely, Mo

5th Hot Bike of Quincy Open House always lots of cool stuff going on at this party last year Sid Wilson showed up who will be here this year on Broadway in Quincy, IL

5th Festus HOG Dinner Run from dealership to West Side Inn at 10:30

5th 5th Annual Spring Fling Motorcycle Show at Summers at the River 2126 N Fox Hollow Dr in Nixa, MO \$10 Admission for info call Rick (417) 833 - 2282

5th Relay for Life Poker Run in Memory of Steve Kelly sign up at Spokes Pub and Grill, Farmington, MO. Hwy 67 and W First out 10 last in at 5. 25\$ per rider includes meal and 50\$ raffle 1st prize \$5000 2nd \$500 3rd \$50 ticket includes ride and meal only 300 tickets to be sold. Entertainment and attendance prizes following at Spokes. Rain Date May 12th. For info contact John Kelly 573-701-3940 or Dena Hart 573-760-4038. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

6th Biker's Helping Veterans poker run and bike show, bike show leaves from L and D Patio in McClure, IL at 9, events at Cape Girardeau MO Veteran's Home start at 12:30 call (573) 545-4591 for info

6th 17th Annual Freedom Rally meet at IDOT Building 2300 Dirksen Pkwy in Springfield, IL leaves for Capitol Building at 1 PM

6th Benefit Poker Run for Relay for Life sign up from 10 to noon at Jim and Cindys in Marissa, IL lots of great prizes

6th Dream Weavers Rodeo At Jerseyville Illinois American Legion sign up from 10 to noon

6th Statesmen MC and VFW Post 3777 Poker Run register at Chucks Boots 300 Biltmore, Suite 104 Fenton, MO from 10 to noon

6th Blessing of the Bikes in Park Hills, Chili dump 10 am

6th Annual Bikers Helping Veterans Poker Run and Bike Show 9 AM at L and D Patio McClure, IL ends at Cape Girardeau Veterans Home and Bike Show is at 2 PM at Veterans Home call (573) 545-4591

6th Fabick Cat 1st Annual Poker Runs sign up at Fabick in Fenton, MO from 10 to 11 for a fun run that benefits Reach Out and Read call (63) 680-1396 for info

12th Spring Fashion Show At Legacy Harley Davidson in Effingham, IL

12th 4th Annual Spring Fling to Save Babies Poker Run a March of Dimes event sign up from 10 to 11 at TJs in Pevely, MO from 10 to 11, get there early for breakfast first 50 to register get patch and rocker

12th Cycle Saints Run For the Son sign up at Teds Motorcycle World from 11 to noon

12th Double Ds Hangout 2nd Anniversary Party lots of fun stuff and maybe an appearance by the Hustler girls at 9853 S Broadway St Louis

12th Festus HOG Vet's Ride Meet at the Shop 9:30 AM Dinner Ride to Branding Iron In Jackson Mo

12th Harrisburg Illinois ALR Riders Poker Run for the Haven registration from 11 to noon at the Harrisburg Illinois American Legion Post 167 the Haven is a Veterans Retreat Home on Crab Orchard Lake.

12th 1st Annual Poker Run and Fireworks Display sponsored by the Christopher, IL Jaycees sign up at Christopher Jaycees 107 Thomas ST 3 or 4 wheels no rain date for info call (618) 554-1571
17th - 19th Hog Wild Rodeo at Conesville, IA this is one party you need to check out.

18th - 21st Branson Motorcycle Rally Branson, MO visit www.bransonmotorcyclerrally.com for more info

18th - 19th M.S. Family Fun Day and Cruise-In at the VFW Grounds in Highland, IL Friday from 7 to 11 PM and all day Saturday lots of fun events to check out and proceeds go to fight M.S.

19th SEMO Run What Ya Brung Field Events outside Lesterville MO field events, live music and much more

19th PIASA Gateway ABATE Top Gun Competition At Teds Motorcycle World from 11 to 3 PM

20th Kindred Poker Run sign up at Runway Lounge in Bethalto Illinois from noon to 2

20th 12th Annual Cancer Ride Sign up at Frieze Harley-Davidson in Beelville, IL 10:30 am to noon. Ride ends at the Grizzlies Ball Park

20th Bike Show by Great River ABATE at Kellys on Broadway in Quincy, IL

25th - 27th FORR Local 25 Dexter, MO Rodeo behind the American Legion in Qulin, MO bike show starts at 2 on Sat and Field events at 3 for info call Robert (573) 293-4754

27th Skyriders Memorial Run sign up at their clubhouse in Livingston, IL from 11 to 1

June

1st - 2nd Big Hands for Little Giants at the Illinois Centre Mall in Marion, Illinois in the parking lot a two day event with the poker run on Saturday sponsored by the Marion Road Runners.

