

THUNDER ROADS

MICHIGAN

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**1ST ANNUAL
MICHIGAN
THUNDER RUN
RIDE N' WIN
CONTEST!**

**BIG CHIEF CUSTOM
PULL-OUT CALENDAR
IS BACK!**

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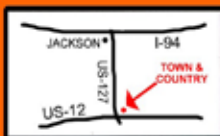
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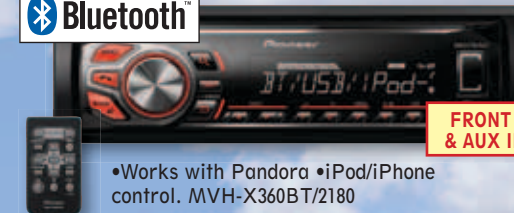
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ON THE COVER

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BIKE Brandon Childress
LOCATION Old Central Train Station (Detroit)

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Is Spring in the Air?

Well its April folks and it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas... ha ha! Anyone that has lived long enough in Michigan knows the weather is truly unpredictable here. A few years ago it was 80 degrees in March! I don't know about you, but I am sick of talking about and enduring this weather. So, let's think spring. Let's daydream about summer. Let's get out and ride! Speaking of...

In this issue make sure to check out what is coming soon... the 1st Annual Michigan Thunder Run Ride n' Win Contest! This is a summer long contest (actually running from June until the end of October) where you can win prizes just for riding! I don't know about you, but, "If it's free it's for me!" Speaking of that too... Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan is free because of our awesome advertisers! So make sure to show your support and patronize those businesses.

Do you have a cool ride and would like to show it off? Submit your photos (7 - 8 high resolution- nice quality) along with a paragraph describing your bike to editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com and you may be featured in one of our Readers Rides articles.

Still looking to fill a few territories... look to your left at the bottom under Representative Wanted for the following areas... if you live in one of those and are interested in joining our team, just send me an email and let me know which territory and a little about yourself.

If you haven't checked out our Thunder Store make sure to do so by going to www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com. Also, to keep up to date on the latest happenings like us on Facebook.

Last month the Biker Friendly character was on page 42. Thanks Tech Tips Steve! See if you can find him this month (see character you are looking for in the Biker Friendly Directory (much smaller version to find in each issue).

Happy Birthday Miss Emilee!

Now for some "Mo" Advice:

Shall we dance? "Work like you don't need the money. Love like you have never been hurt. And dance like nobody's watching." You know, anything that takes up that much time- you better enjoy it or at the very least make the best of it. We have all been broken hearted- don't carry that with you when you meet someone great. Lastly, life is too short to care about if you will look silly- just live!

Jody Mohowitsch



APRIL 2014 THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE MICHIGAN 7

K.I.S.S. IN THE KITCHEN

KEEP IT SIMPLE SWEETIE



I HAVE CHOSEN THIS NAME FOR OUR MONTHLY RECIPE PAGE, AS THAT WAS WHAT MY MOTHER, REST HER SOUL, ALWAYS USED TO SAY WHEN I WOULD ASSIST HER IN THE KITCHEN. MOM WAS AN AVID SUPPORTER OF THE K.I.S.S. (KEEP IT SIMPLE SWEETIE) METHOD OF COOKING. I NOW, MORE THAN EVER, TRULY APPRECIATE HER PHILOSOPHY OF ALWAYS TAKING SHORTCUTS WHERE YOU CAN, AS LONG AS YOUR ULTIMATE OUTCOME IS THAT OF DOWN HOME, LABOR OF LOVE COOKING.

K.I.S.S. page composed & edited by: Toni McCoy Shearon of Tennessee aka "MaMa Thunder" of Thunder Roads Tennessee

SO SIMPLE SPAGHETTI CARBONARA

1 Pound of Quality Spaghetti (don't ever cheap out on primary ingredients)
1 Stick of Real Butter OR Quality Margarine such as "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter"
1 Pound of Applewood/Thick Sliced Bacon, Cooked Crisp & Rough Chopped in Medium Size Pieces. If you're not an authentic bacon lover, you can get away with just half a pound. Not me though. lol
2 Tbs. of Minced Garlic (you can buy a jarful already minced in Deli/Produce area)
4 Large Eggs put out till reaches room temperature
1 Cup of Freshly Grated Parmesan Cheese, plus more for garnish topping (I'd tell you that you could use the shaker kind but you really can't. Just buy a block of it and use your cheese grater or, ask them to grate an entire pound for you at the Deli counter. They'll gladly do it for you.
Salt & Pepper to taste, however..... Salt the water for the Spaghetti heavily as it's the only time you get to flavor the spaghetti internally.

Bring a large pot of heavily salted water to a full boil. After you've cooked up your bacon nice and crisp, (pour off most of the bacon grease into a container if you're cooking a pound of bacon) saute' up the minced garlic after cooking up 2nd round of bacon. Use a very large and high skillet as you're going to be adding the cooked pasta to it. Some people just use their spaghetti pot and add all the ingredients to it as it's already so high. I do this, but others prefer the all-in-1 skillet method. You'll find your own groove.
In a separate bowl, whisk up the 4 eggs and 1 cup of grated Parmesan cheese. Add a good amount of fresh cracked black pepper. If mix is too tight, loosen it with some of the pasta water. When the minced garlic is just golden (never overcook) add the bacon back in and stir with a wooden spoon to incorporate well together. **Remove from heat** and stir in the egg & cheese mixture until creamy. Quickly add the drained spaghetti. Add 2 Tbs. of butter or margarine. If need be, add more pasta water to loosen if seems dry. It must be wet, loose & creamy. Fold out onto a large serving pasta platter and garnish with parsley and more Parmesan cheese. Serve with hot, crusty, lemon-butter bread. Delizioso!

OLD SKOOL VINEGAR PIE

2 Cups of Cool Water
1/2 Cup All-Purpose Flour
2 Cups Sugar
2 Eggs; beaten & frothy
6 Tablespoons Apple Cider Vinegar
2 tsps. Limoncello (lemon flavored liqueur OR lemon extract (It's better w/ Limoncello, although in "the day", lemon extract was always used.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Use a store bought pie shell. Bake as per directions & cool completely.
In heavy 2-qt. saucepan, bring water to a full boil. In small bowl, combine flour and sugar, tossing with a fork to blend. Add the flour mix to boiling water and cook, whisking often, until thickened, about 7 minutes. Remove from heat and slowly add the eggs, whisking vigorously. Return to medium-low heat and cook, whisking until velvety smooth; about 3 minutes. Add the vinegar and Limoncello and whisk just to blend. Pour into the cooled pastry shell and refrigerate until set; 3 hours and never sooner. I think alot of people don't try this pie because of the name but damn....it is so good with lemon ice-cream.
Great...now I'm toally jonsing for it.

EASTER LOVIN' PISTACHIO WHOOPY PIES

1 Box of Cocoa Chocolate Cake Mix (If can't find, just get regular Milk Chocolate mix and add 1 Cup of Real Cocoa Mix mixed with 1/2 cup sugar).
Blend all ingredients as per pkg. directions. Lay out 2 large cookie sheets with baking parchment paper or non-stick mats. Take a small ice-cream or sherbet ball scoop that is approximate to the size of 2 Tablespoons and scoop into balls. Place balls all over both cookie pans. Leave 2-1/2 inches for balls to spread out. Take a rubber spatula and just press slightly so that all balls will bake down 1/2 inch thick. Bake 12 mins. so they're cracked on the surface. Cool 1 min. then transfer to a rack to cool thoroughly.
Put Pistachio ice-cream in refrigerator to soften up for about 20 minutes. Scoop 1/2 cup of ice-cream on each Whoopi and cover with another & squish slightly to form a sandwich. Freeze for no less than 2 hours before serving. These Rock!

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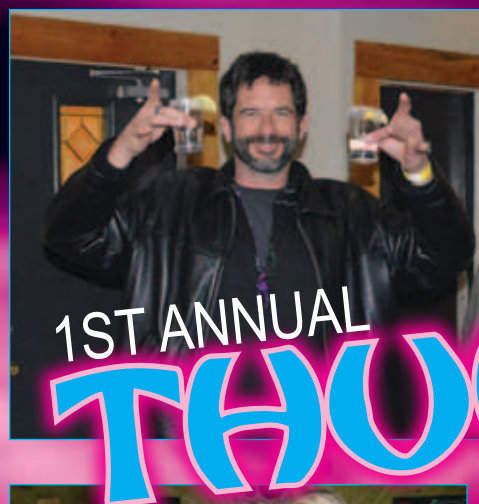
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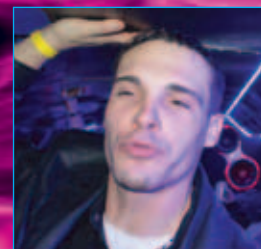


1ST ANNUAL THUNDER

FUN

NIGHT!

