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## THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE OF MICHIGAN

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## Happy Independence Day!

There are a few reasons why I love the 4th of July, not only is it my birthday, but it's Independence Day! I love my independence and celebrating my birthday, ha ha. As a kid it wasn't that funny later in life when about 10 years old I found out that the fireworks really were not all for me as my parents told me they were! Very funny now though. The 4th of July is always a celebration and because it's a holiday usually everyone has the day off and depending on where it falls in the week, a nice long weekend. So Happy Independence Day!

Thunder Roads Magazine is all about two things - the advertisers and the readers. We have started something new as of June, we are doing Biker News on Z93 The Rock Station. Every Friday at 1pm, Lynn (from Z93) and I talk about the upcoming events that weekend and month as well as where you can pick up an issue of Thunder Roads. So you can always make sure to get your monthly copy remember that every advertiser in Thunder Roads will have them and if you are ever unsure go to ThunderRoadsMichigan.com to view it page by page.

This month we have great stories and pictures from some wonderful events, articles on new bikes and custom bikes and stories from the past, present and future. We hope you enjoy them! Thunder Roads is all throughout Michigan so be on the lookout for the Thunder Cam!

Don't forget, we are looking for the cartoon character as seen in the Biker Friendly Directory. Last month the character was on page 24, in the top middle picture. See if you can find him this month.

Thank you for continuing to make Thunder Roads Magazine the #1 Free to Readers Motorcycle Magazine in Michigan! Thank you to our wonderful advertisers and loyal readers for your support. Make sure to check out our website each month at thunderroadsmichigan.com and like us on Facebook to keep up to date on all the happenings.

Now for some "Mo" Advice: Always be leery of people that glorify themselves and speak badly of others - usually they do this to distract you from seeing the truth in them.



Jody Mohowitsch





# FACTORY FEATURE *SUZUKI GSX-R 1000*



## TOP 10 FEATURES

**Suzuki Drive Mode Selector (S-DMS)** offers push-button selection of three race-developed engine control maps that regulate the Suzuki Dual Throttle Valve (SDTV) fuel injection, secondary throttle valve and ignition system to suit personal preference or riding conditions, such as going from the street to a racetrack or breaking in a new rear tire. S-DMS allows the rider to select full engine power or reduced power with softer throttle control when desired. A switch is conveniently located on the left handlebar for easier operation.

**Crankcase design incorporates large pentagonal cut-outs** in the side of the of each cylinder bore allowing air trapped underneath each descending piston to more quickly escape to adjacent cylinders where the pistons are rising. The shape of the ventilation holes – wider at the top, narrow at the bottom – matches the actual flow of trapped air, reducing pumping losses & improving overall acceleration.

**Suzuki Dual Throttle Valve (SDTV) fuel injection system**, an exclusive Suzuki race-developed design, uses two butterfly valves in each throttle body barrel. The primary valve is controlled by the rider and the secondary valve is controlled by the ECM, offering superb throttle response, unrivaled acceleration and improved fuel efficiency.

**Suzuki Exhaust Tuning (SET) servo-controlled butterfly valve** in the exhaust pipe helps to maximize torque throughout the rev range in diverse running conditions by optimizing the exhaust-system back-pressure in accordance with the engine speed, throttle position and gear position. The 4-2-1 exhaust system increases mid-range engine power output and is lightweight, contributing to improved agility and handling.

**Lightweight Showa Big Piston front Fork (BPF)** eliminates the internal cartridge assembly inserted into each fork leg and instead uses a single 39.6mm piston riding on the inside wall of the inner fork tube. This endurance-race-proven design provides more effective, linear damping performance, especially noticeable during hard braking and at corner entry giving superior feedback to the rider.

**Electronically controlled steering damper** provides lighter steering at slower speeds and more damping force on the racetrack and at highway speeds, providing consistent stability to suit various riding conditions.

**Twin front disc brakes with full-floating 310mm discs** and rigid, radial-mount, lightweight Brembo monobloc front brake calipers provide unparalleled braking performance and handling.

**A Showa rear shock** works through an aluminum alloy linkage mounted on the swingarm and an extruded aluminum alloy link rod connected to the frame. The rear shock offers adjustable rebound damping, spring preload, and both high-speed and low-speed compression damping.

**Digital instrumentation features an analog tachometer** with LCD readouts of the speedometer, odometer, dual trip meter, reserve trip meter, clock, coolant temperature/oil pressure indicator, shift light and S-DMS.

**Suzuki Clutch Assist System (SCAS)** is incorporated into the back torque-limiting clutch, for light clutch pull, responsive feel at the lever and optimum clutch performance.

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**1 MILLION COMMEMORATIVE EDITION**

As Suzuki celebrated 60 years of motorcycle production in 2012, the one millionth GSX-R rolled off the production line too. Both of these feats are only possible thanks to the on-going and continued support from Suzuki fan, racers, and dealers worldwide. To acknowledge this important milestone, Suzuki brings GSX-R1000 1 Million Commemorative Edition for the 2013 model year. This special equipped production model will be limited to 1,985 units worldwide, taken after 1985, when GSX-R series was introduced and completely redefined the definition of a sport bike. Taking the market by storm, the GSX-R delivered new levels of performance and agility, quickly dominating both the roads and racetracks of the world.

The 2013 Suzuki GSX-R will once again prove itself to be legendary motorcycle with amazing throttle response, power, and acceleration at mid range engine speeds – all with great fuel economy. Engineering your dream bike to go fast is not the only priority at Suzuki. The GSX-R1000 delivers outstanding braking capabilities with its Brembo calipers and heat-resistant stainless steel brake discs. The bike maneuvers like a dream with a solid chassis design and responsive suspension.

Simply put, the GSX-R1000 offers outstanding engine performance from idle to redline, smooth suspension performance, responsive handling, and superior braking to Own The Racetrack.

For 2013: the GSX-R1000 is available in Pearl Glacier White; Metallic Triton Blue/ Glass Splash White and Metallic Mat Black/Glass Sparkle Black.



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# VETERANS CORNER



## Veteran Status on Driver's License

House Bill 4037, sponsored by state Rep. Nancy Jenkins, adds a veteran's designation to Michigan driver's licenses for veterans who request it and show proof of military service with an honorable discharge. A companion bill, Senate Bill 219 sponsored by state Sen. Darwin Booher, adds the designation to state issued ID cards when requested and proof of military service with honorable discharge is presented. The designation will be available on driver's licenses and personal state IDs beginning May 2014. Governor Snyder signed the bills into law on May 14.

Prior to this, some businesses that offered discounts for veterans required the person to show their DD-214. I don't know of any veterans that carry that around, and it could lead to identity theft (my DD-214 has my Social Security number on it). This will allow you to prove you are a veteran by showing your driver's license with the veteran status checked. To get the status on your driver's license you will need to show the Secretary of State office your DD-214.

When the bill was first introduced I thought of another way it could be used that people weren't discussing. It lets law enforcement officers (LEO) know on traffic stops if the person is a veteran, and therefore the person "could" have PTSD. Two ways to think on this one. If the LEO understands the person could have PTSD, he would approach him in an appropriate manner different than he would a regular citizen. The second aspect of this is the LEO going overboard and calling for lots of backup because "he may have a psycho on his hands". I haven't asked any LEOs what they think on this subject. Then again, I could be full of it on this angle.

## Sexual Assaults

We've all seen the numerous news reports about the military and sexual assaults. In D.C. the House passed by voice vote a bill (HR 671) that would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to update regulations regarding military sexual trauma to ensure it is recognized as an in-service stressor in determining service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder.

## Diplomas For Vietnam Veterans

Michigan Vietnam veterans who failed to finish high school because of the war could receive their diplomas under legislation in the state Senate. The Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee are expected to take up the legislation.

The bill would allow high school boards to award diplomas to Vietnam veterans aged 65 and older. Michigan law already allows World War II and Korean War veterans to get diplomas.

Republican Sen. Judy Emmons of Sheridan is the bill's sponsor. She says in a statement that "it may seem like a small thing, but to our veterans and their families it is an important acknowledgement of everything they gave up so we could remain free."

## Michigan Veterans Agency

Gov. Rick Snyder created a veterans agency with a cabinet-level director. And lawmakers on both sides of the aisle are pushing several bills aimed at assisting those who served in the military.

One of the driving factors behind the recent focus on vets is recognition that the state has historically fallen short in serving its veteran population, which ranked 11th largest nationwide in 2010.

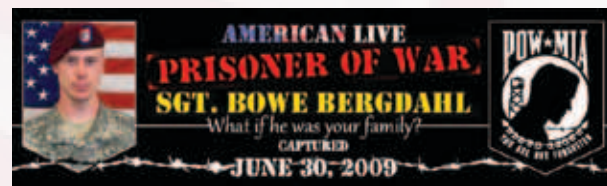
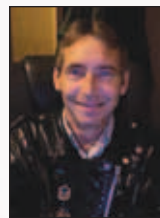
In 2010, Michigan came in dead last for per-capita utilization of federal veterans' benefits. Last year the state improved slightly to fourth-lowest. State veterans af-

fairs officials warn that the report is deceiving because it includes high-cost capital expenses for VA centers or federal settlements with other states.

Nevertheless, Michigan still ranks low in health, education and other benefit spending, and it's a statistic used by many in explaining the recent focus on veterans' issues.

## David McCallister "Possum"

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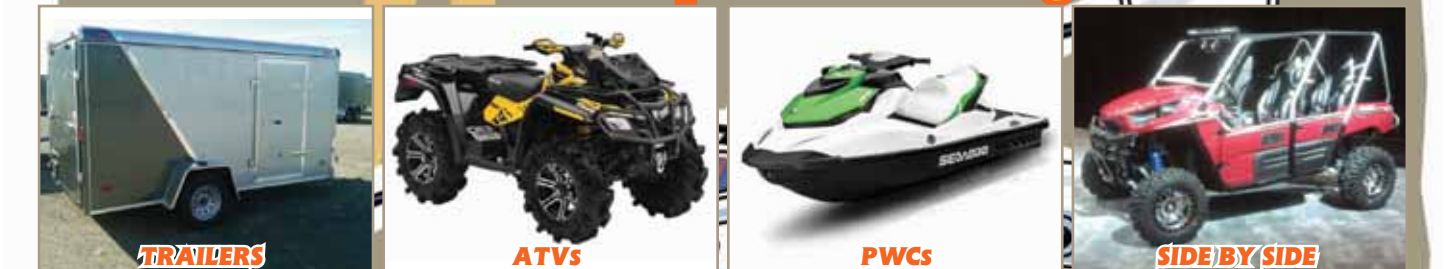
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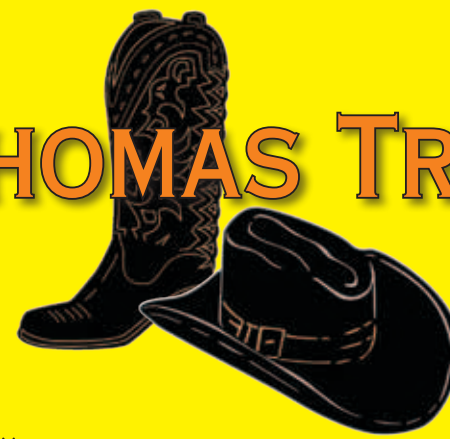


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# The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

## Shopping in the men's department: Tips for women looking to buy a motorcycle

Many riders, myself included, have noticed a change on the roads in the last few years. There have always been women that ride and ride well, but more and more women are taking control and grabbing the handlebars. The Motorcycle Industry Council's 2008 Owner Survey shows that women riders made up 23 percent of the 25 million motorcyclists in America that year; that means 5.7 million women saddled up to ride the open road.

It's interesting to see the way the industry is reacting to this growing demographic. It's true there have been women riders all along, but the spike in uptake over the last ten years has definitely changed the way bike and gear manufacturers are making and marketing their products. Surprisingly, the big manufacturers are not yet capitalizing on this new market by producing bikes specifically for women, and there are only a handful of custom shops who build bikes for female riders.

With that in mind, here are some tips to help women riders find the best bike for their ride.