1st - 3rdh FORR District 6 Rodeo in Central MO more details to follow

2nd Poker run for Meals on Wheels of Washington, IL County sign up from 11 to 1 at Gallaghers in Freeburg or Driftwood Station in Venedy Station for more info call Sheila (618) 977 - 9378

3RD 100 Miles for Arthritis also known as Smash and Twisters Excellent Adventure sign up from 11 to 1 at Twisters Hwy 94 and Wolfrum in St Peters

3rd Motorheads Poker Run sign up at Phyl, chet and Roses in Marine, IL from 11 to 1

Top Gun

Does just hearing those two words bring back memories of Tom Cruise flying around in Navy jets, to become the best pilot in the air? "The best of the best."

We are looking for you as well, but not airplane pilots. We are looking for the best motorcycle riders in the area. "The Best of the Best." We are the Piasa Gateway Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois Inc.

This will be our 11th annual Top Gun event. Top Gun is held in the spring as the motorcycle riding season begins, and it gives motorcycle riders the opportunity to brush up on their skills prior to hitting the roads again. **The event will be Saturday, May 19, at Ted's Motorcycle World in Alton. Sign up is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** There will be \$1,900 in cash, prizes and plaques to be awarded. Food and beverages will also be available as well as DJ Scott for your musical entertainment and radio air personalities.

The competition is from noon until 3 p.m. and is open to anyone who can ride a motorcycle. From six to sixty, age does not matter. In fact, we would like to get the young riders here to give them tips for riding safely. We offer some of the same skill requirements you would find if you attended one of the Free Motorcycle Rider Courses offered throughout the state of Illinois. Piasa Gateway is the older of the two chapters in the state of Illinois to offer this type of class to the general public. There are seven (7) skill tests that you ride and are graded on, including braking, turns, and slow speed maneuvering.

We offer three different classes for the participants: 0-499cc's, 500-999cc's and 1000cc's and up. There is individual competition as well as 3-rider team competition. We also encourage all of the women riders to come out for this, as there are more female riders every day. I am going to go out on a limb here by saying that we have one of the best women riders in our chapter and she returns home a winner every year. She needs some competition, and I know there are a lot of women riders out there.

May is also Motorcycle Awareness Month throughout the United States. This month is set aside to inform the general public about motorcycle riders and to look out for them on the nation's roads and highways. Since this is Motorcycle Awareness Month, we will also be doing some riding impaired training as well.

I am issuing a challenge to all motorcycle riders—individual, chapter, club or organization—to attend this function. As an incentive, we are starting a traveling trophy for bragging rights to the winning chapter/club in the team competition. Think you can win it? Come out and let's find out.

So if you're the "Best of the Best," see you May 19th at Ted's.

Ed Show President
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There we were blasting down the highway on our bikes, me and a few of my brothers. We were bumping foot pegs and loosely shaking hands, smokin' our noses, high-fiving it while riding down the road grinning at one another and doing the usual screw with your brother stuff. Things that my brothers and I have done more times than I can count. These are all unforgettable memories of riding with brothers for a long time, if not a lifetime...priceless things/times that most people want/dream about doing.

As we are blasting down the road, I got to thinking that here is yet another story/chapter of my book. There were about a half dozen of us headed to meet up with a few more brothers, then on to a brother's/forever friend's wedding and reception with some good lifetime friends, good food andoh yeah.....and some live music. Sounds like a good time to me!

We made it to the church and there was another bunch of brothers on their bikes/choppers, about 30 -40 of us. The wedding at the church was filled with people and the wedding service was really nice. We all hung around outside the church for a while talking and carrying on. Then we all took off and headed to the reception.

Just the sound of that many Harleys and riding together with your brothers, there is nothing like it in the world...period...it simply does not get any better here on this Planet! There is something about making these memories that is ...perfect. Every time I ride or see any of my brothers, it's another memory.