BY Billy D



Well I know, it's been a long cold winter and you don't need me to tell you that.... Plus, I was getting just a little tired of all my retired buddies tell'n me how warm it was down in Florida. Razzing me about how they were getting bored with all the great riding, great bars and endless sun. Oh My God I thought when will summer get here, the great Michigan riding, the bike nights, and fun loving mayhem that comes with biking season! So... I was about to shoot some holes in my freezer, just for spite, when out of the blue I received an E-mail from Jody Mo announcing the 1st annual TR Fun Night! I'm here to tell ya friends that I was saved, so was my freezer.

So it came to pass, that on a snowy February afternoon we all gathered at the Midland Resort to prime ourselves for an evening on the town with the Thunder Roads Staff and a bus load of fun loving readers. To get the party started, we settled in at Midland Resorts Restaurant for an awesome dinner that included Roast beef, chicken, and all the fix'n's. As we wrapped up dinner, there were drawings for the first round of prizes and then we all piled into the party bus for the real fun to begin. The next stop was the Boulevard Lounge, where complete strangers began to become friends. When you get people together who love motorcycles, it doesn't take long to find common interests. Great music and a few brews always help's too. Next, it was onto Big D's Bar & Grill and by this time the party was getting into gear. At Big D's there was more great music and drawings for lots more prizes! The last stop of the evening was My Alibi Bar



& Grill. A truly great live band was rocking out and the setting could not have been better for a lot of dancing and conversation. After My Alibi we returned to the Midland Resort to wrap up the evening and continue the party. We also had the drawing for the Grand Prize hotel package for 2 at Midland Resort that was won by Tony Clark. Congratulations Tony! The staff at Midland Resort was great and the accommodations could not have been better.

Thanks to all the Thunder Roads advertisers and supporters who helped out with the evening including The Boulevard Lounge, Big D's Bar & Grill, and My Alibi Bar & Grill. Special Thanks to Silver Sand Party



Bus, Inc for providing the transportation for the evening, the bus was awesome! Thanks to the Midland Resort for the great food and accommodations for the evening. Finally, we really appreciate our readers who ventured out to party and make the 1st Annual Thunder Roads Fun Night a huge success, see ya next year! Mark your calendars for the Saturday before Super Bowl!

VETERANS CORNER

Greetings Fellow Polar Bears!

By the time this hits the bike shops it will be spring. But as I write this, it is 8 degrees outside and a large drift near the window blocks my view of the driveway. What I want to know is which one of you pissed off the Gods? Lots of Thunder Roads readers want to know also so we can come to your house and give you a “blanket party” as we called it in the military. I’m catching a plane this week to Florida to get out of this cold for a week. I surrender!

Congress Blink

As you are probably aware by now, in the ongoing soap opera in D.C. the politicians blinked on the Cost Of Living Allowance decrease issue for military retirees. Military retirees will not see a lesser COLA increase than other federal retirees. They took a lot of flak for that in D.C. and retreated to stand a better chance of getting reelected.

Domestic Energy Execs Lobbying Congress About G.I. Bill, Military Exit Training

Executives told a House subcommittee that the number of jobs in the country’s oil, natural gas and solar industries has increased by as much as 40 percent since the recent recession -- creating scores of high-paying jobs for which veterans are qualified.

Veterans face several hurdles toward landing those jobs, including resumes mired in complicated military jargon and a GI Bill that seems more crafted to help finance a college education than pay for high-skilled technical training.

The government does a great job of preparing civilians for military service but less so in readying them to enter the job market. An eight-week course could cost as much as \$10,000 and quickly deplete some of the bill’s housing benefits. One suggestion was job training for military personnel before they are discharged. “We need a reverse boot camp.”

“Can You Hear Me Now?” VA Wait For Hearing Aids

VA is taking weeks to provide or repair hearing aids for its patients, leaving hearing-impaired veterans at risk. The VA has promised to provide hearing aids within five days, but the agency’s inspector general found that the average wait time was between 17 and 24 days. About 30 percent of veterans are waiting 30 days or more, and of those, 10 percent are waiting to have their hearing aids fixed for two months or more, a report released last week found.

VA officials blamed staffing issues for the delays, but inspectors visited the Denver Acquisition and Logistics Center (DALC), which serves as a central processing facility for the VA, and said they, observed 19,500 hearing aids backlogged, unopened, sitting on carts and waiting for repairs or replacements. Part of the reason the agency kept veterans waiting was because staff never recorded when they received the hearing aids or requests for the devices.

Housing for Female Homeless Veterans

A plan to provide temporary housing for homeless female veterans in Genesee County is back on track. The organization known as Our Home Transitional hopes to buy a house in Flint to help women who have served their country. A house in Flint could hold up to 25 women who have served in the military but are homeless or soon to be homeless. It’s estimated there are 100 women in Genesee County alone who fit that profile.

Genesee County veterans’ records damaged by mold

Specialists in Livonia will try to restore thousands of pages of Genesee County

veterans’ military papers that sustained water, mildew and mold damage. Some date as far back as World War II. Most are discharge papers damaged by moisture at an offsite storage facility, where they had been stored until recent years, Genesee County Clerk John Gleason told The Flint Journal.

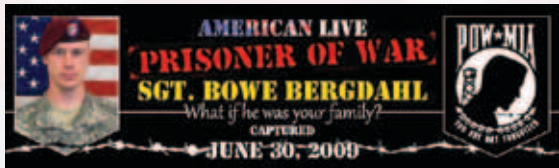
The county isn’t sure whether any records have been damaged beyond repair. The county keeps the records at the request of veterans if they choose, Gleason said. It especially is important for elderly veterans who need access to the documents when they become eligible for certain benefits.

Funds raiser to support Greenville soldier critically injured in training accident

Cory Muzzy was critically injured in a live-fire training accident on Feb. 21, and is undergoing a series of surgeries at Duke Medical Center. One of his legs has been partially amputated so far and he is battling blindness in both eyes. But family and friends are rooting for him.

Muzzy’s parents and wife are staying in North Carolina to assist with his care and transition once he is released from the hospital. If financing allows, they hope to bring his 3-year-old son to stay with the family.

David McCallister “Possum”
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The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

Getting Ready for the Motorcycle Season: Jason's Top 5 Tips

In spite of the cold and snow, I know a lot of motorcyclists are getting ready for this year's riding season. I know I'm dying to get back out on the open road, and hoping we won't have much longer to wait. There's so much you can do to get ready for the season, I thought I would share my "Top 5" tips to help get you started.

#1: Insurance. I know insurance isn't sexy, but it is so important to make sure your bike is properly insured before you even think of going out for a ride. I know some people cancel their insurance policies, or just keep their comprehensive coverage during the winter. As I've said before, this is not recommended. If you cancel your insurance outright and something happens to your bike while it's on your property (think flood, fire, or theft), your homeowner's insurance does not cover your motorcycle. If you get in a wreck with just comprehensive coverage on the bike, you might be in big trouble: Comprehensive coverage won't pay for repairs to your bike if you get in a wreck, and you're not legal to ride on the street without bodily injury coverage. Don't risk it! Even a quick trip to the party store could ruin your whole season if your insurance isn't fully up to date. I provide more insurance information on my website at www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com/Insurance.html.

#2: Tires. Michigan has had some of the coldest temperatures ever this winter, so it's a good idea to inspect your tires thoroughly before going out to ride. Look for cracks, flat spots, or any other damage. Get yourself an accurate tire gauge, and check tire pressure when your tires are cold, before you've ridden more than a few miles. If you need a tire gauge, visit my website at www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com/20.html and request one, along with our new Biker Card* and other freebies we have available. Remember, tire pressure is linked to the temperature outside; if it's really cold or really warm compared to your last ride, check your tires again. NHTSA recommends checking tire pressure at least once per week. Most tires have an ideal PSI range stamped right on them, and your owner's manual can tell you more about adjusting your tire pressure according to the load and the temperature.

#3: Engine, brakes, and battery. What you have to do to get your bike ready now depends a lot on what you did to get it ready for winter storage. If you did some prep before putting it to bed for the winter, you should still do a full circle check to make sure everything is working properly. Check your lights and turn signals. If you didn't change the oil and filter before winter, you should do so now. Check your brakes, too, to make sure they're working properly and not worn. Before and after you start the engine, look for fluid leaks. Make sure your battery is topped up (where applicable), fully charged, and undamaged.

#4: Gear. This time of year is full of motorcycle events and swap meets, a great way to get out and see what's new for this season,

or pick up the gear you've been missing. A biker's gear is as personal as their ride, and there are a lot of products available to help make your riding season more fun and more comfortable. I always carry my phone, a waterproof shell, and our Biker Card* which has instructions for what to do in the event of a crash and also gets me discounts at a bunch of different stores and restaurants. If you want a Biker Card, visit www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com/20.html to request one.