**Safety first:** If you have never ridden a motorcycle, take a MSF Course or Riders Edge Course. If it's been a long time, MSF also offers a refresher class. They will supply motorcycles to practice on so you can get current on your skills.

**Do your research:** Before you buy a bike, think about the type of riding you want to do. Are you looking to commute on the bike, or to cruise around on the weekends? Do you need speed? Do you plan to ride with others, and if so, what is their riding style?

There are a few different styles of bikes, the most common being sport bikes and cruisers. Sport bikes tend to be lighter-weight bikes designed for speed and precise cornering abilities. Some require the rider to maintain an aggressive, leaned-forward position in the seat, which could be uncomfortable for long rides or anyone with neck problems. Cruisers, on the other hand, allow the rider to sit in a more relaxed, upright, and comfortable position. They are often a little louder and can come with more "bells and whistles", like mp3 players and backrests. However, they also tend to be significantly heavier than sport bikes, which could pose a challenge for smaller, lighter women riders. Harley Davidson offers a "Sportster" which is still a cruiser styled bike, but lighter and more easily maneuverable than say a "Touring" motorcycle. Some have argued that previous models have been top-heavy for some women riders, but their new "Low" series addresses that and can be a great option for women looking for a bike that is both fast and comfortable.

You will also benefit from doing a significant amount of research on the type of safety gear you buy for riding. Once you know the type of riding you plan to do, or the type of bike you want to purchase, read up on safety! There are a lot of different options for safety gear, including jackets, helmets, boots, gloves, and chaps. You need to research the material and read about the safety ratings for each item. How do they work together? What are other users saying about the products? There are hundreds of user forums out there, many of which cater specifically to women riders. Find out what others are saying and what works for them before you start shopping.

**Try it on:** Once you've settled on a style, get out there and start trying on different bikes. You really can't buy a bike just by looking at it. You need to climb on and see how it feels. Is the seat comfortable? Can you reach the controls comfortably? Is it the right size for your leg length? Can you pick the bike up, and can you keep it up while straddling it? You should also see if it feels top-heavy. If it does, try another. Keep on trying until you find something that feels comfortable and secure. Do not

settle. If something is not quite right, consider having it customized so that it's perfect for you. Customization will add to your overall cost, but it's a worthwhile investment because it will make your ride safer and more comfortable. Look for bike events in your area where many different manufacturers will have bikes on hand for you to try. Consult forums and local bike clubs to find out if they host in-person events where you can go to meet club members and try out different rides. Motorcycling is a really tight-knit community, so I suggest you take advantage of that and let experienced riders help you find your perfect fit.

**Know your true budget:** The retail price of the bike isn't the only thing you need to plan for when making this purchase. The bike itself is likely to be the biggest ticket item, but you also need to budget for safety gear, and in many areas you'll need to take a safety course in order to legally ride on the road. You should also plan for other costs including gas, insurance, maintenance, and membership fees if you plan to ride with a club or a group. Remember to budget for customization! You may be buying a bike designed for a male rider, so you may need to have a few adjustments made to the bike in order to get it just right for you.

My suggestion is to start out on a small, lightweight bike with a lower seat height (depending on your height). This will help you to truly feel comfortable while learning to ride. It is always easier to learn to ride a small bike really well, mastering its full potential and then move up to a larger bike.

Some great smaller bikes are; the new Bobber made by Harley-Davidson, the Honda Rebel and the Kawasaki Ninja 250.

Keep in mind that, depending on the type of riding you choose, lowering of a motorcycle does have an effect on the handling of some motorcycles while traveling through turns. Bottom line, don't let someone convince you to buy a bike that you do not feel comfortable on – It's your ride!

Buying a new bike is an exciting event for any rider, beginner or experienced. It's an opportunity to learn more about the sport and the technology available, which just keeps getting better. As the number of women riders continues to increase, we should see more and more companies getting on board and creating new products designed with women in mind.

**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.

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After 35 years of marriage, a husband and wife came for counseling. When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a tirade listing every problem they had ever had in the years they had been married. On and on and on: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, an entire laundry list of unmet needs she had endured. Finally, after allowing this for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and after asking the wife to stand, he embraced and kissed her long and passionately as her husband watched - with a raised eyebrow. The woman shut up and quietly sat down as though in a daze. The therapist turned to the husband and said, "This is what your wife needs at least 3 times a week. Can you do this?" "Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays, but on Fridays, I fish."

A very wealthy, young, and drop-dead gorgeous woman returns from a day of shopping. She is greeted at the door by her butler, Jeeves. "Jeeves" she says. "Follow me to my bedroom." "Yes Ma'am" he replied. When they got to the bedroom she turned to him and said, "Jeeves, I want you to take off my jacket." "Yes Ma'am" he said as he removed her jacket. "Now Jeeves, I want you to take off my blouse." "Yes Ma'am." "Now Jeeves, I want you to take off my skirt." "Yes Ma'am" "Now Jeeves, I want you to take off my stockings." "Yes Ma'am." "Now Jeeves, I want you to take off my bra." "Yes Ma'am." "Now Jeeves, I want you to take off my panties." "Yes Ma'am" "Now Jeeves, I never want to catch you wearing my clothes again or you will be terminated immediately. "Yes Ma'am, duly noted".

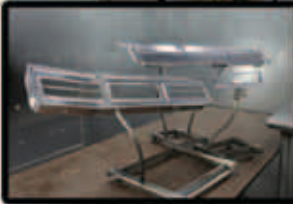
**THINGS THAT MAKE YOU ASK.....WHY?**

is lemon juice made with artificial flavors, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?  
Is it that doctors call what they do "practice" ?  
isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?  
Do they sterilize the needle for lethal injections?  
Don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?  
Is 'abbreviated' such a long word?  
If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

In an alcohol factory the regular tester died and the director started looking for a new one to hire. A drunkard with a ragged, dirty look came to apply for the position. The director of the factory wondered how to send him away. They tested him. They gave him a glass with a drink. He tried it and said, "It's red wine, a Muscat, three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers." "That's correct", said the boss. Another glass. "It's red wine, Cabernet, eight years old, a south western slope, oak barrels." "Correct." The director was astonished. He winked at his secretary to suggest something. She brought in a glass of urine. The alcoholic tried it. "It's a blonde, 26 years old, three months pregnant, made inside the office. And if you don't give me the job, I'll also tell who's the father!" The boss collapsed... and the right man for the job was hired immediately, on the spot.

In an alcohol factory the official taste- tester died and the director started looking for a new officianado to fill the position. A drunkard with a ragged, dirty look came to apply for the position, reeking of wine smell. The director of the factory wondered how to send him away. So, they tested him. They gave him a glass with a drink. He tried it and said, "It's red wine, a Muscat, three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers." "That's correct", said the boss, totally amazed. Another glass. "It's red wine, Cabernet, eight years old, a south western slope, oak barrels." "Correct." The director was astonished. He winked at his Secretary to suggest something. She brought in a glass of urine. The alcoholic tried it. "It's a blonde, 26 years old, three months pregnant, made inside the office. And if you don't give me the job, I'll also tell who's the father!" The boss collapsed... but the right man for the job was hired immediately.

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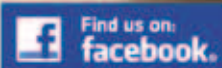
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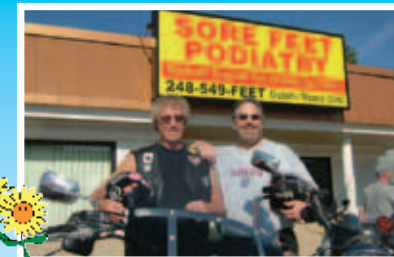
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# READERS RIDES



## HAROLD LOWE

By Harold Lowe, Cass City

Well, this story starts out as a day going rummaging. Everyone has heard about the person finding a treasure at a yard sale. Well, this, my friends, is my yard sale treasure. Driving around Bad Axe stopping at different yard sales, I came up on this one. The couple had this bike among all the other stuff they were wanting to get rid of to make room for the new Harley that they ordered, so I decided to do my part to help them out and in the same note got the best treasure I could have got that day!

This bike is a 2003 American Iron Horse Texas Chopper model. The bike is powered by a 107 ci S&S motor with a 6 speed Baker transmission, and has a 9ft overall length with plenty of power for anyone. This bike is just a blast to ride. Some of the custom work was done by B&B Ruth in Bad Axe. I would like to thank Don Clark of Thunder Roads of Michigan for choosing my bike and story out of the other bikes that were there that day for this month's feature.

PHOTOS BY Don Clark



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# Safe Travels



By Kathleen Howell

It's been said that expressway travel is safest (sure beats intersections), but there are still many things to watch for. I'm so very fortunate to have married a "what if" guy, someone who looks at all possible angles, especially when it comes to safety on the road. His forty years of experience on two wheels has opened my eyes to so many more possible hazards. With several more months left in the season, below are some things to keep in mind when cruising the expressways on that next road trip:

**Utility Trailers** – Are you following someone pulling a utility trailer that's loaded down like the Clampett's? Get out from behind it. You have no idea how well these people tied (or didn't tie) everything down.

**Boats** – Last year heading north on I-75, a boat's cover blew off in front of us. Luckily, we were far enough behind

it (keywords here being "far enough behind it") that it hit the pavement and blew to the shoulder before we were draped in potential disaster. Get out from behind it. If no boat cover, did they secure their tubes and lifejackets inside the boat? You don't want to find out the hard way they didn't.

**RVs/Travel Trailers** – Kids' bikes tied to the back? Yep. Get the hell out from behind it. I get chills whenever I see one, just envisioning the thing hitting a bump and Junior's bicycle sailing through the air onto a motorcycle.

**Cars** – Is the hooty in front of you about to drop it's muffler or is anything loose and flapping in the wind? You guessed it! Don't follow the thing!

And, going back to MSF class, obviously give yourself time to react in any of the above situations by not following too closely, if you can't change lanes right away.

Seasoned riders may know all this, but if these points help one new rider avoid an accident, the time they spent reading this is worth it.

Have a blast on your next road trip and ride safe out there!



Kathleen Howell is an avid rider, photographer, technical communicator and grammar nazi that lives for exploring the back roads. Visit her at kathleenhowell.com or follow her on Twitter @howelltracks.

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# HOGS are Cool Too

Many of you are aware that Grant County, Indiana is where Fairmount is located and the home of James Dean, the location where, "Cool was born". This quiet patch of countryside is also where "hog" was born. Slow down bacon aficionados, this is not where swine was created. This is where the tag name for big cruiser, especially Harleys, was coined. Yeah, that hog and I know you were already toasting the bread and slicing tomatoes. This is way cool and you must read on.

The Home of the Hog is being celebrated right here in Marion, Indiana. Back in 1919 and then again in 1920 there was an international motorcycle race held just southwest of town. It utilized back roads to make a five mile race course. It just so happens that with the latter race, Harley won the race and a local farmer awarded the winner with a piglet. He immediately made a victory lap with the "bacon seed" as a passenger. The Harley race team affectionately became known as the Hog Boys and the name hog stuck from then on out.

This is the fourth year of the celebration held at Ballard Field on the east edge of Marion. It is a two day event held over three days. Come on now quit trying to figure that out on your fingers. The weekend rally, that's right rally, begins around noon on Friday and wraps up around the same time on Sunday. There will be camping so you can crash after watching that last band, which is The Why Store Friday night. The party will have tons of music, vendors of all kinds, awesome food and all that biker type stuff you would expect to see or do. You have got to turn out and see for yourself. If you do not, you will miss breakfast and the kicking church service on Sunday. Did I forget to mention the beer tent? Now I know I got your attention. See you there.

In three years we have somebody from about every city of town in Indiana, folks from a pile of states and there has even been a couple of countries ride in for the show. The only thing we are missing is you. There is a ride, Chasing the Tail, every year with a local charity as the beneficiary. So, see you can party down, take the ride and still feel good about yourself.