Anyway back blasting down the road on the way to the reception, I was looking around at everybody. I got to thinking about how long we have been doing these things and how many miles we've gone. There was quite assortment of brothers riding. Some of us have been riding 30 years plus and some 10-20 years. I figured that, roughly estimating, a half dozen of us have over a Hundred Years Of Brotherhood and Over a Million Miles between us. Wow...perfect; I would not change a thing.

At the reception, everybody was carrying on having

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a few drinks, conversing and seeing a few people some of us had not seen in a while. I had an awesome time, went to another party and carried on till daylight. After that—well, that is another story. I'm going to wrap this one up. Get on that Harley, find a few Brothers and get to making those unforgettable memories. Trust me; you will not ever regret it. So put that Harley in the wind every time you can and someday you may look back and think about all those brothers and how many miles you have gone! Till next time, I will be riding and carrying on the next Hundred Years Of Brotherhood and Another Million Miles. Oh yeah, all you people that wish and dream about doing these things, Dirty Johnny says grow a ponytail and pull your head out of your ass.....FUZZY.....



Allow Us to Say Hello

Hey Bikers, I know a lot of you already know us and love us. I am happy to say that I have joined *The Biking Life* family and joining me is Fuzzy who is coming along for the ride. Check out his story this month, "100 Years of Brotherhood and a Million Miles;" it's awesome! We are extremely happy to join Jim & his staff at *The Biking Life* magazine. We'll see you at the rides, rallies and parties this year. Time to ride!

You can email me your comments, events or ads at kathy@thebikinglife.com. See you at the Spring Fling in Springfield, MO on May the 5th, at Biker Sunday on May 6th in California, MO and, of course, at the Semo Run "What Ya Brung" in Lesterville, MO on May 19th & 20th. Be there or be square... Keep it Balls to the Wall ...

Kathy & Fuzzy

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Biker Biz Bits



Chariots of Fire has expanded. Come check out our new show room! We went from 1200 square feet to 2000 square feet. It may not sound like a great leap, but it is amazing what an additional 800 feet can do. Jan now has five lifts to work on your bikes. Reine has additional space up front for consignment bikes and more product. With awesome volunteers we were able to get all the construction, painting, and moving completed in an amazing three weeks. Thanks to Benny, Doug, and Rob for their countless late nights. Also thanks to Kathy, Tim, Marykay, Sparky, and Jake for help with painting, clean-up, and moving the store front around. **Chariots of Fire Customs** appreciates the patience of our patrons while we underwent this transformation and for all their support throughout the year. Jan & I are very proud of what we have accomplished over the past two years and would love for you to come by and see for yourself. See ya soon and *keep the shiny side up!*

Thanks, Jim, for creating this great section in *The Biking Life*. It is nice to have a spot to update our customers on bigger happenings at our shop.



Joker's Motorcycle Parts & Service, LLC is owned and operated by Austin (a.k.a. Joker) & Nancy Beshears along with their children Chris and Julia Beshears and Kelli Birch. Chris is a certified Harley-Davidson mechanic who graduated from MMI (Motorcycle Mechanic Institute) in 2006. Joker has been riding and working bikes for over 35 years.

Chris rides a Buell and Joker rides a 95 FLHTC (ElectraGlide). **Joker's Motorcycle Parts & Service, LLC** opened in March 2006 at 1015 Plaza Dr ,St Clair,MO . The store is only open evenings and weekends. We're closed Monday but open 6PM to 9 PM Tues-Fri and 9AM-8 PM Saturday and 9AM-6PM Sunday. Service work is done by appointment only at the shop at 2716 Spotted Horse Trl ,St Clair ,MO 63077, phone 636 629-0999, our email is jokersmcparts@sbcglobal.net. At the store we sell parts for many brands of motorcycles, helmets, T-shirts, leathers, sunglasses, goggles and other accessories.



Derby Al's Diner, 2845 Camp Jackson Rd in Cahokia, Illinois recently reopened after suffering severe storm damage last year. Derby, a longtime member of the riding community and Mary serve up great home cooked meals 7 days a week.

Please stop in and check them out the place is very cool with a 1950's diner atmosphere, right down to the old-style jukebox and several other nice touches and the food is excellent.