#5: Routes. Have you seen the roads out there? After a winter like this, it's no surprise they're pretty torn up, and potholes can be a real problem for motorcycles. Before the riding season really gets underway, start paying attention to the condition of the road when you go out in your car. Keep an eye out for smoother routes and areas that haven't been so badly damaged by the snow and ice, and stick to those for your first few rides. Once the season gets into full swing, more and more roads will be repaired, giving us more and more pothole-free routes to take. If you're looking for new rides to try, I've posted a list of Michigan's best rides on my website, www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com/MIBestRides.html.

Take it easy out there! Ease into full riding by practicing your braking and maneuvers in a safe location like a parking lot before taking it to the streets. These tips should help you get off to a great start and may even extend your season and the life of your bike, too.

***The Motorcycle Lawyer's Biker Card is not affiliated with the Michigan Thunder Run Ride n' Win Card Contest.**

Attorney Jason A. Waechter is a Michigan attorney specializing in the areas of motorcycle and motor vehicle injury litigation as well as Michigan's Motor Vehicle No - Fault Law. Mr. Waechter has collected millions of dollars in settlements, awards and verdicts for his motorcycle clients over the past 20 years. A portion of each case settled goes to educational resources for bikers, funds to help bikers while their cases are being litigated and our motorcycle accident prevention campaign.

Call Attorney Jason Waechter toll free at 1-877-BIKER LAW. Or visit www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com



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A man received the following text from his good friend and neighbor:
I am so sorry Bob. I've been riddled with guilt and I have to confess. I have been tapping your wife, day and night, when you're not around. In fact, much more than you do.

I'm not getting any at home, but that's no excuse. I can no longer live with the guilt and I hope you will accept my sincerest apology with my promise that it won't happen again. You have my word.

The man, anguished and betrayed, went into his bedroom, grabbed his gun, and without a word, shot his wife and killed her.

A few moments later, a second text came in: "Damn auto-correct. I meant wif, not wife."

It was Easter Sunday morning and the Preacher had already given sermon to the adults in the congregation.

Now he was presenting a children's sermon. He asked the children if they knew what the Resurrection was? In response to the question, "Little Johnny" raised his hand.

The Priest called on him and the Little Johnny said; "I know that if you have a resurrection that lasts more than four hours you are supposed to call the doctor."

It took ten minutes for the congregation to settle down enough for the service to continue.

Brinkley gets this text from his brother, Oxley, recently. It read. "Can I stay at your house for a few days, all the acceptable hotels are booked? "Lambkins" kicked me out after she caught me measuring my penis. For what it's worth, it reaches all the way to the back of her sister's throat!" Just sayin'.

Gruber was talking to his fishing buddies about how we saw a fortune teller the other day. "She told me I would come into some money. Last night I screwed a girl named Penny. Now, come on guys, is that spooky or what?"

Allan went to the doctor's office the other day and found out that his Doctors' new Intern was young, female, and drop-dead gorgeous. Allan was embarrassed, but the Intern tried to calm his nervousness by saying, "Don't worry, I'm a professional, I've seen it all before. There's nothing that we as physicians can't get past and help our patients. Please just tell me what's wrong and I'll check it out.

Allan shyly replied, "My wife thinks that my penis tastes odd and I'd like a second opinion".

I said to the wife, "Get me a newspaper."
"Don't be silly," she said. "Here, use my iPad."
That damn spider never knew what hit it.

I bought a new perfume for my wife called Chloroform. She says she doesn't like it but will continue to use it as I really love it. She says that it makes her sleepy, gives her loss of memory and makes her ass really sore in the morning.

* Just some of the rejected slogans for Viagra.

Viagra, Whaazzzz up!

Viagra, The quicker pecker picker upper.

Viagra, like a rock!

Viagra, When it absolutely, positively has to be there overnight.

Viagra, Be all that you can be.

Viagra, Strong enough for a man, but made for a woman

Viagra, Home of the whopper

Viagra, We bring good things to Life!

This is your peepee... This is your peepee on drugs.

This is the story of the blonde flying in a two-seater airplane with just the pilot. He has a heart attack and dies. She, frantic, calls out a May Day. "May Day! May Day! Help me! Help me! My pilot had a heart attack and is dead. And I don't know how to fly. Help me! Please help me!"

She hears a voice over the radio saying: "This is Air Traffic Control and I have you loud and clear. I will talk you through this and get you back on the ground. I've had a lot of experience with this kind of problem. Now, just take a deep breath. Everything will be fine! Now, give me your height and position."

She says, "I'm 5'4" and I support Mayor Ford."

"O.K." says the voice on the radio....

"Repeat after me:

Our Father Who Art in Heaven....."

A 3-year-old boy examined his testicles while taking a bath.

'Mom', he asked, 'Are these my brains?

'Not yet,' she replied.

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THUNDER ROADS MICHIGAN

is proud to announce that this summer, we will be introducing a state-wide, summer-long riding challenge hitting the coolest riding destinations and events across the state – The 2014 Michigan Thunder Run! This is a riding challenge like no-other and features great prizes every month!

The Way it Works

Each month *Thunder Roads Michigan* will announce a list of Thunder Run Stops each month. These stops are selected based upon the recommendations of our readers and confirmed by our editors. Riders can then hit these locations and present their Rider Cards in order to register at each stop.

Once a Rider has registered at the stop - their Card number is then entered into the drawing for that stop. *Thunder Roads Michigan* will then select rider checks-ins randomly each month from across the state for special prizes and incentives.

Prizes are developed by both *Thunder Roads Michigan* and our sponsors - allowing for some exciting options. They may include stays at exciting stops, riding gear or accessories, gift certificates, cash, and even the opportunity to win a motorcycle!



The beauty and simplicity of this program is that anyone can win with any check-in, but your chances of winning are increased by the amount you ride! The dedicated rider trekking across the state has a greater chance of accumulating prizes - but the couple that can only get out a few days a month to ride can also win! Every check-in counts as an entry in the "drawing" - so if you hit 40 stops in a month, you have twice as many chances of winning as someone that only hits 20. The more you ride - the more opportunities you will have to win! That's the whole idea - to encourage everyone to get out and ride!

State and Stop Prizes

Every month the *TRMI* staff will randomly select winners from the check-ins. Some prizes will be specific to the particular stop - and usually sponsored by that stop. For instance, a leather shop may award a custom leather vest to someone visiting their store during the month of June. That would be a prize specific to that stop and only riders checking in at that location would be eligible for that prize. Other prizes will be state wide, with everyone checking in at any location eligible to win!

continued on next page





The Winners

If your check-in is drawn, **Thunder Roads Michigan** will post your card number both online and in the magazine. Riders will then have at least 45 days to "claim" their prizes. For state-wide prizes, winners will often have the opportunity to select from a number of prize options. For instance, a rider might have the option of winning a **Rally Package** that includes accommodations and extras for attending the particular Rally. If that rider isn't able to take advantage of that prize - they might opt for a **Premium Leather Jacket** instead.

- Riders are able to win multiple prizes - based upon the drawing of their check-in.
- Some prize drawings are specific to only check-ins for the particular month - while others prizes are drawn from check-in's season long.
- ALL CHECK-INS remain in the system for end of the season prizes!
- Riders are able to check-in once a week at a stop (Monday-Sunday), for a maximum of 4 check-in's per month (not counting bonuses).

BONUS Check-ins!

The 2014 Michigan Thunder Run is supported by our sponsors, so we want to encourage everyone to support them in turn. For that reason, we will issue a BONUS CHECK-IN to riders spending \$10 or more at the stop. The bonus criteria may be adjusted at some stops to accommodate riders or particulars of that stop. Specifics of each stop will be listed each month in Thunder Roads Michigan as part of the Stop Listing.

IT'S REALLY THAT SIMPLE!

1. Get your Michigan Ride Card.
2. Get the list of stops each month from your Thunder Roads Michigan Magazine's website (ThunderRoadsMichigan.com), or Facebook.
3. Ride out to these stops and show them your card.
4. And then you win cool prizes, including cold hard CASH!

The first step will be for riders to register for their **Thunder Roads Michigan Ride Cards**. A number of select locations will serve as Registration Centers. Riders can easily register at these points – free of charge. They will then receive their Ride Cards.

Thunder Roads Michigan will also be registering riders for Ride Cards at specific events throughout the year as we distribute magazines. Key events, such as Bikes on the Bricks or Bike Nights will have special booth for Ride Card registrations. In most cases, we will be offering special incentives both for those registering for the cards and those checking in with their previously issued cards at these stops.

Thunder Roads Michigan will also be working with charities and various non-profit events to include them in the Run schedule as well. This will be an easy means of encouraging participation and attracting riders from outside the local communities. In many cases, we will have specific prize drawings for those at these events.

The Ride Cards will allow participants to easily and safely check in at all stops. **Some Thunder Roads Michigan Sponsors will also be offering discounts** to readers that present the cards. **Thunder Roads Michigan** will be listing special discounts and offers in the magazine throughout the year as an added value to readers and means of encouraging our partners to offer these extra savings.