Mark Sullivan,  
Hog Daze Motorcycle Rally Committee



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*The more a man knows, the more he forgives. ~ Catherine the Great*  
*One who understands much displays a greater simplicity of character than one who understands little. ~ Alexander Chase*  
*Govern thy life and thoughts as if the whole world were to see the one, and read the other. ~ Thomas Fuller*  
*Life is short, art long, opportunity fleeting, experience treacherous, judgment difficult. ~ Hypocrites*

**Riddles**

- A.** Every dawn begins with me. At dusk I'll be the first you see and daybreak couldn't come without. What midday centers all about, Daises grow from me, I'm told and when I come, I end all cold. But in the sun I won't be found. Yet still, each day I'll be around.
- B.** Kings and queens may cling to power and the jester's got his call. But, as you may all discover, the common one outranks them all.
- C.** One by one we fall from heaven, down into the depths of past. And our world is ever upturned so that yet some time we'll last.
- D.** I can be long, or I can be short. I can be grown, and I can be bought. I can be painted, or left bare. I can be round, or square. What am I?

(Answers below)

**Fun Facts**

- A dragonfly has a lifespan of 24 hours.
- A fully loaded supertanker travelling at normal speed takes at least twenty minutes to stop.
- A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
- A sneeze travels out your mouth at over 100 m.p.h.

**Weird Laws**

Arkansas drive-in aren't very convenient thanks to this law... No person shall drive a motor vehicle onto the premises of a drive-in restaurant and leave the premises without parking  
 Illinois: A state law requires that a man's female companion shall call him "master" while out on a date. The law does not apply to married couples. **wow!**

Answers: A): the letter d B): an ace (in a deck of cards) C): sands in an hourglass D): a fingernail

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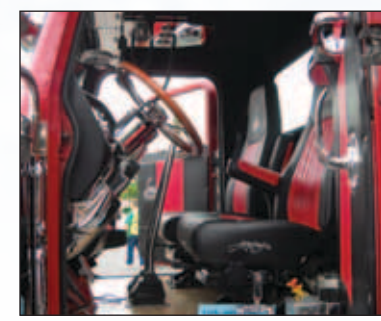
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# Caro Cars, Crafts, Bikes & Big Rigs

By Don Clark 



Sat. June 8th was the Caro Cars and Craft show. Adding a nice twist to it this year, there were also Bikes & Big Rigs, plus all kinds of vendors and a food court with even bouncy houses for the little ones. There was something there for every age. There just seems to be something about getting an elephant ear or maybe a Gibby's footlong hot dog or fries and walking around looking at the crafts, custom paint and all the chrome. It was no easy job for the judges with many nice cars and bikes. But as for the Big Rigs, it's easy to see by the pictures that 1st 2nd and 3rd would go to Zwerk and Sons Farm. There is no sec-



ond guessing that they take pride in their ride! If you didn't or couldn't make it, there is always next year when they are expecting it to be even bigger and better. A big thank you to Caro Motor Sports, Bullet Auto & Truck Service and many other sponsors along with a huge thank you to the Caro Chamber of Commerce.

Hope you all are having a safe and fun summer!  
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# July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 RIDE FREE - Grand Rapids HD BURN RUN - Downtown Niles BRIDGE RUN - Stevens Bay City OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch	1	2	3	4 4TH OF JULY	5	6 THUNDER LAKESHORE - Cadillac D.A.V. - Town & Country HD
7 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch BIKE TIME - Muskegon MYSTERY RIDE - Shiawassee HD	8	9	10	11	12 WHEELS OF THUNDER - Grass Lake RIDE FREE - Grand Rapids HD	13 WHEELS OF THUNDER - Grass Lake RIDE FREE - Grand Rapids HD MYSTERY RIDE - Biker Bobs HD BURN RUN - Downtown Niles BRIDGE RUN - Stevens Bay City
14 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch BURN RUN - Stevens Bay City OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch	15 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch	16 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch	17 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch	18 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch BIKE TIME - Muskegon	19 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch BIKE TIME - Muskegon HARLEY DRAGS - Milan Dragway	20 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch BIKE TIME - Muskegon RIDE IN BIKE SHOW - Shiawassee HD BURN CAMP CHALLENGE - Jackson BURN CAMP FUNDRAISER - Detroit SUMMER SALES - Fox Shawmut
21 OGEMAW HILLS - West Branch BIKE TIME - Muskegon MYSTERY RIDE - Shiawassee HD	22	23	24	25	26 DETROIT BIKE WK - Lake Orion MOVIE NIGHT - Tecumseh HD	27 DETROIT BIKE WK - Lake Orion BERLIN RACEWAY - Fox Powersports GARAGE PARTY - Town & Country HD
28 DETROIT BIKE WK - Lake Orion	29	30	31	1	2	3

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**Biker Preacher's Corner**

Having been in biker ministry since 1995, a common theme that keeps coming up while ministering the Good News of God's love is that many people feel that they are too bad for God to love them or even forgive their past indiscretions. This is partly caused by 'religious' types that pass judgment on everyone that doesn't look like them and worse yet they misuse the Bible as a club to beat people down with, which breaks God's heart! There's a story in the bible that talks about this very situation.

John 8:3-11 (HCSB) <sup>3</sup> Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, making her stand in the center. <sup>4</sup> "Teacher," they said to Him, "this woman was caught in the act of committing adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do You say?" <sup>6</sup> They asked this to trap Him, in order that they might have evidence to accuse Him. Jesus stooped down and started writing on the ground with His finger. <sup>7</sup> When they persisted in questioning Him, He stood up and said to them, "The one without sin among you should be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup> Then He stooped down again and continued writing on the ground. <sup>9</sup> When they heard this, they left one by one, starting with the older men. Only He was left, with the woman in the center. <sup>10</sup> When Jesus stood up, He said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> "No one, Lord," she answered. "Neither do I condemn you," said Jesus. "Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."

Listen, Jesus was the only one there that could have rightfully stoned this woman – He was and is the ONLY sinless and perfect. But, He didn't! He had compassion [that's what we all need] and loved her instead of condemning her to death. He forgave her of ALL her sin and encouraged her to "Go, and from now on do not sin anymore." Ya see, "... love covers a multitude of sins" 1 Peter 4:8

My friends, the same goes for us! No matter what you've done in your past, if we'll turn to Christ and confess our sins He will forgive us of all of it (1 John 1:9). He'll pick you up, dust you off and ride with you in a relationship that is truly out of this world.

God loves you so much!

Much Love & Respect,

**Apostle Brian "BMAN" McKay**  
President/Founder of Victory Biker Church  
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# DILLINGER RIDE

by Bob Click



The Dillinger Ride, which was created in 2004 by the passing of a local with the help of Hospice, has gotten a lot of attention over the past 9 years as one of the largest bike hospice benefits in the Thumb of MI. With the help of all the riders, and the people/business of the surrounding counties who donate goods for door/raffle prizes for this one day event every year for the past 9 years. Now, most recently with the passing of Willet Fredland, who was one of the founding fathers of the Dillinger Ride, this year's ride was a little sadder. But, to everyone's surprise, his wife Joyce showed up and did the ride through two Michigan counties with all the riders and supporters. The ride, being roughly 100 miles, winds through two counties, and eleven stops, was a great success with the help of over 100 riders, along with several cars/trucks to follow. The ride begins at the Inn Between Saloon in Lewisville, in Port Hope, with registration at 11am-12pm, then off to 11 stops, with each rider being able to pick his or her 5 stops for the day, getting all 5 answers right. Each stop has a question to answer, and each rider must enter the stop of their choice, then find the answer, then head to the next stop, when all five are acquired, then head back to home base, hoping to get all 5 right to draw.

We had so much to give away this year for hospice, I, as the DJ, didn't think it would ever come to an end. The girls, Jayne, Becky, Patty and Maggie, worked their hearts out to make this event happen in good style, and keep things in order. As each rider returned, the answers were amazing, and wild. Then, it was time to look over the silent auction items. There were several as well, like, a Jacuzzi room in the off season, donated by Holiday Inn Express of Bad Axe, a bike detail certificate worth \$140.00, several items from the beer distributors, and a few good ole fashion neighborly things like quilts and custom made Harley mirrors.

The oldest rider award went to Orin Emerick, of St. Helen, who is 76 years old. The furthest rider award went to Jim and Jen Cole from Ohio. The oldest bike award went to a guy from Shelby Twp., riding a 1976 FLH, and to everyone's surprise, his daughter, 6 yr. old Jordan, who was helping pick the raffle tickets, even picked the 50/50 winner, her Dad, who donated back to Hospice, \$100.00, out of the \$246.00 he won.

The food was awesome as usual, being prepared by McDonald's food center of Bad Axe. There was so much food to pass around, we couldn't even eat it all.

The day was a bit cool, BUT, the sun was shining on us all for the 9th Annual Dillinger Ride for Hospice.

A big Thank You goes out to MC Cycle of Bad Axe, Ray C's Harley, Shiawassee Harley, a large group of local auto parts suppliers, and to all the local businesses of Huron County and surrounding counties for their gifts, and support for Hospice.

The Inn Between Saloon would like to thank all who joined in and helped raise funds for Hospice on this special day.

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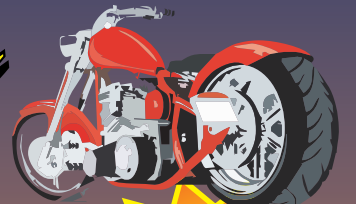
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# NEWS BYTES

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**NCOM NEWS BYTES 10-06**  
**Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,**  
**National Coalition of Motorcyclists**

## FEDERAL RULE WILL REQUIRE A "BLACK BOX" IN NEW VEHICLES

Congress failed to pass legislation that would have required manufacturers to install event data recorders (EDRs) in all new vehicles, so a federal safety agency is using its rulemaking authority to mandate that all new cars sold in the United States be equipped with so-called "black boxes" - capable of capturing what happened in the moments before and during a crash.

Citing privacy concerns, House Republicans had succeeded in removing a Senate provision requiring EDRs from the final transportation bill last year, so the Obama administration is bypassing the legislative process in favor of the administrative rule.

Insisting the devices are meant for crash investigation purposes, and not for invading privacy, the U.S. DOT National Traffic Safety Administration mandate will require all automobiles and light trucks manufactured after September 1, 2014 to have an EDR device that stores driving information for federal investigators.

Automotive EDRs are similar to -- though not nearly as sophisticated as -- the black boxes used in commercial airliners, and they are already installed in nearly 92% of today's vehicles, according to industry officials, and provide important information for industry engineers and, in some circumstances, law enforcement authorities.

But Horace Cooper of the National Center for Public Policy Analysis called the move "an unprecedented breach of privacy for Americans." Cooper said that contrary to what is being claimed, EDRs "can and will track the comings and goings of car owners and even their passengers" -- and what they can record is virtually unlimited.

In the meantime, U.S. Representatives Mike Capuano (D-MA) and Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) have announced their intentions to introduce the "Black Box Privacy Protection Act" that will protect drivers' and riders' rights by requiring dealers to disclose to consumers if a vehicle is equipped with an EDR, would require manufacturers to allow consumers to deactivate the device, and clarifies that the owner of the vehicle owns the data and it cannot be accessed without permission.

"Consumers should have control over the information collected by event data recorders in vehicles that they own and they should have the option of disabling the device if they choose to do so. This is a basic issue of privacy," said Rep. Capuano.

## DESPITE MEDIA HYPE, MOTORCYCLING IS SAFER

Record numbers of motorcycles over the past few years have resulted in an increased number of annual motorcyclist fatalities, and in light of overall motor vehicle fatalities steadily decreasing gives the impression that motorcycling is becoming more dangerous, but just the opposite is true.

While so-called safety experts point to more and more states relaxing their helmet laws as the root of all this evil, it's in fact a numbers game that motorcycle enthusiasts are winning.

Over the past five years, since 2007 when there were just over seven million motorcycles in the U.S., motorcycle registrations nationwide have ballooned to eight and a half million; an increase of 15% more motorcycles on the road today, while at the same time fatalities per 100,000 registered motorcycles has actually decreased by nearly a quarter! Moreover, over the past decade motorcycle registrations have risen 40.7% (from 5,004,156 in 2002 to 8,437,502 in 2011), but the fatality rate dropped 17.3% (from 65.35 per 100K to 54.66).