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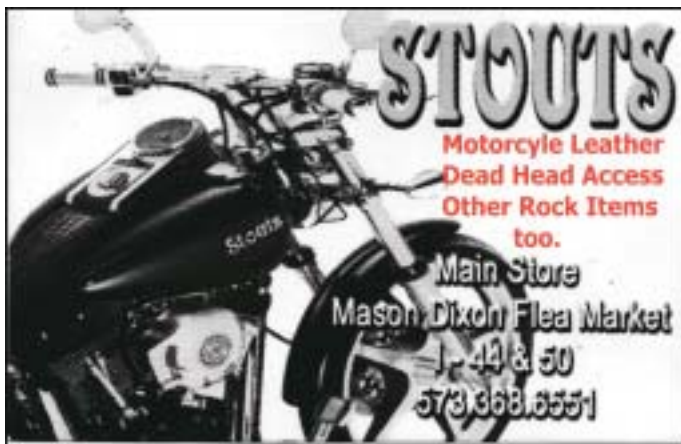
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Biker Biz Bits(continued)

A SAD DAY IN CLARKSVILLE

With biking weather upon us it is important for all our fellow riders to know that the Steamboat Restaurant and Lounge in Clarksville has new owners. The building was sold on February 27th and on February 28th the new owners informed Mike & Sue that they would not honor the remaining two years on the lease and they had 30 days to vacate the premises.

We're all saddened that after Mike and Sue put forth so much time and energy to create a biker friendly atmosphere, not to mention great food and ice cold beverages, the business is closed. It appears that the new owners are planning to reopen the restaurant under the same, but be assured that the chef and wait staff are not the same.

If you never went to the Steamboat, it was the sight of the River Rally Pig Roast to benefit MDA. It was also the final stop for Doc's Poker Run. It was always a good stop for any run between St. Louis and Hannibal along scenic highway 79. We'll miss the great food and hospitality that was always extended to fellow bikers.

We're anxious to hear about Mike & Sue's future plans. They can throw them out of the building but they can't throw them out of the business. Stay tuned for future announcements.

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F.O.R.R. Leather and Lace Rocks the House

By Monty Monachella

When you do something right, it grows and improves. That is exactly what has happened with one event, the F.O.R.R. Local 42 Annual Leather and Lace Dance. Most of the time, this group is busy working to protect and enhance our freedom to ride our bikes but several times a year they throw a party like no one else. This event is one of those occasions. We thank good friend Gina Dean for inviting us. This makes three years in a row for us; yes we've known about and covered this event for a while.

This is a party for bikers by bikers and like that first robin, a harbinger that spring and riding season will finally be here soon. In fact, there were several hardy souls that rode this year and there always are some riders. The members of Local 42 put out

quite a spread of food and it is always tasty. This year was no exception; in fact I really enjoyed the smokies wrapped in bacon but everything I sampled was good. But then this is an evening for tasty things, and there were quite a few very tasty ladies here.

The music this year was provided by Loose Change, and they had people in the spirit to dance and have a great time. Well maybe the liquid refreshments played a role in that dance thing too. Good food and music sounds like a recipe for a fun event but at this party it is just the start. Then there are the contests, oh yes, the contests and the outfits. The ladies got quite a treat with their eye candy contest. Remarkably some old guy doesn't usually win this one unlike some others.

Then guys we get our treat as the ladies vie to see who has the best outfit of the year, or sometimes who is the proudest woman. Each year the costumes get better and better. The judging here is remarkably fair although Jim's wife Joy and his stepdaughter probably deserved to stay another round but Joy's back doesn't allow her to shake it quite as much as she used to. But that said the winners were all deserving.

We saw a lot of friends here, good people like Wildman and St Helen, and Bob and Joan Hightower representatives of the Hartbauer/McBride Foundation. We also saw Al and Mel. Mel was once again in the tattoo contest; she has some amazing ink.

You have made this event a huge success, it has grown to the point where they needed the larger room and even with that, they sold out ahead of time for the first time ever. While I know that Local 42 appreciates your support of their fundraisers, I also know they need your support to continue to fight for our freedoms. So please take the time to write an email or make a call to help them help us. And watch for their Bike Show which is coming up a little later on.