PLEASE NOTE: Once you have received your MICHIGAN RIDE CARD, you will not be asked to provide personal information or emails at any location for check-in. **You simply enter your ride card number!**

One key aspect of the MTR is that we will be limiting the number of stops to a reasonable amount each month. We are NOT simply adding anyone willing to write a check. We will be considering stops recommended by our readers and editors, and we will only select those that offer a legitimate interest to riders – making them worth the ride to visit. We are not hosting the run as simply a means of supporting the magazine, but as a fun way to promote partners and cool destinations all across the state.

This is not simply a "Chinese fire drill" or mad-dash across the state. This is a Ride program. It is meant to be a means for readers to discover new riding destinations and enjoy the ride there. In fact, we have designed the program to encourage folks to break out of their local routes and trek to the furthest corners of the state.

Just Get Out and RIDE!



One of the really exciting aspects of the program is that the Michigan Thunder Run can be modified and added to throughout the summer – if not the entire year. We will be adding and dropping stops each month. Readers will be able to nominate stops, we'll investigate them, and if we agree that it's a suitable stop – they'll be invited to join the run. Some stops will only run a few months – and possibly not consecutive. A cool winery in Traverse City might be a stop early in the season, and then we bring them back during the harvest season! We can also modify the run if it turns out that something just isn't working.

We want to keep things exciting for you – the readers and riders on the run. We're bikers and it's all about the ride. We want to help create fun experiences for you and share some cool spots in our state. And we want to discover new spots as well, which is why we are encouraging everyone to nominate their favorite riding destinations. Again this is not simply a sales tool for us or meant to subsidize the magazine! We have designed this run to entertain and challenge our readers – as well as promote our partners.

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As with the magazine itself, the Michigan Thunder Run is presented through the support of our sponsors and partners all across the state. We have secured several key sponsorships already, but opportunities remain. If your business would like to get involved, this is a great way to promote yourself all across the state in a positive manner. Even if your organization is not a riding destination you might become a sponsor for the tremendous promotional value it offers through the constant media attention it will receive. Obviously this will be a heavy focus within the magazine but we are also working with radio and other media outlets to help spread awareness of the run. Sponsors are able to tap into this network and enjoy great exposure.

We also have a number of unique opportunities for branding - including being featured on contest motorcycles, jackets, shirts, and other opportunities. The exact number and nature of these options will be determined as details are finalized and as the promotion develops over the summer. Sponsors will ALWAYS have first priority in these placements.

Sponsors will also have the opportunity to team up with **Thunder Roads Michigan** to help promote various charity events across the state. The Michigan Thunder Run is a great vehicle to help promote non-profit events in communities all across the state. With the support of regional and state-wide sponsors – **Thunder Roads Michigan** can help promote these community events to a larger audience. **Thunder Roads Michigan** is involved in countless charitable events all across the state already – but with the support of our sponsors, we will be able to assist even more. Partners can assist in the sponsorship of specific events, areas of concern (such as breast cancer, child abuse, or animal shelters), or other specific areas.

For more information on sponsorship, please email us at MichiganThunderRunRide@gmail.com

Of course one of the key components in this whole program, second only to the riders themselves, is the stops. The **Thunder Roads Michigan** team has spent a lot of time collecting nominations and researching stops for the Run; but there are undoubtedly plenty of more stops out there. If you have a venue or event that you would like to get involved in the run, please don't hesitate to let us know about it. If it's your place, we will get in touch shortly with more information on the run and what's involved. If you are recommending a spot for someone else – we will reach out to them and let them know they have been nominated. If you can suggest a contact person, that can help expedite the process. You can send information to MichiganThunderRunRide@gmail.com

The 2014 Michigan Thunder Run will begin in June, with all necessary information and additional details in each month's issue of **Thunder Roads Michigan**. We will also have a complete listing on our website – ThunderRoadsMichigan.com and our Facebook pages. We will include a listing of registration stops – including a wide variety of events in June; including Bike Nights, Bike Blessings, and rides.

The RIDE kicks off in June!

As we mentioned, this is a dynamic event – intended to be tweaked and developed over time. If you have ideas, suggestions, or concerns – please don't hesitate to let us know. You can email us at MichiganThunderRunRide@gmail.com



APRIL 2014 THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE MICHIGAN 23



INDIAN MOTORCYCLE UNVEILS 'BIG CHIEF CUSTOM'

THUNDER ROADS MI FACTORY FEATURE

contributed by TRO

Built around the Indian Chief Classic and designed by the Polaris Industries Industrial Design team, the "Big Chief Custom" showcases Indian Motorcycle accessories.

Indian Motorcycle®, America's first motorcycle company, revealed a fully customized, Indian Chief Classic as part of the Progressive International Motorcycle Show. Conceptualized and designed by Indian Motorcycle's Industrial Design team, the "Big Chief Custom" is the first custom Indian Chief created around the 2014 models introduced with great fanfare at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally this past August.

Spearheaded by the head of Polaris Industries' Industrial Design team, Greg Brew, a small and dedicated team undertook the task of customizing a stock 2014 Indian Chief Classic. It features an array of Genuine Indian Motorcycle aftermarket accessories along with a custom paint scheme and billet girder front fork. This Big Chief Custom was designed to showcase the possibilities to customize, enhance and personalize the 2014 Indian Chiefs.

One special highlight of the custom build is the billet aluminum girder front end that recalls the early Indian models. Designed, machined and built in-house, the girder fork features machined uprights and cross members with a custom 23-inch front wheel. The custom front valance fender maintains the classic look of the Indian Chief. A custom shock and headlight complete the package. Custom paint was applied in-house by team member Steve Leszinski with a multicolored theme from prior generations of Indian Motorcycles.

Another nod to the long history of Indian Motorcycle is the springer style seat. Combined with the modern day single rear shock, the Big Chief Custom promises to be a smooth ride.



The "Pinnacle Series" of Indian Motorcycle accessories on the Big Chief includes the Cam Cover, Primary Cover, Chrome Grips and Beach Bars. The Stage 1 exhaust sports Fish Tail Tips. Other custom accessories include War Bonnet Floorboard Pads, a Heel Shifter and chrome Rear Fender Bumper.



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APRIL 2014 THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE MICHIGAN 27



April 2014

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
SWAP MEET - Novi					OPEN HOUSE - RAY C'S HD	OPEN HOUSE - RAY C'S HD OPEN HOUSE TOWN & COUNTY HD OPEN HOUSE - TECUMSEH HD OPEN HOUSE - HOT ROD HD DEMO TRUCK BIKER BOB'S HD
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
OPEN HOUSE - RAY C'S HD DEMO TRUCK BIKER BOB'S HD MICHIGAN MOTORCYCLE SHOW & SWAP MEET - Birch Run						SWAP MEET - Cadillac DEMO DAYS & SALE ABC HD EASTER EGG HUNT TOWN & COUNTY HD
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				BOOTCAMP - ABC HD		SWAP MEET - Mt. Clemens
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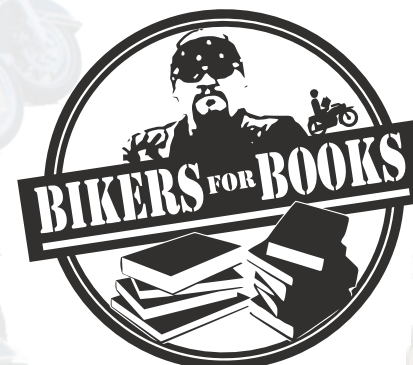
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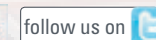
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Biker Preacher's Corner

I love this time of year – the warming temperatures, the budding trees, the birds singing and we're back in the saddle again or will be soon. It's a time of the year where everything seems to be brand new and fresh!

For many, this is the month that we celebrate Easter. But, I prefer to call it Resurrection because we honor and celebrate the death of The Savior of the World, Jesus Christ on Good Friday and worship His (historically and liturgically proven) resurrection on Resurrection (Easter) Sunday. **Jesus said in John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."** and that is exactly what Jesus did for all of us. Thank you Jesus!!

So why is this good news? Because prior to Jesus' death and resurrection there was no way, other than being perfect (which Jesus was the only one to be perfect), for mankind to be right with God. So God came here, gave up His life & blood to pay the one and only blood price that could ever be made for all mankind once and for all. No matter what you have ever done in life, the price has already been paid for you to be completely forgiven, for you to know God and to be known by God. This is GREAT NEWS for us!

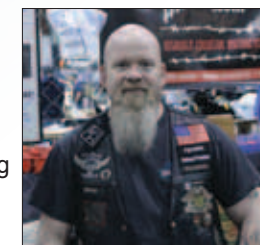
Jesus said in John 10:10 "A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance." Ya see – the thief (Satan) hates you because you were created in God's image (Gen 1:26). His plan is to keep you captivated in sin and away from God. But, Jesus, the Son of God, put it all on the line. He paid the price for you to be saved and freed from Satan's grasp. No one else has ever done that for you and in doing so, as we receive Him (Jesus), we are made new. **2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come."**

During this resurrection season - will you accept God's free gift of love for you that He paid with His own blood and be made new, in Christ? Pray with me will you? "God forgive me of my sins, God please save me!! I confess that I am a sinner and need you The Savior! Jesus, I confess that you are The Lord and Savior of my Life". In Jesus' precious name, Amen."