Check out the most current statistics acquired by the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), compared to motorcycle registration numbers found on the U.S. DOT Federal Highway Administration website:

Year - Registered Motorcycles / Rider Fatalities = Fatality Rate per 100,000 Motorcycles

2007 - 7,138,476 / 5,174 = 72.48

2008 - 7,752,926 / 5,312 = 68.52

2009 - 7,929,724 / 4,469 = 56.35

2010 - 8,009,503 / 4,518 = 56.40

2011 - 8,437,502 / 4,612 = 54.66

\*\*NOTE: According to these data analyzed by the National Coalition of Motorcyclists, motorcycle registrations have increased 15.4% over the past five years, while fatalities decreased by 10.9% and the fatality rate declined 24.6%...why isn't the news media reporting THESE facts?

## GERMAN STUDY CLAIMS MOTORCYCLE HELMETS COULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY SAFER

A study carried out by the German Hohenstein Institute in Bönningheim shows that motorcycle helmets could indeed be a lot safer if some other measurements would be taken into account, concluding that inner shell size alone is not enough for providing the best protection-to-fit ratio, and the head shape is just as critical.

The Hohenstein Institute study narrowed the head shapes to 6 major categories, with an amazing width variance of 3.5 cm (1.37"), determining that one helmet size cannot possibly offer the best fit for all these head shapes, even provided the circumference is the same.

With the way the inner impact layer fits on the rider's head being one of the critical elements in shock absorption and G-dispersion, it's apparent that the same shape will create different pressure points on a motorcyclist's skull, leading to various outcomes in similar crash conditions.

Spaces between the skull and the protective layer / liner result in less optimal protection in case of an impact, and such anthropometric head data could improve helmet design and manufacturing significantly, should the leading brands take notice of the study's finding.

## JAYHAWKERS SEE THE LIGHT

The Kansas legislature unanimously passed House Bill 2318 which allows a motorcycle's headlamp to be wired with a headlamp modulation system, which must meet federal standards. The bill also allows certain types of lights on the sides of motorcycles, visible only from the side and not from the front or rear and to not protrude beyond or outside the body or wheel of the motorcycle. The side lights may emit white, amber, or red light without glare.

The legislation was signed into law on April 4, 2013 by Governor Sam Brownback and goes into effect July 1st.



# NEWS BYTES

## RED-LIGHT CAMERA COMPANIES FIGHT LAWS AND RULINGS AGAINST TICKET CAMS

Purveyors of red-light cameras continue their quest to place cameras on every street corner in the nation, and one strategy is to put the hit on states that have traditionally been "protected" from cameras either through legislation or court ruling

Redflex lobbyists recently swarmed over the Minnesota Statehouse pushing a bill to allow ticket cameras into the state. The bill was written to thwart a 2007 Minnesota Supreme Court ruling that Minneapolis' red-light camera program was unconstitutional. The bill was defeated in committee, thanks in part to the efforts of ABATE of Minnesota and the National Motorists Association (NMA).

In Michigan, where a 2007 ruling from the state's attorney general has been keeping cameras at bay, recently introduced camera legislation has turned Michigan into the latest photo enforcement battleground state.

The NMA ([www.motorists.org](http://www.motorists.org)) warns that if you live in one of the 15 states that have taken steps to keep cameras out, stay alert. Chances are that a camera company lobbyist is cozying up to a friendly state lawmaker with a nice campaign donation and a pre-written camera bill that needs support.

## HONDA & BMW EXPERIMENT WITH "AUTONOMOUS MOTORCYCLE"

Most connected vehicle technologies have focused squarely on the car, but BMW and Honda are working to develop autonomous driving technologies that work on two wheels. Both BMW and Honda have already added plenty of connectivity to their cars, but now the two automotive giants are working with the University of Michigan and Australian startup Cohda Wireless to put networking smarts into their motorcycles.

Adelaide-based Cohda designs radio systems and software that will not only link nearby vehicles on the road to each other, but also to the road itself. The idea behind its autonomous car technology is to create an ever-changing ad-hoc network of vehicles communicating their intentions and interacting with the infrastructure of the road.

Known as vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) and vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I), these technologies could help power self-driving cars of the future. The University of Michigan Transportation Institute (UMTRI) runs one of the key test-beds for that technology, and its lab is running an ongoing trial of 3,000 connected vehicles in Ann Arbor, Mich., which is where Honda and BMW will put their connected motorcycles through the paces, according to a report on GigaOM.com.

Motorcycles may not have much room on their instrument panels for the connected infotainment systems going into today's cars, but they could definitely benefit from any technology that makes mounting a motorcycle safer, and one of the major goals of V2I and V2V efforts is to reduce accidents and improve safety on the road. Vehicles could make quicker and better driving decisions than drivers because they would be able to access more info from the networks around them and react to it nearly instantaneously (they're also less easily distracted than human drivers).

As for motorcycle applications, Cohda and UMTRI plan to test technologies that let bikes talk to traffic lights, roadside beacons and other cars, warning them of green lights about to turn red and dangerous curves ahead requiring them to slow down. By using a long-range secure form of Wi-Fi, a motorcycle could communicate with a car long before the drivers can see one another as they both approach a blind intersection.

Previously, a riderless motorcycle was developed in 2005 by graduate students from UC Berkeley to compete in a 150-mile off-road race for autonomous vehicles to further develop self-navigating vehicles for the Department of Defense.

## CANADIAN INSURER TO TRACK MOTORCYCLIST BEHAVIOR WITH "TELEMATICS"

With an eye to calibrating insurance rates, Saskatchewan Government Insurance plans to use new technology to track how fast and how far motorcycles go. It's called telematics and someday could be used to help set insurance rates, among other things, but for now SGI is just trying the technology out with a pilot program.

It's looking for several hundred motorcycle users to volunteer to have their bikes equipped with telematics technology. The "black box"-type gadgets would record speed, braking, mileage and location. The volunteer riders would have weekly updates on their driving behavior, to show them what information SGI would be looking at.

"Usage-based insurance is the ultimate in rating fairness because it essentially lets the driver control their own insurance rate through their driving behavior," said Donna Harpauer, the minister responsible for SGI. "Simply put, those who drive responsibly pay less and those who don't pay more."

While no one's rates will be affected by the pilot program, the experiment is one of the ideas coming out of the Motorcycle Review Committee, a group formed in the wake of a storm of controversy after SGI had proposed boosting motorcycle rates an average of 73% to compensate for high injury claims. Government-owned SGI later withdrew its proposal and came back with some milder proposed increases for motorbikes, including the telematics pilot program that could begin as early as this season.

## POPE BLESSES HARLEYS & RIDERS

Thousands of Harley riders from around the world were blessed by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square on Sunday, June 16 as one of the stops in a worldwide celebration of the famous motorcycle maker's 110th anniversary, which will roar across 11 countries before concluding in Milwaukee over Labor Day Weekend. Choral music mixed with revving engines as the Holy Father blessed a sea of Harley-Davidson motorcycles and riders from all parts of the planet flocking to Italy over the weekend of June 13-16 to celebrate Harley-Davidson's milestone, and earlier in the weekend festivities, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church was presented with two white classic Harley-Davidson motorcycles for use by Papal police and his own black leather jacket.

Get in on the action while the anniversary tour is still in high gear. Check out [www.110.Harley-Davidson.com](http://www.110.Harley-Davidson.com) for schedules and cities.

## QUOTABLE QUOTE

*"Men love their country, not because it is great, but because it is their own."*  
~ Seneca (4 BC - AD 65), Roman philosopher and statesman

**NCOM**  
National Coalition of Motorcyclists



Soaring Eagle CASINO & RESORT

Budweiser

JULY 18TH - 21ST

**BIKE TIME** powered by **HOT ROD HARLEY-DAVIDSON**

MUSKEGON MICHIGAN

**OVER 60,000 MOTORCYCLES & 100,000 PEOPLE!**  
**MOTORCYCLE ONLY MAIN STREET, NATIONAL VENDORS, STUNT SHOWS, CONCERTS, BIKE SHOWS, BEVERAGE TENTS, BURN OUT PIT, PATRIOT RIDE, BIKER BLESSING, MISS BIKE TIME CONTEST & MORE.**

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**BIKE TIME**  
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BOSTON *former lead singer*  
**Fran Cosmo**  
**Friday July 19**

Performing Boston hits like "More Than A Feeling", "Peace of Mind", "Rock & Roll Band" and more.



JOURNEY *former lead vocalist*  
**Steve Augeri**  
**Saturday July 20**

Performing Journey hits like "Anyway You Want It", "Don't Stop Believing", "Wheel In the Sky" and more.

CONCERT TICKETS \$10 EA. AVAILABLE AT HOT ROD HD.\* PARTIAL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE RED CROSS. GATES OPEN AT 6PM.

Soaring Eagle

**BIKE TIME**  
MUSKEGON MICHIGAN

**EXTREME CUSTOM BIKE SHOW**

JULY 20TH THE BEST OF THE BEST WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THIS FREE SHOW AT HOT ROD H-D\*

**EXTREME CUSTOM BIKE SHOW**

CASH PRIZES & A CHANCE TO GO TO THE AMD INVITATIONAL & AMD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS REGISTER AT [CUSTOMBIKESHOWS.COM](http://CUSTOMBIKESHOWS.COM)

TICKET PRIZES

**DETAILS MUSKEGONBIKETIME.COM**



**JULY**

July 6  
 AMA Motocross- Red Bud National Red Bud Trail, Buchanan, MI. For more info visit [media@mxsportsproracing.com](mailto:media@mxsportsproracing.com)

July 6  
 D.A.V. Mobile Unit at Town & Country HD  
 Town & Country HD, Cement City, MI. D.A.V. offers free assistance to veterans from 9-3 pm. For more info go to [www.cementcityharley.com](http://www.cementcityharley.com) (See full page ad this issue).

July 6  
 Veterans Support Ride  
 Eagles Hall, Gaylord, MI. 4pm - 6pm spaghetti dinner, bike show, live music, free event for everyone. Vietnam Veterans presents the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall.

July 6  
 3rd Annual Thunder of the Lakeshore Lake Street, Cadillac, MI. Noon- 3 pm, bike show, live music, beer tent, door prizes & more. Go to [www.cadillacmichigan.com](http://www.cadillacmichigan.com) for more info.

July 9-14  
 Rivertown Bike Week Expo  
 DeltaPlex Arena, Grand Rapids, MI. Benefits Wounded Warrior Project. For more info call 616-437-0973 or visit [www.rivertownbikeweek.com](http://www.rivertownbikeweek.com)

July 12-13  
 Wheels of Thunder  
 Grass Lake, MI Battle of the bands, vendors, custom bike builders, poker run, stunt riders, free admission, contact Joe for more info tel:517-474-6222 or [smokenjoe63@yahoo.com](mailto:smokenjoe63@yahoo.com) or go to [www.thewheelsofthunder.com](http://www.thewheelsofthunder.com) (See ad this issue).

July 12-14  
 Ride Free Weekend Presented by Grand Rapids HD  
 Grand Rapids HD, Hudsonville, MI. Free dyno, HD test rides, food and more. Call 616-896-0111 for more info (See full page ad this issue).

July 13  
 3rd Annual Ride for the Walk Poker Run Mulliken Roadhouse, Mulliken, MI. Sign in at 10am, kick stands up at 10:45am. \$10 bike, \$5 passenger, door prizes and live music. More info e-mail [jberr3412@yahoo.com](mailto:jberr3412@yahoo.com)

July 13  
 Freedom Run- Memorial Poker Run for Fallen Riders  
 Starts at Hot Rod H-D. Sign up at Hot Rod H-D from 11am to 12pm. \$10 per person, includes food & music. Departs at noon, all proceeds to Waves of Hope, truorth Community Services & Holland Victim Services. Run ends at Pat's Roadhouse. More info contact Dave Matuzeski at 231-740-6748 or go to [www.hotrodhd.com](http://www.hotrodhd.com)

July 13  
 Motown H.O.G Mystery Ride  
 Biker Bob's HD, Taylor, MI. For more info go to [www.bikerbobshd.com](http://www.bikerbobshd.com) (See full page ad this issue).