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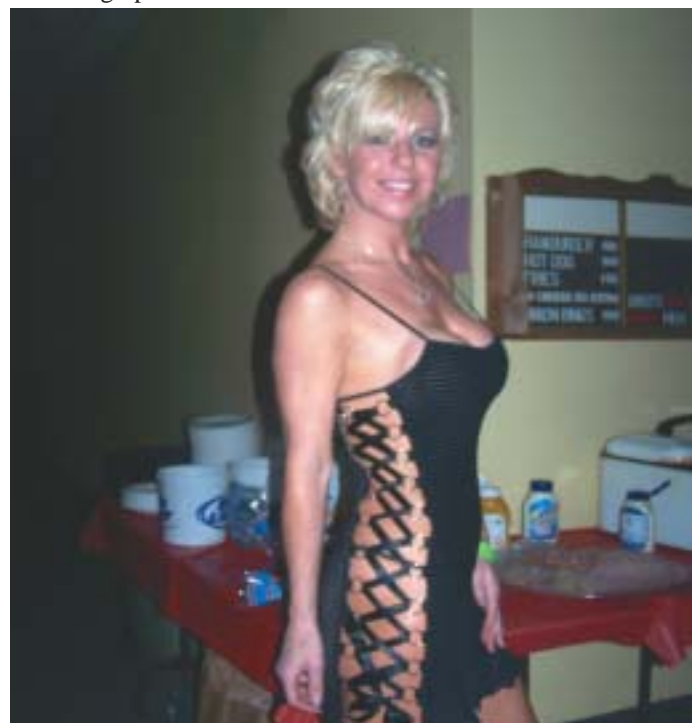
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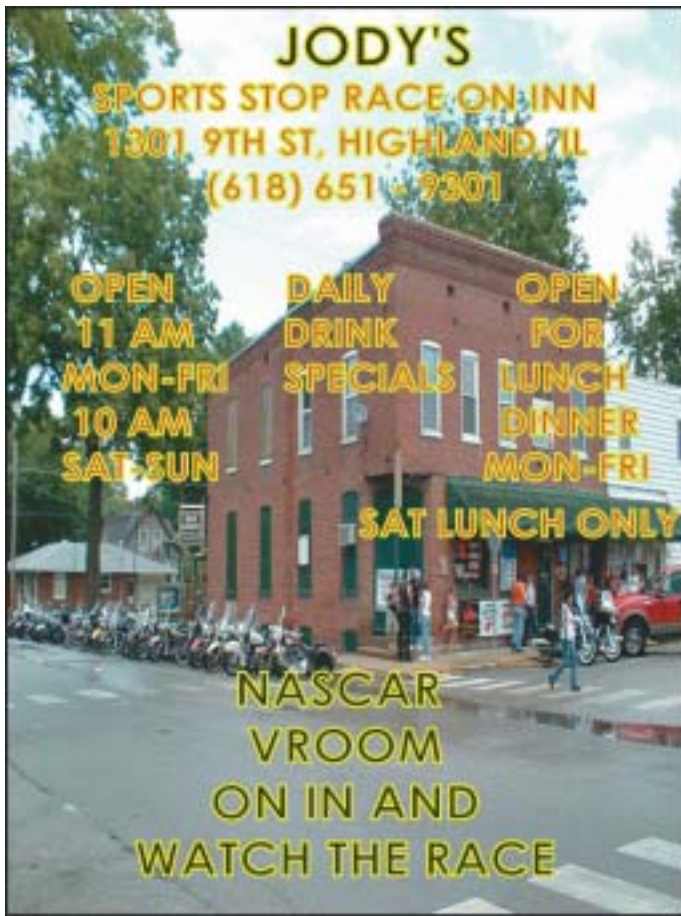
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Kirkwood HOG Streets of St. Louis Ride By John Skala

One sure sign that the riding season has officially begun is seeing the “Streets of St. Louis” ride on the calendar. A former director of the Kirkwood HOG Chapter said he borrowed the idea from the Streets of San Francisco ride he saw in California. Since this ride traditionally takes place in early April, it is a short ride because you never know what kind of weather you will have for the ride. The former director also says it is planned to be as much a social event as a ride.

However, the weather gods cooperated and the weather on this April 1st ride was no April Fool’s joke. The ride started at Doc’s Harley-Davidson with the temperature in the 60’s and just got better from there. The sun brought out well over 200 bikes and plenty of people ready to ride. After a stop at Harry’s on Southwest Ave. to enjoy a cold one on their patio, it was on to Blueberry Hill. Joe Edwards and the rest of the U City loop were introduced to a lot of fine looking bikes. From there, it was a stop at Weber’s Front Row, then on to St. Louis Sports Zone in Kenrick Plaza, kudos to Bob Barth and Joe Yates for putting on this great ride.