If you've just prayed this simple prayer with me, please contact me. I would like to pray with you, encourage you and walk with you in your new relationship with the God of All creation.

God Bless - Much Love & Respect,

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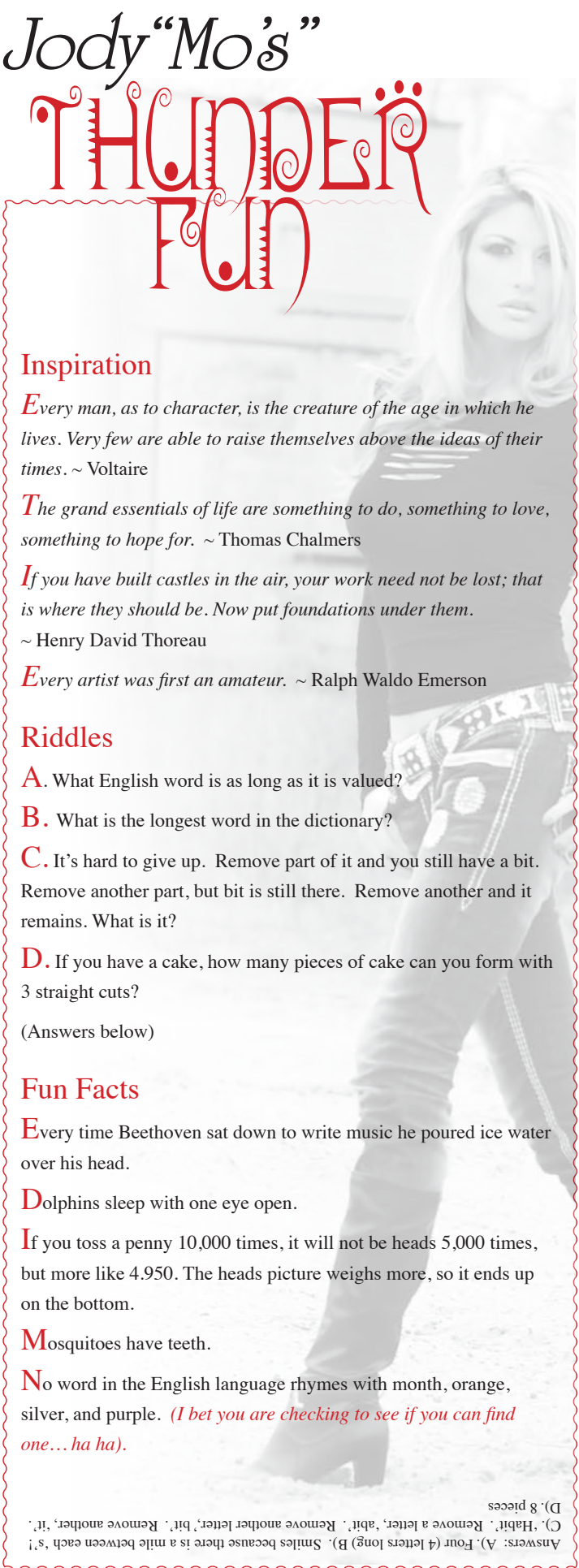


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Inspiration

Every man, as to character, is the creature of the age in which he lives. Very few are able to raise themselves above the ideas of their times. ~ Voltaire

The grand essentials of life are something to do, something to love, something to hope for. ~ Thomas Chalmers

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put foundations under them. ~ Henry David Thoreau

Every artist was first an amateur. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Riddles

A. What English word is as long as it is valued?

B. What is the longest word in the dictionary?

C. It's hard to give up. Remove part of it and you still have a bit. Remove another part, but bit is still there. Remove another and it remains. What is it?

D. If you have a cake, how many pieces of cake can you form with 3 straight cuts?

(Answers below)

Fun Facts

Every time Beethoven sat down to write music he poured ice water over his head.

Dolphins sleep with one eye open.

If you toss a penny 10,000 times, it will not be heads 5,000 times, but more like 4,950. The heads picture weighs more, so it ends up on the bottom.

Mosquitoes have teeth.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, and purple. *(I bet you are checking to see if you can find one... ha ha).*

Answers: A). Four (4 letters long) B). Smiles because there is a mile between each 's' C). 'Habit'. Remove a letter, 'abit'. Remove another letter, 'bit'. Remove another, 'it'. D). 8 pieces

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SUNDAY JUNE 29TH

Texas Coral Back Yard BBQ Ride

5519 W. main St, Kalamazoo MI 49009

Registration 9 am ~ Ride leaves at 11 am

\$25 Bike / \$40 with Rider

For more info contact

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Tech Tips By Steve

Getting the Dirty Out ... A Proper Engine Oil Change

One of the easiest things you can do to protect your engine and extend its life is an oil change, easy enough right? I would say correct ... with a little information on the proper way to get rid of the dirty nasty crappy yucky oil.

Set yourself up for success and get all your tools and supplies ready before starting to tear into things, you will need a drain pan that will hold 5 quarts or more, a wrench for the oil plug or a screwdriver to loosen up the clamp for the types that have a plug in the oil drain line, oil filter wrench or strap, rags, Teflon tape or paste, oil filter, oil, and new a oil plug o-ring and, if you have one, a flat jack or a lift... yeah baby a lift!

Ride your bike for a bit getting it to operating temperature, the oil should be warm so it will flow out well, this will also help mix the nasty contaminants in the oil that settle out after shutdown. After its warm get your drain pan ready, open the oil filler cap so it will drain well and pull the plug (see pictures for various plug locations on some Harley models)



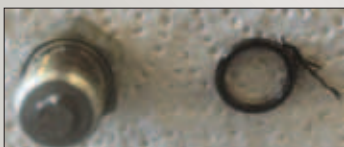
Newer Sportster, tube on right side of bike, Look closely its hiding J



Touring models, don't remove the wrong plug! Oil is the one facing forward NOT down.



Older Softail on the right side, remove plug from oil line.



Newer Softail the plug is in the frame on the right side under the bike

Use a clean drain pan so you can inspect the oil after draining, please be patient and give it time to drain out.

NOTE: A little known fact ... Harley leaves about one quart of old oil in the bike after you drain it and the only way to get it out is to do a flush, yep we can do it at Golgotha!

While you are waiting for the oil to drain clean your drain plug off, replace the old o-ring and lightly coat the threads with Teflon tape or paste.



Oil plug and bad o-ring

Spin the old filter off inspecting the oil filter housing making sure the old oil filter o-ring did not get left behind, you will have a leak at the filter if it gets double o-ringed. Clean your mess from taking the filter off, then lightly coat the new oil filters o-ring and tighten it another _ _ turn after the filter o-ring touches the filter housing.

Next put the oil drain plug back in and it's time to fill the bike with oil according to the quantity the manufacturer states. What kind? We use Amsoil or Schaeffer's 20-50 but there are many good oils out there, your choice, just chose wisely ... no cheapo oil my friends!

NOTE: If it states 4 quarts put about 3.5 or so in, start your bike until the oil pressure light goes out, shut it off and fill to capacity. Sometimes they don't quite take all they say it should then you have an overfill problem and that can be bad.

After you are confident it's full take it out for a short ride and when you get back check for leaks and make sure it's full one more time. DONE!

As always, if you have comments or questions please call, email or just stop in and say hello. God Bless you ALL and have some great riding miles this month great people!

God Bless you all

Steve

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40 APRIL 2014 THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE MICHIGAN

TRMMI EVENTS CALENDAR 2014

Don't forget to email your events to editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com

APRIL

April 2-6
Arizona Bike Week

April 3
Ladies Garage Party
ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 6-8 pm, space is limited call 248-674-3175 for details and to reserve your spot. (See full page ad this issue).

April 5
Prepare to Tour Workshop
Biker Bob's HD, Taylor, MI. For details go to www.bikerbobshd.com

April 6
Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet
Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi, MI. 11 am- 4 pm, \$10 adults, kids 6-12 yrs \$3. For more info go to www.motorcycleswap.com (See ad this issue).

April 11-13
Open House
Ray C's HD, Lapeer, MI. Boot Camp on the 11th 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. Demo rides & food. For more info go to www.raycsh-d.com or call 810-664-9261 (See full page ad this issue).

April 12
Open House
Town & Country HD, Cement City, MI. 10 am-4 pm. For more info go to www.cementcityharley.com (See Inside Front Cover this issue).

April 12
Open House
Tecumseh HD, Tecumseh, MI. 10 am- 4 pm. For more info go to www.tecumsehhd.com (See Inside Front Cover this issue).

April 12
Open House
Hot Rod HD, Muskegon, MI. 9 am-4 pm. Free lunch, in-store poker run, & more. For more info go to www.hotrodhd.com (See full page next to Jokers Wild this issue).