July 13  
 Gladwin Bike Show/Swap Meet and Ride  
 Gladwin Ice Arena, Gladwin, MI. Starts at 10am. Field Events, 50/50, bike wash, pig roast, live music and much more. \$5 to enter in the bike show, \$10 for the ride. Awards for best paint, best show, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd and a rat bike class. For more info contact Ricky or Bill at 989-424-1879

July 13th  
 Rubber & Roads- Charity ride in honor of Anna Boeck  
 Bullfrogs, Ortonville MI kickstands up 11:15am, Proceeds to U-M C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. \$20 rider/ \$30 couple includes patch, ride and food, 50/50, silent auction, raffles, DJ. For more information visit [www.rubberandroads.com](http://www.rubberandroads.com)

July 13-14  
 12th Annual Niles Burn Run- benefits Great Lakes Burn Camp

Downtown Niles, MI. Streets shut down on 13th for event from 10 am- 10 pm, bike show, food, live bands. Ride on 14th police, fire and EMS escorted, regis. 9 am, ride leaves at noon, \$20 bike, \$30 with rider if pre-register by June 24th. Visit website at [www.nilesburnrun.com](http://www.nilesburnrun.com) or on Facebook or Twitter for more info. (See ad this issue).

July 13-14  
 Stevens Charity Bridge Run  
 Stevens Cycle Sales, Bay City, MI. Sign up 8:30am - 10am (breakfast included), stay overnight in Mackinaw City, stop for lunch on the way. Ride own way back. \$50 donation plus room stay. Contact Stevens Cycle 989-684-9872 to register or for more info. Note: America's Best Value Inn on page 14 this issue offers biker rates for their hotel in Mackinaw City. (See full page ad this issue).

July 14  
 28th Peotone (Illinois) Motorcycle Show & Parts Expo (Indoor/Outdoor)  
 Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL 10am - 4pm, more info [www.paragon-promotion.com](http://www.paragon-promotion.com).

July 14-21  
 Ogemaw Hills Bike Week  
 Ogemaw County Fairground, West Branch, MI. Flat track races, dyno drags, bike show, live entertainment, & more. All motorcycles welcome. For more info call 989-896-6429 or visit [www.ogemahillsbikeweek.com](http://www.ogemahillsbikeweek.com). (See ad this issue).

July 18  
 2013 Tecumseh Classic Car, Bike & Bicycle Show Series  
 United Bank & Trust Hickman Financial Center parking lot, Tecumseh, MI. Check in at Gregory's Barber Shop from 5:30pm - 7pm, more info at 517-424-6555 / 517-424-6003 or email [kwelch@tecumseh.mi.us](mailto:kwelch@tecumseh.mi.us).

July 18-21  
 7th Annual Muskegon Bike Time  
 Downtown Muskegon, MI. Steel horse alley, blessing of the bikers, Miss Bike Time contest, national vendors, Budweiser beer tents, burn out pit, stunt shows, Patriot Charity ride, bike shows, and concerts at Hot Rod Harley Davidson by Boston former lead singer Fran Cosmo Friday night, and Journey former lead singer Steve Augeri Saturday night. Details at [www.muskegonbiketime.com](http://www.muskegonbiketime.com) or call 317-236-6515 (See cover and full page ad this issue).

July 19  
 Harley's at the Dragway  
 Milan Dragway, MI. 4pm - 12am, Go to [www.milandragway.com](http://www.milandragway.com) for more info. (See full page ad this issue).

July 20  
 First Annual Tara Sturgis Memorial Ride (Poker Run)  
 The Fireplace, Fenton, MI. \$25 Poker Hand, \$10 gate fee, regis. 10 am, depart at Noon, raffles, games, live music, food, pop, BYOB, free camping. More info call 810-217-8295 or email [vtwin00@yahoo.com](mailto:vtwin00@yahoo.com)

July 20  
 Shiawassee Harley-Davidson Ride in Bike Show  
 at Shiawassee Sports Center, Birch Run MI. Regis. 9am - Noon, Awards at 2:00 pm, Judging in 3 classes: Stock, Custom, and Vintage/Antique plus a People's Choice Award. All proceeds benefit The Michigan Patriot Guard to help them provide veteran services. More info call Shiawassee Sports Center 989-624-4400 (See ad this issue).

July 20  
 Inaugural All-Wheel Poker Run- Memory of Amy, Lisa & Abigail  
 Adrian Frickers, 720 S. Main St, Adrian, MI. Regis. 9am - 11:30 am, \$20 per vehicle or bike, departs between 10-Noon, ends at NCO Club, Swanton, OH. Rain or Shine. All cars, bikes, trucks,

etc. welcome. Hog roast, prizes, cash bar. More info email: [gritz@cass.net](mailto:gritz@cass.net)

July 20  
1st Annual Remember Brittany Bike Rally  
Battle Creek Custom, Battle Creek, MI. Starts at 2pm. Raffle, door prizes, bbq, DJ, karaoke and a ride in her honor. Contact Wendy 269-274-2671 or Lora 269-788-7451 for more info.

July 20  
2nd Annual Great Lakes Burn Camp Challenge presented by GWRRA of MI Chapter "J" and Wendy's City parking lot, Jackson, MI. Regis \$10 person includes lunch at Wendy's, regis. 11 am, awards 3:30 pm, obstacle courses. More info contact Gary 517-262-0896 or Tom 517-262-1162 or email [yellow\\_wing@yahoo.com](mailto:yellow_wing@yahoo.com) (See ad this issue).

July 20  
Great Lakes Burn Camp Fundraiser presented by Axeman Detroit Detroit Club House (Professional Firefighters Motorcycle Club), Detroit, MI. Doors open at 5 pm, \$10 donation. For more info contact Brent 313-461-7840 or facebook- Axemen Detroit (See ad this issue).

July 20  
Summer Sales Event  
Fox Shawmut Hills, Grand Rapids, MI. 9 am- 3 pm. Go to [www.foxshawmuthills.com](http://www.foxshawmuthills.com) for more info

July 21  
Shiawassee Michigan H.O.G. Chapter #3271 13th Annual Mystery Ride Sign in from 10:00- Noon at Shiawassee Sports Center, Birch Run MI. \$15.00 per person, excellent buffet dinner, lots of door prizes, awards, & a big 50/50 drawing. All proceeds benefit The Michigan Patriot Guard to help them provide veteran services. For more info call Gary at 989-860-8022 or Edie at 810-955-2991 (See ad this issue).

July 24-27  
Michigan Patriot Guard Inc. 6th Annual Heroes Ride & Michigan Gathering of the Guard Ride starts in Manistee at 9am, overnight stays in Manistee, Petoskey, Gaylord, & Clare. \$35 person includes ride, patch wristband, banquet & auction. More in at [www.michiganpatriot-guard.org](http://www.michiganpatriot-guard.org)

July 25-27  
Michigan State HOG Rally  
Alpena, MI Music, activities and vendors. For more info call 517-930-1509

July 26-28  
4th Annual Detroit Bike Week  
Canterbury Village, Lake Orion, MI. \$10 daily, vendors, bike show, poker run, bikini contest, over 30 bands, stunt riders, all kinds of contests. (See full page ad this issue- page 1).

July 26  
First Annual Movie Night at Tecumseh HD  
Tecumseh HD, Tecumseh, MI. Bring your own bike and beverage and watch a movie outside. Go to [www.tecumsehhd.com](http://www.tecumsehhd.com) for more info (See full page ad this issue).

July 27  
American Spirit Clubhouse Fish Fry  
3959 Kirk Rd. Vassar, MI. Starts at 4pm while supplies last.  
\$10.00 per plate includes; mixed fish, fries, hush puppies & cole slaw  
All proceeds will go towards the Brad Rittenberg Scholarship Fund, and for school supplies for local children.

July 27  
Eagle Riders Aerie 612 Annual Poker Run for St Luke's Medical Center  
301 Detroit St, Jackson, MI. \$15 rider, \$5 passenger, regis. 10 am, first bike out 11 am, dinner 5 pm, 50/50, door prizes, rain or shine, 2, 3, 4 wheels welcome. More info contact John 517-937-8406

July 27  
Bike Night at Berlin Raceway  
Fox Powersports/ Grand Rapids HD, Grand Rapids, MI. 2 pm- 6 pm, free dyno, \$4 off ticket if you show your bike. First 50 riders will be able to ride a lap on the track before race starts. Go to [www.foxpowersports.com](http://www.foxpowersports.com) for more info.

July 27  
Ladies Garage Party  
Town & Country HD, Cement City, MI. For new riders and women looking to learn more about riding. For more info go to [www.cementcityharley.com](http://www.cementcityharley.com) (See full page ad this issue).

July 27  
Bull Run II- Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association  
Whitt's HD, Manassas, VA. Regis 9 am, depart 11 am, \$20 per bike, ride the civil war battlefields of Virginia. More info at [www.nvwawoundedwarrior.org](http://www.nvwawoundedwarrior.org) or call 540-373-3223 ext. 3085

## AUGUST

August 1-3  
Michigan Chopper Fest  
US 131 Motorsports Park, Martin, MI. Bike builders, camping, drags & grudge

match racing. Gates open July 31st. More info contact Davidson Express 269-694-9579 or go to [www.davidson-express.com](http://www.davidson-express.com)

August 3  
Northaven Resort Biker Bash Weekend  
Brooklyn, MI. Motorcycle rally, clothing optional, poker run, on-site camping. More info email [velmaatnorthaven@aol.com](mailto:velmaatnorthaven@aol.com) or call 517-592-6170.

August 3  
Free Breakfast at Grand Rapids HD  
Grand Rapids HD, Hudsonville, MI. Cool bikes and hot free breakfast 9 am 'til gone. Call 616-896-0111 for more info (See full page ad this issue).

August 3  
1st Annual Brad's Ride, SSG Brad Eifert Memorial Poker Run  
Jean Anderson VFW Post 7309, Mason, MI. Reg. 10am. \$15 per person, \$20 per couple. Proceeds to benefit Military PTSD Counseling Room at the VFW Post. 50/50 and other prizes. Contact Brooke Lipka 517-977-5175 or [brooke.lipka@yahoo.com](mailto:brooke.lipka@yahoo.com) for additional info

August 3  
5th Annual SGT. Christopher P. Messer Memorial Run  
Dundee Veterans Memorial Hall, Dundee, MI. Regis. 11am, ride at 1 pm, \$20 bike, \$10 rider, free food, raffle, 50/50, proceeds to Fallen & Wounded Soldiers Fund. Contact Bubba Rick at 734-587-2129 or [rnickm4him@yahoo.com](mailto:rnickm4him@yahoo.com)

August 3  
Customer Appreciation Day  
Town & Country HD, Cement City, MI. Go to [www.cementcityharley.com](http://www.cementcityharley.com) for more info (See full page ad this issue).

August 4  
2nd Annual Kevin "Moses" Memorial Ride  
Museum of Moses, Vogel Center, MI. 11am. UPS 98.5 Michael J will be live, no fees, all donations to the museum, hamburgers, hot dogs and home-made ice cream, prizes and raffle for 110th Anniversary collectibles. For more info contact Karla 231-825-2219.

August 5-11  
Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, Sturgis, SD.

August 9-10  
Del Shannon Car Show  
Coopersville, MI. Car enthusiasts, motorcyclist and general public. More info at 616-947-2055.

August 1-3  
Michigan Chopper Fest  
US 131 Motorsports Park, Martin, MI. Bike builders, camping, drags & grudge

August 10  
Harley's at the Dragway  
Milan Dragway, MI 3pm – 12am, (See full page ad this issue).

August 10  
2nd Annual Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy  
Wolverine HD, Clinton Township, MI. 9-4 pm, Regis for poker ride at 9 am, \$15 per person, children free, ride starts at 10:30, prizes, \$1000 gift card, raffles & more. For more info email [macombaware@gmail.com](mailto:macombaware@gmail.com) or call Sherri 586-530-0285

August 10  
9th Annual Wounded America Run  
Motor City H-D, Farmington Hills, MI. Escorted ride to Michigan International Speedway, check-in 10:30 am-noon, silent/live auctions, all bikes welcome, \$15 donation per person, lunch, live band. More info contact Motor City H-D.