Like most of the rides by Kirkwood and the other local HOG chapters, all bikes were welcome and a good time was had by everyone on the ride regardless of what they rode. For more information on upcoming rides by the Kirkwood chapter Harley Owners Group or any of the other motorcycle organizations, check out the “Clubs” button at www.thebikinglife.com for links to their web sites.

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The Season Starts at TJ's by Killer Miller

Well folks, after a long cold snap and only one day after a snow shower, Killer and the big red Victory were on the road at TJ's Bar and Grill's first ride of the year. This St. Patrick's day ride is sponsored by **Don's Speed Shop** (now owned by Mark "Pappy" Miller) in Barnhart, MO. It was a good day for a ride and was well attended with various clubs in attendance.

Don and his Mrs. plus Pappy were there and of course Terry and Sue making sure everything was right. *The Biking Life* crew consisting of me and the Monties even came to the rescue of a poor rider whose EVO was being more like evil.



The following week TJ's was the even more gracious host of the ride for Emma Hill, a little 2 year old with leukemia. It seems like everyone on this side of Jeff county is either related to the family or knows someone who is. Yours truly included, as I went to school with her grandpa Judge Tim Miller. (Yes, it comes in handy knowing a judge.)

The first cool thing about this run other than the weather and the turnout (over 120 riders) was the little 5 year old boy, Dillon Hart, who had been saving soda tabs to get an XBOX. Instead, after hearing about Emma from his parents and grandparents who are members of Kirkwood HOG, he donated two huge containers of tabs for her fund. That's a photo of him on the red and silver Screamin' Eagle HD. His family should be proud. Also among the people who should be proud are all the fine establishments that let us riders grace their places: Hazzards, the O' Aces, Crystal Tavern, and the final stop, the KC hall in Festus, MO. This place was absolutely filled with riders, friends and family, all listening to the great music provided by Cedar Creek and the Worxx bands and bidding on the auction items supplied by so many people it would take the rest of this space to list them. All anyone can say is thanks to everyone involved. Even though my hand wasn't worth a dang after the third stop, Cathy Zye's was, and she won first place. Tom Reynolds won the 50/50 and congrats to him and Kelly on their impending marriage. Joyce and I wish you all the best on your future life together.

Of course the family of Emma was the big winner with more than \$1,200 dollars raised on the poker run alone. Another \$10,000 or so from all the other activities of the weekend should really help her family and help this brave little girl defeat this illness. Killer out, riding, racing taking photos and video, hope to see you out here too.



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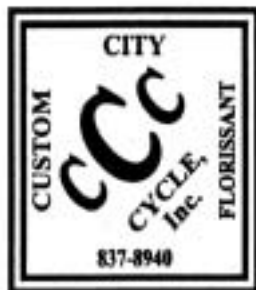
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This month's featured ink can be found on Michelle from Highland, IL, here is what she told us about it. We took my oldest daughter to get her second tattoo for her birthday and she finally convinced me that I should get one too. My tattoo represents all the things that I love the most. I have three roses; the larger rose represents my husband (of 22 years and counting!) and the two rose buds represent my children, Leea and Kayla. I of course love roses too! I had Trevor from Iron Age in University City put "Harley Davidson" in the banner because I had just recently started riding on my own and we purchased a new 2005 Softtail Deluxe just before my 41st birthday! Nothing like fighting turning 40 or anything!!!! Basically I told Trevor what I wanted and he drew it up for me.

Think your ink belongs here, Michelle did. If so send us a pic to inkspot@thebikinglife.com.

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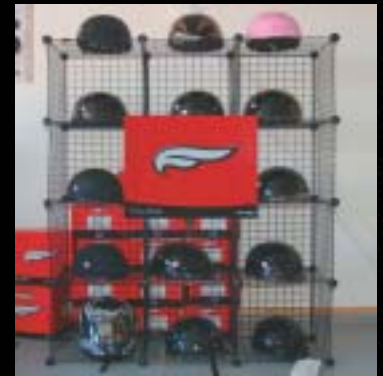


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