April 12-13
H-D Demo Truck
Biker Bob's HD, Taylor, MI. Ride all the new 2014 H-D motorcycles. For details go to www.bikerbobshd.com

April 13
Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet & Michigan Motorcycle Show
Birch Run Expo Center, Birch Run, MI. 10 am- 5 pm, \$9 adults, kids 6-12 yrs \$2. For more info go to www.motorcycleswap.com (See ad this issue).

April 19
11th Annual Cadillac (MI) Motorcycle Swap Meet & Parts Expo
Wexford County Civic Center, Cadillac, MI. 10 am - 4 pm, \$6 adults, kids 12 & under free. Buy-Sell-Trade, bikes, parts leather, food & beer. For more info call

1-800-800-6034 or go to www.cadillacswap.com or www.paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

April 19
Annual T & C Easter Egg Hunt
Town & Country HD, Cement City, MI. For more info go to www.abcharleydavidson.com (See Inside Front Cover this issue).

April 19
Demo Days & Sidewalk Sale
ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 10 am-5 pm. Demo rides & free food. For more info call 248-674-3175 or go to www.abcharleydavidson.com (See full page ad this issue).

April 19
Easter Event
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. Hot chicks & cool bikes. 12- 3pm. For more info go to www.capitolhd.com or call 517-646-2345

April 23-27
Laughlin River Run 2014

April 24
Ladies Garage Party
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. 6pm. Ladies only event. Discover the freedom of riding your own motorcycle. Go to <http://capitolh-d.eventbrite.com> to register. For more info go to www.capitolhd.com or call 517-646-2345

April 24
Motorcycle Bootcamp
ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 6 pm-8 pm. Drinks, stogies & more! For more info call 248-674-3175 or go to www.abcharleydavidson.com (See full page ad this issue).

April 26
HIM 1st Annual Motorcycle Swap Meet
8219 E. Holly rd (exit 98) 1-75, 10 am- 5 pm, free admission, vendors \$50. For more info call Ken 248-245-3924.

April 26-27
Motorcycle Swap Meet & Expo
Gibraltar Trade Center, Mt. Clemens, MI. Free show & admission. Sat & Sun 10 am-6 pm, 60,000 sq. ft. indoor show arena. For more info call 586-465-6440 (See full page ad this issue).

April 27
9th Annual North Shore Blessing of the Bikes
Gibraltar Trade Center, Mt. Clemens, MI. Regis at 11am, blessing & show at 2pm, free entrance, music, food, vendors, & fun activities for kids. For more info go to www.northshorechurch.us or call Chris at 586-557-0655 or email unworthy12@aol.com (See ad this issue).

April 27
Lakeshore Blessing of the Bikes
Ottawa County Fairgrounds, Holland, MI. 10 am-3 pm. For more info go to www.blessingofthebikes.com

April 27
Forgotten Eagles Veterans Charity Tent
91 Douglas Ave, Holland, MI. 12 pm-8 pm. For more info contact Ken N. 231-730-4436

MAY

May 3
"MOSES" Bib Bash
9979 S 8 Mile Rd, Vogel Center, MI. 11am- 1pm. Wear your BIB OVERALLS in Kevin's memory, hot dogs, donuts, cotton candy & frolic! 50/50 drawing & prizes. Donations to Museum greatly appreciated. Ride to follow weather permitting. Not a ride event can come by car, truck, motorcycle, etc. For more info go to www.museumofmoses.com or call 231-825-2219

May 3
4th Annual Awareness Run
Fireman's Park 3016 Lewis Ave, Ida, MI. \$10 pp, includes dinner, live band, run, blessing of bikes, ride from noon-3pm. For more info contact Mark 734-777-7530 or Ann 734-790-7927

May 3
Open House
Custom Connection Motorsports/C4 Choppers, Battle Creek, MI. 9 am- 3 pm, food & prizes. For more info go to www.c4choppers.com or call (269) 288-0160

May 3
3rd Annual Rohde's Rebels Benefit Run
Walled Lake Eagles, Walled Lake, MI. Regis 9:30 am- 11:30 am, \$20 driver, \$15 passenger, 10:30 first bike out. Cars welcome. In honor of Tom Rohde benefiting ALS. For more info contact Bill 248-722-2930 or email hamgravy@comcast.net

May 3-4
West Michigan Motorcycle & ORV Show
28th Street Showplace, Wyoming, MI. Sat 10 am- 8pm, Sun 11 am- 4 pm. For more info or vendor space call Russ 616-261-5664 or email wizbizpromos@yahoo.com (See ad this issue).

May 3-4
WERA Sportsman Series
Grattan Raceway Park, Belding, MI. For more info call 770-720-5010

May 3-4
Thunder Across the Thumb
Thumb Motorcycle Chrome, Caro, MI. Bike show on the 3rd, \$10 regis from noon- 1:30pm, free chili & hot dogs while they last & prizes. Police escorted ride on the 4th, line up 11am at Caro Municipal Airport, free hot drinks & donuts. For more info go to www.thumbmotorcyclechrome.net or call Talonda 989-673-2750

May 4
Walneck Motorcycle Swap Meet & Show
Monroe County Fairgrounds, Monroe, MI. \$6 admis. 8 am- 3 pm. For more info go to www.walneckswap.com

May 4
15th Annual Church of the Living Word's Blessing of the Bikers
Ovid, MI. Arrival 9:30-10:30, service 10:30-11:30, hog roast 11:30, \$5 all you can eat, noon bike show, blessing at 1:30 pm, charity ride at 2 pm & live music. More info www.cotlw.org or call 989-834-5950 (See ad this issue).

May 4
Bikers for Books Golf Outing Event
Centennial Acres Golf Course, Sunfield, MI. For more info go to www.bikerforbooks.com or call Badge 517-862-7960 (See ad this issue).

May 4
Muskegon Motorcycle Club Spring Run
Mt. Garfield 5803 Lake Harbor rd., Muskegon, MI. Gates open 8 am. For more info go to www.muskegonmotorcycleclub.com

May 9-18
Myrtle Beach Bike Week

May 10
14th Annual Jackson Blessing of the Bikes
1st Church of the Nazarene, Jackson, MI. Noon, with Blessing at 1:30 PM. Door prizes, food, donation drawing, music, ride-in bike show (\$5 to enter), Michigan Veterans Traveling Wall on display. ALL bikes, bikers, clubs, and general public invited. NO attitudes or alcohol allowed. For more info call Gary at 517-531-3481

May 10
Coldwater Swap Meet
Branch County Fairgrounds, Coldwater, MI. 8am-4pm, vendors, contests, cruise party down Main Street & bike blessing. For more info call 517-278-5367 or go to www.coldwaterswap-meetandcarshow.com

May 10
Blessing of the Bikes & Poker Run
Washington Life Center, Marine City, MI. Regis 10-11 am, blessing at 11 am, ride returns at 4pm, \$20 per bike, \$10 per addtl hand/passenger, prizes, auctions & refreshments. Benefits council on aging. For more info call 810-765-3523 or email events.wic@gmail.com

May 10
2nd Annual Allegan Blessing of the Bikes & Classic Cars
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan, MI. 8 am- 2pm, \$5 gate fee, Pig Roast, Games, and Music by Clearwater, Vendors, Proceeds to help the Following Charities. For more info call Bob "Ace" 269-806-3883 or email Knightsonbikesmichigan@gmail.com

May 10
1st Annual HIM Hogs in Ministry Bike Blessing
Retail Warehouse, Sturgis, MI. Regis 9:30-11:30 am, blessing at 11:30 am, ride after at 12:30, free donuts & coffee. For more info contact Roger via email at vandam@maplenet.net

May 11
Mother's Day Swap Meet and Ride in Bike Show
Midland Co Fairgrounds, Midland, MI. Event is 11 am-4 pm. Sign up for bike show is 11:00-1:00. Only \$5.00 admission. For Info & vendor spots call 989-697-5525 or email bubba@bubbastricitycycle.com

May 15-18
Blessing of the Bikes- Camp Ally
Camp Ally Misty Moon Recreation Area in Bitely, MI. Day passes available, live concerts, burn outs, games & more. For more info call 231-343-4711 or go to www.blessingofthebikesbaldwin.com

May 16
14th Annual Pride Ride
UAW Local 652, 426 Clare St, Lansing, MI. cost free, police escorted ride & show. Regis 8 - 9 am. Line up 9:30am, ride begins 10am

sharp. Raffles, vendors, commemorative T-Shirt order deadline 4/15/14, for questions/regis forms or to order contact Barb atbaroercco@aol.com or Linda 517- 694-7914

May 16-18
42nd Annual Blessing of Bikes Festival
South MI 37 Hwy, Baldwin, MI. Vendors, camping, gates open at 9 am. \$5 per bike. For more info go to www.paragonspromotion.com

May 17
Lake Shore Riders Spring Run
560 7th Street, Baldwin, MI. 9:30 am meet, kickstands up at 10 am. Free to public, live music, \$10 camping pp. for more info call Brandon 616-217-1286

May 17
5th Annual National Armed Forces Day
Freedom Ride
American Legion Hall, Flint, MI. Police escorted ride leaves at 4pm, ride to Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Mott Lake, food, vendors, bands, raffles & cash bar. For more info call 810-845-7610

May 17
3rd Annual Great Lakes Burn Camp Challenge
City Parking Lot, Jackson, MI. Regis at 11 am, \$10 pp, prizes, food & fun. For more info call Gary 517-262-0896 or email spankyncarol@juno.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 17
Tribesmen M/C "Back Road Bash"
914 Garfield Rd, Fostoria, MI. Noon- it ends, \$10 admis, \$15 couple on bike, free vendor space with paid admis, Primitive camping available, live music, DJ, bike show, NOT a BYOB event. For more info call Buddha 586-784-8813

May 24
Harley Heros
Ray C's HD, Lapeer, MI. For more info go to www.raycsh-d.com or call 810-664-9261 (See full page ad this issue).