August 10  
Escort the kids to Great Lakes Burn Camp  
Meet at Wings Stadium, Kalamazoo, MI. Regis 10 am-12:30 pm, ride starts at 1 pm. Prizes, 50/50, food. More info call Bill 517-206-1115 (See ad this issue).

August 10-11  
WERA Sportsman Series Motorcycle Racing  
Grattan Raceway Park, Belding, MI. More info 770-720-5010.

August 10-11  
Thunder Over Michigan Air Show  
Willow Run Airport, Ypsilanti, MI. 9 am air show grounds open, air show 12- 4pm, F-100 Super Sabre, Vietnam homecoming, WWII reenactment, kidz zone play area, tickets and more info available at [www.yankeeairmuseum.org](http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org)

August 11  
2nd Annual Ride the Distance for Special Olympics Macomb  
Wolverine HD, Clinton Twp, MI. Charity Poker Run. Regis 10 am-12 pm, \$20 rider, \$15 passenger, \$10 non-riders, raffles, door prizes, food & music. For more info contact Melanie 810-765-9717 or email [Amandatarnes\\_specialolympics@yahoo.com](mailto:Amandatarnes_specialolympics@yahoo.com)

August 14-18  
The Americas 911 Ride  
Days Inn, Manistee, MI. Reg. fee \$150 rider/ \$40 passenger, includes stops in Somerset, Pennsylvania, Washington, DC and New York City. For more info call 231-398-3611 or visit <http://americas911ride.org>.

August 15  
2013 Tecumseh Classic Car, Bike & Bicycle Show Series  
United Bank & Trust Hickman Financial Center parking lot, Tecumseh, MI  
Check in at Gregory's Barber Shop from 5:30-7pm, more info at 517-424-6555 / 517-424-6003 or email [kwelch@tecumseh.mi.us](mailto:kwelch@tecumseh.mi.us)

August 16-18  
Easyriders Rodeo Tour  
Fowlerville Fairgrounds, Fowlerville, MI. Go to [www.easyriderssevents.com](http://www.easyriderssevents.com) for more info (See full page ad this issue).

August 17  
Ribon Ride for Autism Awareness Poker Run - Benefits iTaalk  
Big D's Trikes & Bikes, Palmyra, MI. Reg. 9am - 11am. Last bike out 11am, Rain or Shine, \$20 Rider/\$10 passenger. For more info call 517-215-3887 or email [millie.giegler@gmail.com](mailto:millie.giegler@gmail.com)

August 17  
Customer Appreciation Day  
Fox Shawmut Hills, Grand Rapids, MI. 9 am- 3 pm. Free food, band and fun! Go to [www.foxshawmuthills.com](http://www.foxshawmuthills.com) for more info.

August 17  
7th Annual B.F.E. Motorcycle Run- benefiting Marine Corps. Families  
84th Street Pub & Grille, Byron Center, MI. Regis 8:30 am- 10:45 am, kick stands up at 11 am, \$30 bike, \$20 rider, includes breakfast & dinner, free bike show, raffle, classic cars welcome. Contact Teamster Horseman chapter 43w for more info or pub at 616-583-1650

August 22-25  
Porcupine Bash 2013  
Otter Lake Campground, Chatham, MI. Destination rides, games, food, camping. For more info call 906-439-5111 or [www.porcupinebash.com](http://www.porcupinebash.com)

August 23-24  
Hot Rods and Harleys- 10th Anniversary  
Mulliken, MI. Eaton County's Largest Street Party, Rain or Shine, Free Car, Motorcycle, Bicycle Show, & Vendor Space. Fri. 6pm - midnight, Sat. 9am - 1am. For more info call 517-927-7981 or visit [www.hotrods-n-harleys.org](http://www.hotrods-n-harleys.org).

August 24  
Capitol H-D 110th Anniversary Party  
Dimondale, MI. 10am- 3pm, food, music, prizes, for more info visit [www.capitolhd.com](http://www.capitolhd.com) or call 517-646-2345 (See ad this issue).

August 24  
USA Cares Charity Ride & Classic Car Show  
Warren Civic Center, Warren, MI. Noon-

6pm, live music, auction, bbq, ride, & activities for kids. See [www.usa-cares.com](http://www.usa-cares.com) for more info.

August 24  
Ride in Bike Show Presented by E.B. Cycle  
Monroe County Fairgrounds, a category for everyone, food & beer vendors. Call 734-242-6080 for more info (see ad this issue).

August 24  
5th Annual Bryce Rides for St. Jude Car/Motorcycle Cruisin Event  
Eagles Lodge, Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI. \$25 regis. from 10 am to noon. Includes free T shirt to first 100 entries, breakfast snacks, pig roast dinner, cruise to On the Dock Gull Lake. \$10 donation for meal if not riding. 100% of profit donated to St. Jude. For more info call or email Cindy at 269-317-8017 or [cburke464@gmail.com](mailto:cburke464@gmail.com).

August 24  
Rodney Campbell's Party in the Park  
Garden City Park, Garden City, MI. 12 pm- 10pm, rain or shine, all ages, byob, free food.

August 25  
Michigan Dual Sport/Ride for Kids  
Ann Arbor, MI. Sponsored by Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. For more info call 800-253-6530 or email [pbtfus.org](mailto:pbtfus.org).

August 28 - September 1  
Akron Bike Week, 9th Annual Labor Day weekend event  
Akron, MI, Cage fights, 6 bands, 3 DJs, Pig Roast, Outside Bar, Bike Contest, Pig Cooking contest. Vendors wanted call Tom @ 989-672-6204.

August 29 – September 2  
Easyriders Rodeo Tour  
Ross County Fairgrounds, Chillicothe, OH. Go to [www.easyriderssevents.com](http://www.easyriderssevents.com) for more info (See full page ad this issue).

August 30 - September 1  
Leathernecks MC 2013 Muster  
Wolverine, Lumbermen Park. Open to everyone 21 and older. \$25 per couple or \$15 person gets you in for the weekend. Band, bike show, camping. More info contact [liljoekeyes@yahoo.com](mailto:liljoekeyes@yahoo.com)

## SEPTEMBER

September 7  
Toys for Tots Run  
ABC H-D, Waterford, MI. Reg. 9am -11am at ABC H-D, \$20 per bike, \$10 per passenger, live music, food, games & prizes. For more info call Andy at 248-345-4944.

September 7  
Riding 4 Rescues Benefit Ride  
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. Kick-stands up at 10 am, ride leaves/ends at Capitol HD. Proceeds benefit Capital Area Humane Society. \$25 rider, \$15 passenger. Go to [www.capitolhd.com](http://www.capitolhd.com) for more info.

September 7  
Ride with the Eagles 5th Annual Benefit Run Ride to End Alzheimer's  
Walled Lake Eagles 3492, Walled Lake, MI. Regis. 9:30-11:30, first bike out 10:30am, free T-shirt for the first 100 registered, \$20/rider \$15 passenger, rain or shine. For more info go to [www.walledlakeeagleriders3492.weebly.com](http://www.walledlakeeagleriders3492.weebly.com)

September 7  
Free Breakfast at Grand Rapids HD  
Grand Rapids HD, Hudsonville, MI. Cool bikes and hot free breakfast 9 am 'til gone. Call 616-896-0111 for more info (See full page ad this issue).

September 13-15  
7th Annual Bikes on the Bricks  
Downtown Flint, police motorcycle skills competition, entertainment all weekend, fashion show, police escorted ride. For more info visit [www.bikesonthebricks.com](http://www.bikesonthebricks.com) (See full page ad this issue).

September 14  
Kids Fun Day  
Fox Shawmut Hills, Grand Rapids, MI. 11 am- 3 pm. Free food, bounce house and dunk tank. Go to [www.foxshawmuthills.com](http://www.foxshawmuthills.com) for more info

September 14  
New Model Reveal Party  
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. 10 am-3 pm. Check out the new 2014 HD models! Food, music and fun. Go to [www.capitolhd.com](http://www.capitolhd.com) for more info.

September 15  
Walneck's Motorcycle Swap Meet & Bike Show  
Monroe County Fairgrounds, Monroe, MI. 8am - 3pm, Adm. \$6, vendors \$40. More info at [www.walneckswap.com](http://www.walneckswap.com).

September 19  
2013 Tecumseh Classic Car, Bike & Bicycle Show Series  
United Bank & Trust Hickman Financial Center parking lot, Tecumseh, MI. Check in at Gregory's Barber Shop from 5:30pm - 7pm, more info at 517-424-6555 / 517-424-6003 or email [kwelch@tecumseh.mi.us](mailto:kwelch@tecumseh.mi.us)

September 20  
Harley's at the Dragway  
Milan Dragway, MI 3pm – 12am, (See full page ad this issue).

September 20-22  
HOG Daze Motorcycle Rally  
Located 5 Miles West of 169 (exit 264) on SR 18 in Marion, IN. \$5 Weekend entry, benefit ride, primitive camping \$5, hotels available, live music, hog roast. More in contact [marionhogdaze@gmail.com](mailto:marionhogdaze@gmail.com) (see ad this issue).

September 21  
Sandy's H-D Annual Open House  
Sandy's H-D, Fremont, MI. 9am - 3pm, visit [www.sandysharley-davidson.com](http://www.sandysharley-davidson.com) for more info.

September 29  
19th Annual Motor City Chapter 2368 Toy Run  
Westland City Hall, Westland, MI. Check in 10 am-noon, escorted ride leaves at 12:30 pm, \$10 per person with unwrapped toy or \$15 without, open event, all bikes welcome.

## OCTOBER

October 5  
Free Breakfast at Grand Rapids HD  
Grand Rapids HD, Hudsonville, MI. Cool bikes and hot free breakfast 9 am 'til gone. Call 616-896-0111 for more info (See full page ad this issue).

October 17-20  
Biketoberfest, Daytona Beach, FL.

October 20  
40th Annual Motorcycle Swap Meet & Parts Expo  
Kalamazoo County Expo Center & Fairgrounds, Kalamazoo, MI  
10am- 4pm, Adm. \$7, More info at [www.kalamazooswap.com](http://www.kalamazooswap.com) or email [Paragonleather@yahoo.com](mailto:Paragonleather@yahoo.com)

## EVENT LISTINGS ARE FREE!!!

Increase your attendance by posting your event in  
Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan

All Advertised Events in our Magazine will have their event Posted on the Pull Out Calendar (when admissible) and your Event will be Highlighted in the Thunder Roads Events Calendar of the Magazine and an EVENT Tab will be added to the page with your ad. Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan Your Michigan Biker Connection (Call about our Special Discounts for Charity Events)

To get your event listed in Thunder Roads Magazine and on our website, send the information to  
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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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*There, I guess King George will be able to read that.*  
~ John Hancock

I love that state of mind! Take your tyranny, your unjust rules, your intrusions into MY life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness and stick them where the light does not shine.

*Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.*  
~ Thomas Paine

Yeah, you got to suck it up, quit moaning and groaning, and go deal with it sometimes. It is a pain in the butt. However, these days it seems like all the angles at which government comes at us can be overwhelming. Maybe we have given it too much power, control, and advantage? Yeah, we have. Who is going to deal with it? Yeah, we are. It's time to leave the comfort zone and step on the soapbox and express our INDEPENDENCE. We don't need government to take care of us from cradle to grave and manage every aspect of our lives.

- Independence =**
- <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/self-sufficiency?s=t>
  - <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/self-dependence?s=t&id=1135>
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- Who would not agree there is too little of these attributes amongst Americans now?

- Dependence = addictedness**
- <http://thesaurus.com/browse/belief>
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  - <http://thesaurus.com/browse/obsession>
  - <http://thesaurus.com/browse/trust>
- Who would not agree these attributes are rampant amongst Americans now?

Be Independent, you have the right! Hell, you have the obligation! Do what you can, but don't do nothing. Watching the TV news does not count as political knowledge either.

[www.businessinsider.com/these-6-corporations-control-90-of-the-media-in-america-2012-6](http://www.businessinsider.com/these-6-corporations-control-90-of-the-media-in-america-2012-6) <http://www.businessinsider.com>

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90% of the mainstream media is owned by 6 international corporations. What news you get is what news they want you to get. I personally believe that who you end up getting to vote for is who they decide you get to end up voting for.