May 24-25
Bubba's Memorial Day Weekend Classic
Bubba's Tri City Cycle, Linwood, MI.
24th Charity Bike Show, 25th Charity Poker Run
Sign up for both events both days is 10-1 and donation of \$10.00
Bike raffle at 5:30 on 25th. 2 days of bikes, music, food, friendship & charity fundraising. All proceeds go to local Camp Fish Tales a camp for individuals with special needs. For info 989-697-5525 or email bubba@bubbastricitycycle.com

May 25
Coleman Veterans Memorial "United By Sacrifice" Concert Event
Downtown Coleman, MI. Gates open at noon, tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the gate. Kids 8 & under free w paid adult, rib cook-off, beer, food & more. For tickets go to www.colemanveteransmemorial.org Featuring Southern Rock Legend's "Molly Hatchet" & other great bands. For more info contact Jim at 989-205-1269

May 25
26th Annual Spring Valpo-Fest Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet
County Expo Center, Valparaiso, IN. 9am- 4 pm, \$8 adults, 12 & under free & free for ladies who ride their bikes. For more info go to www.paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

May 27
3rd Annual Cause for Paws Poker Run.
American Legion Hall Post 274, AuSable Twp, MI. A scenic ride to benefit the Iosco County Animal Shelter. \$10 bike, \$5 rider. Regis 10 am-11 am. Last bike in at Post 274 at 4 pm. Food & prizes. For more info contact Crazy at 989-820-5703.

May 31
Open House
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. 10 am- 3pm. Free food, live music & test rides. For more info go to www.capitolhd.com or call 517-646-2345

JUNE

June 1
Blessed in Hell- The Blessing of the Bikes
Hell Creek Ranch, Pinckney, MI. Gates open 10:30 am, \$10 per bike, bike show, live band, vendors, contests & more. For more info call Cody 313-407-4671 or Dave 734-834-7694

June 1
Biker Blessing & Group Ride
First Reformed Church of Portage, Portage, MI. Regis. 11:00 am – noon, blessing at noon, ride leaves at 12:30 PM. Free lunch after the ride back at First Reformed Church. All bikers welcome! For more info call 269-327-3694 or email firstchurch@frcportage.org

June 7
16th Annual Chick Run Association RIDE
Dwight Lydell Park, Comstock Park, MI. All women motorcycle run, sign up 8:45am - 9:45am, leaves 10 am sharp. \$15 per rider. For more info call Deb 616-822-5749 or go to www.chickrunassociation.com

June 7
2nd Annual Anything Goes Auto Show
Sault Sainte Marie, MI. Show for bikes, cars & trucks. 10 am- 4 pm. For more info call 906-203-8107

June 8
State Park Motorcycle Run
Draw a card from at least 5 different state park locations then play your hand to win. Rain Date: June 15th. \$5 Recreation passport required to enter state parks. For map or more info go to www.michigan.gov/dnr/calendar after April 1st.

June 8
19th Annual Vintage Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet
6865 Hickory Rd, Hickory Corners, MI. 8 am-4pm, \$10 pp, children 11 & under free, vintage sidecar rides, demo rides, demos, museum & more. For more info contact Vicki via email at v.van@mei.net or call 269-671-5089

June 12-14
26th Annual Sandy Corley Memorial Run
Double JJ Resort, Rothbury, MI. Live entertainment, auctions, prizes, primitive camping & much more. Get your tickets early and save. For more info call 231-924-3020 or email hotad-strm@yahoo.com (See full page ad this issue).

June 14
4th Annual Cops on a Run Benefit for MLEOM
2233 Burdette St, Femdale, MI. Regis. 8 am, kickstands up 10 am, police escorted, \$25 rider, \$25 passenger & \$20 after party. For more info call 313-930-3853 or go to www.copsonarun.com

June 14
Central Lake's "Show off your Ride" Classic Car , Motorcycle, Truck & Show in memory of Alan Childs.
Central Lake Chamber Cabin 2587 N. M-88 Hwy, Central Lake, MI. \$5 Early regis before June 7th, \$10 day of show, regis at 8 am. Show begins at 10 am. For more info call Nick at (231) 676-3495 or for vendor space call Patty 231-676-4457 or go to www.central-lake.com

June 14-15
AHRMA Road Racing- Grattan Raceway
Grattan Raceway, Belding, MI. For more info call 616-691-7221

June 14-22
Laconia Motorcycle Week

June 19-22
Throttle Fest
Toyota Park, 7000 S. Harlem Ave, Chicago, IL. Saturday 7 am Support Our Troops Ride, Saturday night Jackyl night, and Sunday 9 am Ride For Dime Motorcycle Run. For more info go to www.throttlefestchicago.com (See ad this issue).

June 20-22
5th Annual Thunder at the River
Manistee, MI. Event honors our US Military. Bike show, vendors, beer, Hooter girl bike wash, great food & more. For more info call John 231-477-5162 or go to www.thunderontheriver.com (See ad this issue).

June 20-22
10th Annual Ray C's Rodeo
Ray C's HD, Lapeer, MI. For more info go to www.raycsh-d.com or call 810-664-9261 (See full page ad this issue).

June 21
2nd Annual Ride to Remember in Memory of Mike & Melissa Jucius
Lapeer VFW post 4139, Lapeer, MI. Regis. 10am-Noon, approx. 100 mile ride with 4 stops, \$10 pp includes dinner. Proceeds to local charities. For more info call Tim 810-358-8342

June 21
Nozzleman
Brighton HD, Brighton, MI. Regis 10:30- noon, \$20 bike, \$30 w rider. For more info go to www.nozzlememc.com (See full page ad this issue).

June 21-23
Hell to Paradise
This 3 day Ride event starts in Hell Michigan the morning of Saturday the 21 of June riding to Mackinaw City on the first leg of the ride, the second leg Sunday looping through the U.P. Paradise , the Falls, Ship wreck museum, H-58. 2 night in Mackinaw City (each responsible for your own lodging) with a great party Saturday night. Don't miss out on this ride which can only be done in Michigan. For more info <http://www.bikerornot.com/Event/110271>

June 27-28
Bikers for Vets Poker Run
5280 N. Clare Ave, Harrison, MI. Regis 9:30 am- 10:30 am, live music, dj's, drinks, food, & more. For more info call 989-539-1713 or go to www.2helpvets.com

June 27-29
Hartford Bike Fest
Hartford, MI. Special guests Quiet Riot and Matt Austin. Car & Bike Show & IWF Pro Wrestling. For more info go to www.hartfordbikefest.com (See full page ad this issue).

June 29
Texas Corrals Great Lakes Burn Camp Ride
Texas Corral, Kalamazoo, MI. Live music, food & drinks. For more info call 269-344-8590 (See full page ad this issue).

June 29
Ride for Freedom- Support our Veterans
Wolverine HD, Clinton Township, MI. 9am continental breakfast, ride departs at 11:30 am rain or shine, returns to Freedom Hill for food, drinks, music & tour of Michigan Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial. For more info, prices & to register contact Pat at 586-246-0876 or at 2lalldaniels@gmail.com

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To get your event listed in Thunder Roads Magazine and on our website, send the information to

Editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com

Event information must be received prior to the 10th of the month preceding the event month to be posted in the magazine.

Remember to call ahead before planning to attend any event as the information/ dates may change. Thunder Roads is Not responsible for errors or omissions.



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ABATE OF MICHIGAN

In lieu of writing my own article this month I am submitting a letter to Non-abate members from Abate of Michigan Board Member Herb Rials. Herb spends an inordinate amount of time in Lansing, without pay, representing all motorcyclists' rights by being on top of pending legislation. Herb thinks, and I agree, that this is a priority for all of us, and we better step up to the plate, now! - Rusty

ALL MICHIGAN MOTORCYCLISTS - READ NOW!

From: Herb Rials, Legislative, ABATE of MICHIGAN B.O.D.