I participate in a bunch of freedom fighter organizations both state and national. Most are motorcyclists rights related, some like Oathkeepers, and Campaign for Liberty, are more focused on Americans rights in general. Most of the people involved in one or more of any of these organizations are mutually involved in others. I know a lot of highly respected motorcycle rights activists who also are 2nd Amendment advocates, and frequently talk to their legislators about any issue they find disconcerting.

As an Independent American I encourage everyone to get involved with some of these organizations. Communicate with each other, learn from each other. Investigate together. Recent history is ripe with examples of both media and government untruthfulness.

The television and the government are not going to change anything. Even those few who get elected with real change on their menu get caught up in the political/media machine that sets the pace, and weeds out anything that it considers a disruption to the norm. If we the people want change, we the people have to make the change. HYPERLINK "/dictionary/self-sufficiency" INDEPENDENTLY.

Happy Independence Day, Ride Free, Live Free, Die Free  
*Rusty*



**Rusty Bongard**  
Communications Director, ABATE of Michigan  
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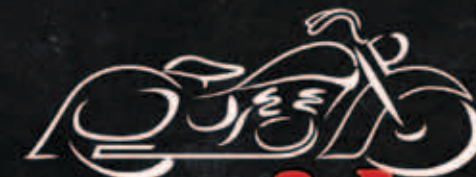
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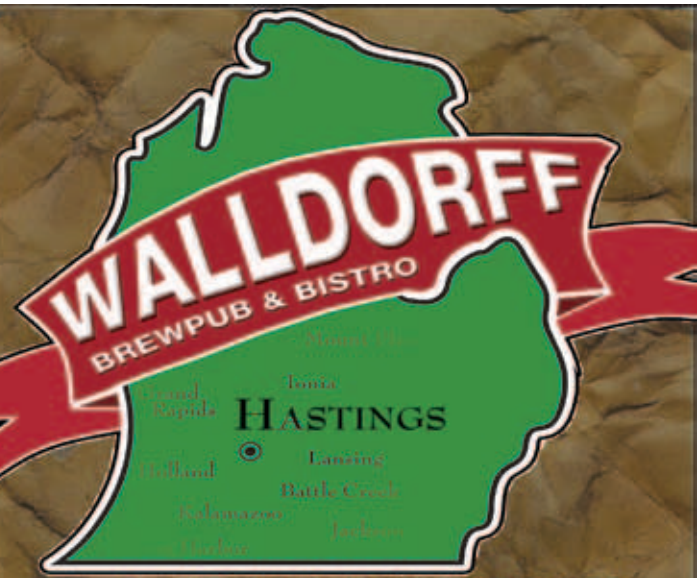
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# We've come a long way, Baby!

## HISTORY OF WOMEN IN MOTORCYCLING

by Mary "Pinky" ~ TRMLA North LA Editor



The Van Buren sisters

March was women's history month, and it gave me an opportunity, or an excuse, to reflect on the impact women have had in motorcycling. I remember growing up and seeing Virginia Slims cigarette ads that said "You've come a long way baby". That is no further from the truth today when we talk about women and motorcycling – we've come a long way baby. But there were a few key women who formed our history and helped to put us in the position where we are today with a freedom to take the bars and ride wherever we want, enjoying the freedom of the wind next to our partners and not behind them, riding pillion. They forged the way for us, denying the stereotype that surrounded women, relegating them to the role of wife and mother, barefoot and pregnant, as they say. Women have been riding for almost as long as the motorcycle has been around; since the late 1800's. In 1916 the VanBuren sisters, Adelene and Augusta, rode solo cross country on Indian motorcycles. They rode from New York to California and were the first to ride to the summit of Pike's Peak. They carried sand from the Atlantic Ocean and poured it into the Pacific Ocean. Many years later, Chris Sommer Simmons rode in the Cannonball endurance run, a coast to coast ride on antique motorcycles. In honor of Adelene and Augusta, she too poured sand from the Atlantic into the Pacific Ocean.

Bessie Stringfield was the first African American woman to ride across the United States solo and during World War II she served as one of the few motorcycle dispatch riders for the United States military. In the 1930s and 1940s, Bessie took eight long-distance, solo rides across the United States. Speaking to a reporter, she dismissed the notion that "nice girls didn't go around riding motorcycles in

those days." Further, she was apparently fearless at riding alone in an era when racial prejudice was a tangible threat. It was reported she was deliberately knocked down by a white male in a pickup truck while traveling in the south. Still, she was not deterred, and like the Van-Buren sisters set the stage for women in motorcycling. All these women were inducted into the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame.

Women are the fastest growing segment of the population currently purchasing new motorcycles. Women are racing motorcycles, traveling uncharted territory making solo rides across foreign countries; women are mechanics, bike builders and more. They are found in every facet of the motorcycle industry and are continuing to be written into the history of motorcycling. What the future holds is exciting and will certainly bring new technology and improvements in motorcycles that were once thought impossible. It is an exciting time to be a rider. But being a rider comes with responsibility; responsibility to ensure your bike is safe and you are prepared both physically and mentally for the road that will unravel before you bringing you to unlimited adventures.

Some things to consider if you're a lady rider, or thinking about becoming one are:

Typically women weigh less than men, are usually smaller in frame and shorter than men (but not always). This results in heavier bikes being difficult to maneuver and makes it difficult to reach the ground. Resolutions include: boots with 2" heels (make sure they are solid, cover/support the ankles, and are for riding not fashion), lowering the bike, or lowering the seat. Buy a bike that sits lower to the ground, like the Harley-Davidson Softail Deluxe. Avoid the Sportster 1200 custom or 883 (they sit higher), even if a man tells you to start with one. Learn on a small bike, like a Honda 250.

Learn how to pick up the bike if you drop it. Take a motorcycle safety course.

TCLOCS – Tires, Controls, Lights, Oil, Chassis, and Stands. This is the acronym used by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation to remind riders of all the areas of the motorcycle that should be inspected each time, before you ride.

Take a first aid and CPR course; self-aid/buddy care is an important facet. If you or a buddy is in an accident in a remote area, know what to do before first responders arrive. Always carry a cell phone. If traveling alone, let someone know your route and expected arrival time. Call them when you arrive, or if you are behind schedule. If you don't show up, they can send out a search party.

Ride to your abilities, even when following an experienced rider. If you can't keep up through the curves, slow down and take them to your ability. You'll get better as you gain experience.

Certain areas, times of year, and times of day are prone to deer strikes. Motorcycles and deer do not mix. I was in a collision with a deer several years ago. The deer lost, but it could have gone either way. It was so desolate that not one car

passed us within the 20 minutes that we were on the side of the road. If traveling alone, consider taking a route that will not have you on lonely, country roads, where assistance will be hard to get if you're injured or out of gas. Trust me, there are places like that; the loneliest highway, the Mojave desert, the mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina, for instance.

Learn the history of motorcycling; think about joining a club like HOG. Read about patched clubs and learn the etiquette, and possible threats.

Finally, what to wear: the required gear, of course; ATGATT -- All The Gear All The Time. It's a personal choice, but laws vary from state to state and even country to country.



Chris Sommers Simmons

Know the rules, and the consequences of your choices. Not wearing a helmet is a personal choice in many states, but it may come with dire consequences, for instance. Consider your jewelry choices. If the necklace or earrings flap around in the wind, they will be a distraction. Rings can get caught on parts of the motorcycle, and should be avoided. Likewise, fringe on vests, chaps and other clothing items can be an annoyance and may cause you to be distracted, or may get caught up in the bike's moving parts. And, last – don't worry about helmet hair; although there are solutions – like the dent in your left boot, unless you have a heel/toe shifter, it just proves you RIDE.

One other famous motorcyclist, Theresa Wallach, inducted into the hall of fame in 2003 for her tireless efforts in furthering motorcycle education, training and safety, summed up the lifestyle in a 1977 interview with Road Rider Magazine:

*"When I first saw a motorcycle, I got a message from it," she said. "It was a feeling – the kind of thing that makes a person burst into tears hearing a piece of music or standing awestruck in front of a fine work of art. Motorcycling is a tool with which you can accomplish something meaningful in your life. It is an art."*



Bessie Stringfield

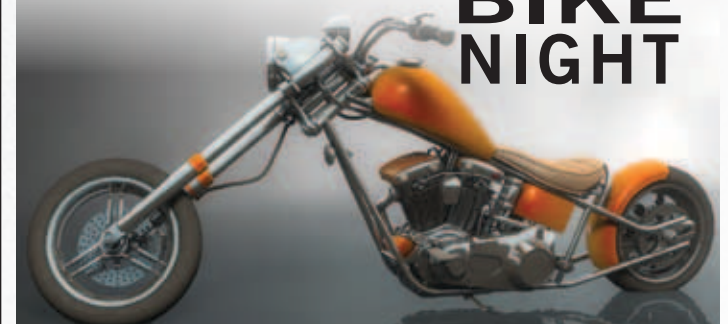
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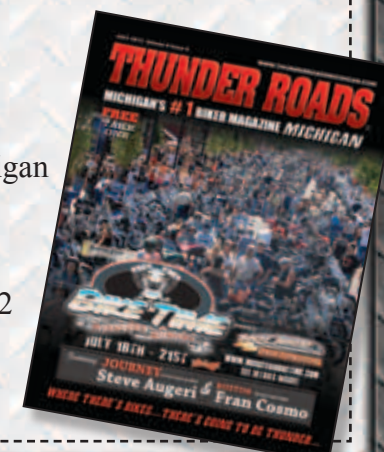
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# ABOUT JULIE'S JOURNEY

## This is Julie Holt Legas

Julie's husband Scott Legas and brother, Tom Holt are both Detroit Firefighters. Her father, the late Tom Holt, Sr. was also a Detroit Firefighter.

By Debra Wright



Julie is a beautiful woman with a zest for life, a big heart and a warm smile. She is doing her best to fight Cerebellar Ataxia, a debilitating disease that affects your motor skills.

Imagine being trapped in a body you can't control. You can't dress yourself or bathe yourself. You suffer violent tremors when trying to raise a spoon to your mouth. You are confined to a wheelchair, because you can't control your leg movements. For you, tying your shoe is a major accomplishment. Treatment after treatment has been endured in an effort to bring things under control. This is what life is like for Julie Holt Legas.

Julie wasn't always this way. Just a short time ago, life was normal. In October 2011 she and her husband Scott, a Detroit Firefighter, were enjoying life. Julie was a Dean's List student pursuing a Nursing degree. She wanted to care for others, to provide comfort and assistance to those in need. She began having unexplained lightheadedness and blurred vision. Her ability to walk and balance normally began to diminish.

October 2011 was the start of numerous visits to neurology, rheumatology, and her primary care doctor. A spinal tap was done in February 2012 and it was discovered that Julie's spinal fluid's protein levels, t-cells, etc. were way out of balance. Since then she has been treated at both the Cleveland Clinic, and Mayo Clinic.



She has undergone test after test, IVIG treatment (protein infusion), Rituxan (a form of chemotherapy), Plasmapheresis (blood wash), and Cytoxan (another form of chemo).

With her motor skills and speech abilities continuing to degrade, Julie was confined to a wheelchair (since May 2012). She needs help doing the everyday things you and I take for granted. Julie describes this as "being trapped in a body that doesn't work". Thankfully, this disease attacks the body, but not the mind. As Scott says "Julie is sharp as a tack."

In January 2013, Scott and Julie went to the Mayo Clinic. Hoping for another treatment, they were told that all the traditional treatment that is approved in America has been done, "Go home and adjust your lifestyle."

Being the fighters that Julie and Scott are, they were not satisfied with that answer. They will be going to Hope Hospital in Zhuhai, China for stem cell treatment. This treatment is cord cells, NOT embryonic or fetal cells. It consists of four injections that will provide approximately 400 million cells. This treatment has been showing promising results for patients with Cerebella Ataxia, but it is extremely expensive and not covered by insurance.



Please join us in supporting Julie's Journey back to health. With your help we can give Julie and Scott a fighting chance.