A.B.A.T.E. of Michigan needs your help, time, and membership NOW! Your ability to be able to ride your Motorcycle this summer and beyond is at RISK. The Speaker of the House has introduced No-Fault Insurance reform. What this means to you is that buried in this bill is a provision to pay up to 10 million dollars to injured car drivers for their medical benefits. This same bill will only pay YOU the motorcyclist \$250,000, period! But first you will have to collect from your own personal insurance. That's right IF you have work or any other medical insurance, it pays first if at all, or until it runs out. So even if you have no insurance the most you get is a quarter of a million. Sure you can sue, if there is anything to go after, and you can afford to wait till it's settled. But, it gets better!

You STILL get to contribute to the New Catastrophic fund that you cannot draw from for every vehicle and motorcycle you register!

Why and how can they do this? Because they don't think you matter. They can give the insurance company what they want because there are not enough Motorcyclists that care!

ABATE of Michigan is the only recognized voice for ALL motorcyclists in Lansing. Frankly, the politicians are surprised we are still there; because once the helmet law was passed they thought we would be gone. We cannot, and are not, going anywhere. Do not think for a moment that the do gooders, safteycrats, and Big Government groups are gone!

They are just regrouping. There are already plans for the helmet law and a bright orange vest law to be back into effect by 2016. We have been focusing on Motorcycle safe roads, rider's education, car driver awareness, and unendorsed riders while waiting to get this insurance fight started.

Well, it's here are you going to fight? Run? Sell your bike? Hope you don't get in an accident?

I get asked all the time what is A.B.A.T.E doing? Well, what are YOU DOING? Enjoying Adult helmet choice, limited government on YOUR ASS, fair insurance rates with possible life time medical care? The right to modify your motorcycle? Great! The free ride is OVER!!!!

Do you like paying for someone else to enjoy benefits you have worked, paid, and fought for?

The days of being a Welfare rider are over! Join, get involved, and contact your Reps to tell them NO. ABATE OF MICHIGAN NEEDS YOU NOW! YOU CAN JOIN ON OUR WEBSITE, (Online or download a membership form). Get involved, get others involved.

If roads, insurance reform, or adult choice to decide for yourself how to dress don't matter to you, then I suggest you sell your Bike.

~ Herb



Rusty Bongard
 Communications Director, ABATE of Michigan
 State Rep. MRF
 Co-Director B.O.L.T. of Michigan
 V.P. SWMC
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MOTORCYCLE AND ATV SAFETY: CONSIDER IT BASIC TRAINING.



You couldn't serve our country without training and gear. Don't ride without them, either.

Yamaha and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) encourage you to take a riding course and to always dress properly for your ride with a helmet, eye protection, long-sleeved shirt, long pants, gloves and boots. Of course, never drink and ride – it's illegal and dangerous. For more information on the MSF course, call 1-800-446-9227. Or, for the ATV Safety Institute course, call 1-800-887-2887.

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Shooting Sports, Inc.

So you're going to buy your first handgun? Maybe you have been hunting your entire life, or you've shot rifles and shotguns. Perhaps you're entirely new to firearms altogether. Regardless of your firearm experience, there are a few things you need to know before you make your first handgun purchase.

Many people come into the store looking to buy a specific firearm, because their brother, friend, uncle, or neighbor told them they "just have to buy X gun!" That gun may be a fantastic firearm, but it might not be the right gun for **you**! The most important factor in making your decision is finding the gun that fits your hand the best.

In order to do this, you must first be familiar with the different types of handguns available. Would you prefer a semi-auto or a revolver? Is the gun going to be mainly for range use and home protection, or are you going to be getting your CPL for concealed carry? The amount of recoil you will feel will vary depending on type of firearm, so I highly recommend that you try a couple different guns in varying calibers so that you will know what is comfortable for you to shoot regularly. If your gun is not comfortable and fun to shoot, it will end up being an expensive paperweight. I recommend going to a local gun shop with a range, and ask the staff questions. Most importantly, ask what they recommend for your hand size, and then hold the different guns. The various grips will fit your hand differently. Find the guns that feel good to you and try them on the range. Keep in mind that full framed guns will generally have less felt recoil and be more comfortable to shoot. Here are just a few:



The Springfield Armory XD has a slim grip, with a short trigger reach, and is a great gun to try if you have small hands.



A standard Glock, by comparison, has a large, thick grip, which is ideal for shooters with larger hands.



Glock recently began producing the model 42, chambered in .380 acp, with a much smaller frame, which is ideal for shooters with very small hands.



This Remington 1911 R1 is a standard, single action 1911 type firearm, and its full sized metal frame makes shooting a .45 quite pleasant. This style gun requires long fingers, but can be held by smaller hands, such as mine, because the grip is thin.

If you prefer revolvers, I'd recommend one of the Smith & Wesson revolvers with steel frames, particularly with a longer barrel. This tiny Smith is part of their Air Weight line, and is designed for concealed carry. It's an excellent gun, but the recoil can be a little intimidating for a new shooter.



Smith & Wesson also makes semi-auto pistols, and their M&P line is great for home defense, as well as carry. Either the full size or the compact would be a good choice, as the compact isn't too unruly, though it does carry a bit more snap than the full size. Make sure you hold both, as the grips on the two frame sizes feel very different!

Please feel free to stop in or give us a call if you have any questions! Also, see our ad this issue.

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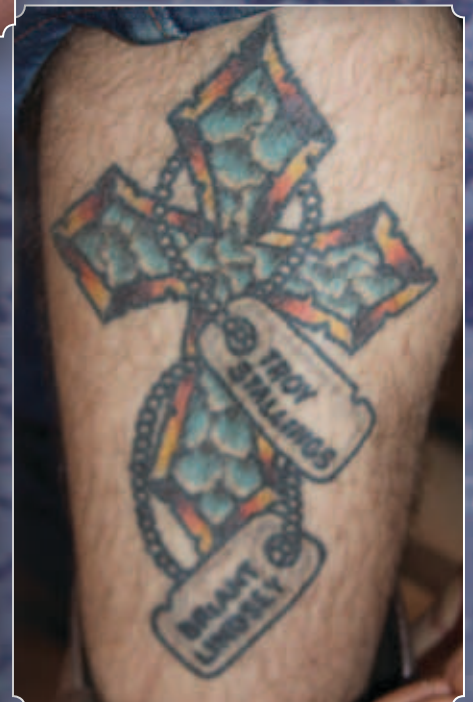
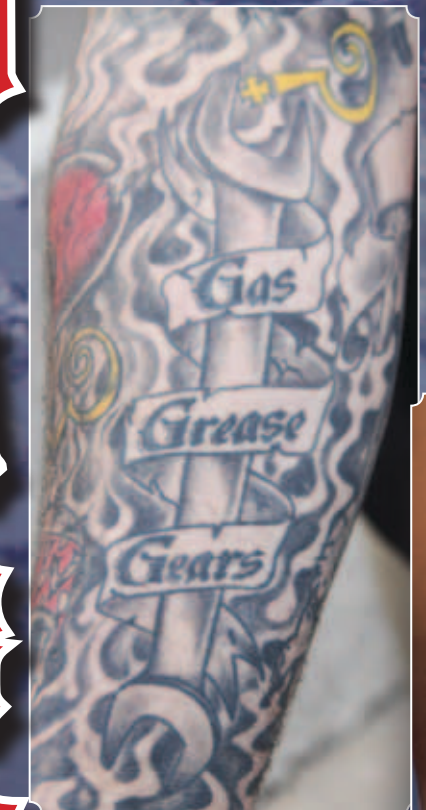
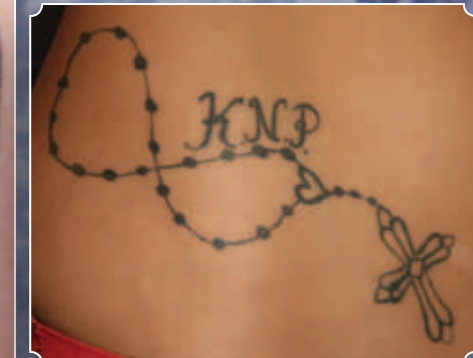
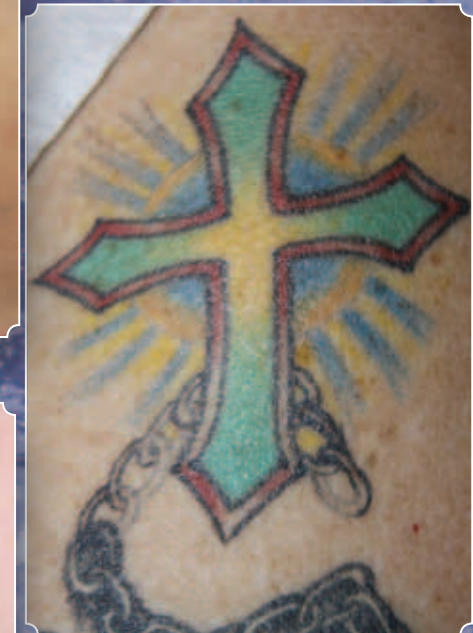
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