There are many ways to support Julie in her fight: T-shirts, raffle tickets, events (including a really great benefit concert), donations in exchange for Detroit Fire Department patches and online donations. All the details are at:

[www.rockinforjulie.com](http://www.rockinforjulie.com)

Thank you for your generosity!



These coins are from a homeless man walking by during a benefit for Julie. He said "She needs this more than I do."

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# Road Captain Skills Challenge

By Debra Wright



People seem to always wonder just how this all started. Well, as good or bad as it may sound the RCs of many local chapters just were tired of only meeting up for funerals. Between 1999 and 2006 three (3) of the local chapters had lost a road captain either on a ride, going to, or after a ride. Everyone was kicking around putting together a dinner, picnic or anything but a funeral!



the last practice before the challenge that no matter what or how we did at the challenge "We were all winners in all the chapters" because of the increased skill level of each and every one of us. Also we realized at that point that the exercises Gary Lewendowski had sent out was not a joke as many felt. Really to turn your bike in an 18' diameter, not putting your feet down, then flop your handle bars and go the other way without hitting any cones! (Figure 8) or a series of left right turns with a half circle at the end! Yeah, right! This is just a few to mention but they were tools to personally challenge each and every one of us.

Then came the day for all of the riders to show what they had learned. What we found out at that moment when you ride into the starting gate, you're alone, with everyone watching! You had to tell yourself to breathe, and when you finished no matter what or how you did, everyone was cheering you on!! That your family had grown to an unexpected level.

Each Chapter has to find time, and a place in the spring to train because the event is only once a year, so that it doesn't interfere with chapter events, vacations, and so on during the year. We found it hard to find a place to practice. The first two years we practiced at Motor City Harley's Rider's Edge course which was great. They had cones, good pavement, everything we needed. Problems soon came to play with time for class and us, some worried comments from the Rider's Edge students that they might have to learn what they were seeing.

Soon you will find us out playing around to keep the skill level up. Plus, it is a good time to get new people out a little bit just to spark their interest. Gary Lewendowski will tell anyone that will listen "if you don't use it, you lose it!"

Now in the fifth year, we found a welcomed parking lot at the Wayne Eagles where we continue to practice.

This event has had its ups and downs as many do, but at the same time it's grown because the same people that started this have pushed hard to bring in new blood and opened the event up to any chapter members. The event has an experienced class and a novice class, along with as many teams as your chapter can handle.

As you can imagine it takes a lot of personal time and we all work together with each person that comes out. We each pass on what we know and work with the new people that wish to try this. In the end we all win and to be involved with this along with the day of the event and in our case we have been fortunate to have Mary Depry on our side to work with all the great volunteers through the winter to make the one day possible. And behind all this is Buck, a great leader, coach, teacher and friend that it is his number one concern is to keep all the riders safe. Hope to see you all there either to have fun and cheer us on or be a contender and sharpen your skills.



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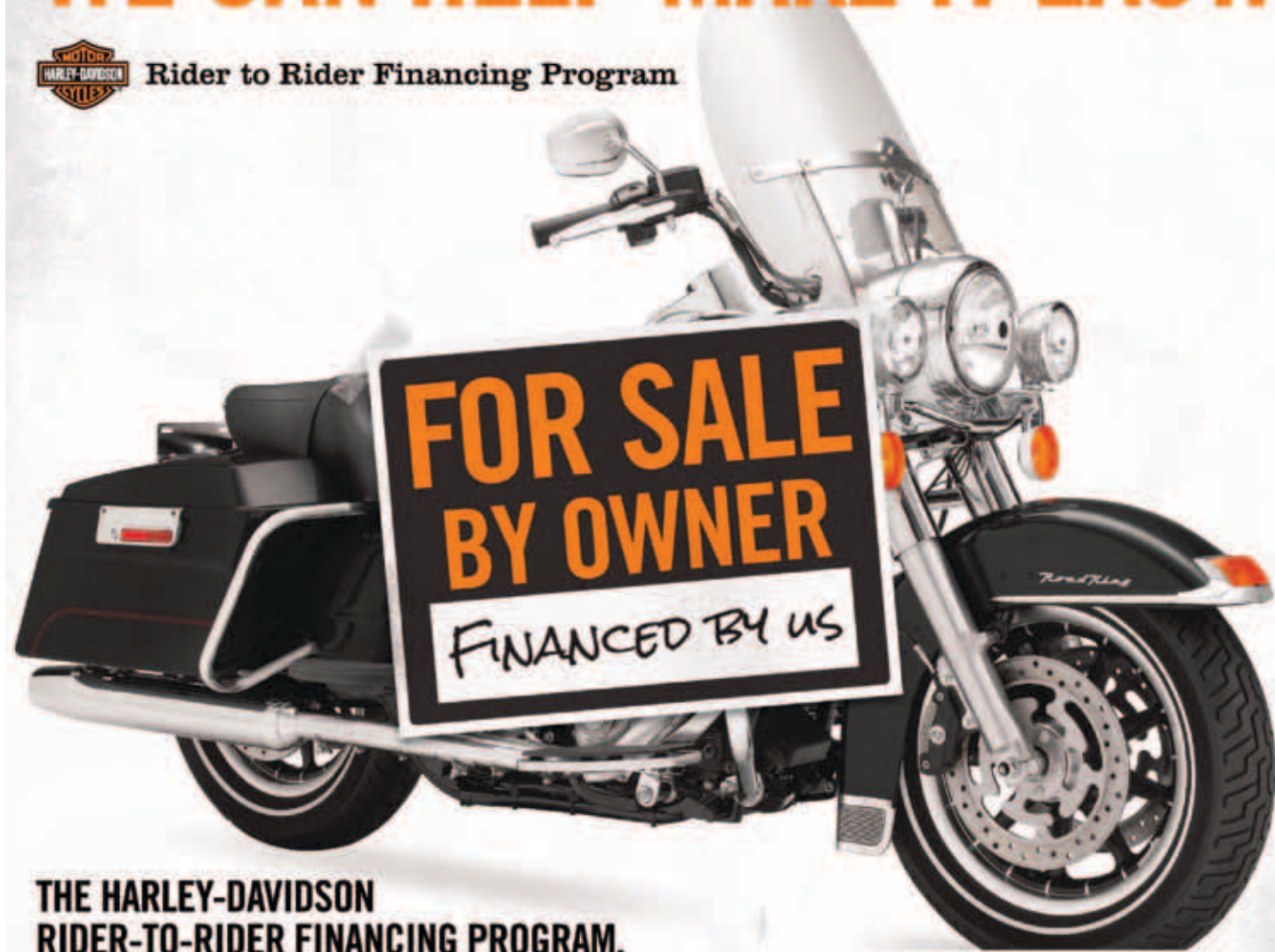
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**No,** don't go invading another country or charging a town and take it over with your small army, I mean charge your battery! I would like to go over the basics of your charging system that most all of you can do on your own. I will go over how to test your battery for charge, load test your battery, charging system test, testing the circuit breaker and lastly a stator test.

In the spring, or anytime you feel like it, you will need a multi-meter, if you do not have one they run around \$25 all the way up \$550 or so for a top of the line Fluke Meter ... yes, yes the el cheapo at Harbor Freight will work fine and in fact we will be using such a bargain brand for this demonstration today. Before doing any testing please make sure your battery cable connections are clean and tight!

## Battery Testing

The first test is a simple battery test, start by finding your battery, set the meter on DC and the range at 20, connect the red lead to positive terminal and the black to the negative terminal and you should be reading between 12.4V to 13.5V as shown below.



If your meter reading is lower don't worry quite yet, simply put it on a good battery maintainer like a Genius or a PulseTech, they will tell you if your battery can take a charge and will bring it to a charge safely without overcharging it. Most newer bikes have a small drain on the battery running items such as your computer and clocks, this will take your battery down within a few days so if you have not ridden your bike in a while or have not kept it on a battery maintainer you may get a low reading. In my opinion, the drain issue is why Harley started giving everyone free chargers and already installed maintainer cords with new bikes. Older batteries can lose a charge fast and can take a false charge, but will not hold it so the second you hit the starter they are weak or even worse will not work at all, most likely it is time to get a new battery. If you like, you can prove your weak battery theory with a load test. The load test is best done with a load tester but you can do it with a multi-meter too, and I will go over the multi-meter way due to the fact that most do not own a load tester. You have to make sure your bike does not start so the easiest way is to take your spark plug wires off, however do not take your plugs out because you need the compression load on the starting system. Now with your meter of DC range 20 and the leads connected to the battery hit the starter, the reading should be dip down around 10 or so, 9.5 is OK, but your battery is starting to go bad when you see a reading 9.0 to 9.5 VDC and if it is below 9 VDC change out your battery it will fail you very soon. This is assuming you have the correct battery size for your bike and it is fully charged before starting this test. This test is a bit hard on a battery so afterwards make sure you fully recharge your battery.

## Basic charging system check

When your battery is fully charged the next step would be to check to see if your charging system is putting out a sufficient charge, and this is an easy test. You should already have your battery exposed from your last test; get your multi-

meter ready by setting it on DC and the range on 20 (same as the last test). Start your bike and rev it a little to excite the charging system ... (no, silly, not that kind of excite)... with the bike above idle put the multi-meter leads on the battery terminals ... red on positive and black on negative, your reading should be about 14.3 to 14.7 but should never be above 14.9. If your reading is below 14VDC your charging system is in the fritz!

What is on the fritz? Well assuming all your wiring and connections (Look at pic below) are in good shape, it could be the circuit breaker/fuse, regulator or the stator.



The picture above is a common problem on older Harley charging systems due to lack of maintenance, the connection gets rusty and eventually breaks. Unfortunately this is not a cheap thing to fix... usually you have to replace the stator.

## Testing the Circuit Breaker

First check the easiest one, which is the circuit breaker, do this by performing a continuity test with your multi-meter. A continuity test tells you whether you have a connection between two points or not, you can do this with fuses and any other wiring you wish to see if there is a break or heavy resistance in a wire/diverse or not. Locate and disconnect the circuit breaker, set your meter on ohms, set the range on 2K and touch one lead to one post of the circuit breaker and the other lead on the other post you should read .000 which is the same if you took the two leads and touched them together. If it tests good, then the next thing is to test the regulator.



## Testing the Regulator

The regulator takes the AC voltage from the stator and converts it to DC and charges the battery. Testing this is an easy test too, locate your regulator, it is most commonly just in front of the engine on Harleys, it is there because they get hot and need constant cooling and in my opinion why it is a bad idea to put a chrome cover over them. Using a 12VDC test light this time, connect one end to a ground and the other end to each pin on the regulator lead coming from the regulator, if you get any light whatsoever from any pin the regulator is bad. If it tests good or bad you should check your stator before replacing parts for two reasons, you could damage a new regulator if the stator is bad and if the stator is bad you can get a discount if you buy a whole charging system at the same time instead of buying parts as you go.



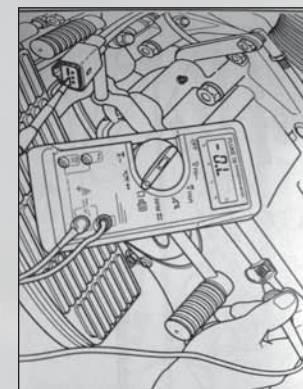
## Stator test

The stator is under your primary cover buried under the primary chain sprocket so it's a real bugger if this goes bad. It is a stationary set of windings that have a rotor or a big magnet spinning around it to create AC voltage.



Stator problems are either a short to ground or an open circuit.

First, we will check for a ground using your test light again. Unplug the regulator from the stator and start the motor, put one end of the test light to each stator pin with the test light one at a time. If the bulb lights when connected between any of the stator plug pins and ground the stator is shorted and needs to be replaced.



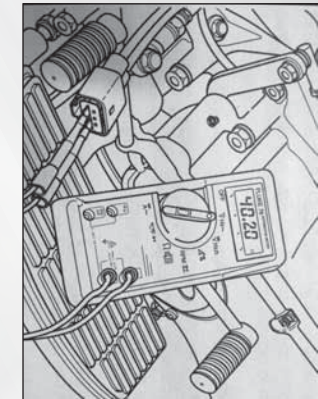
Next check for output (an open winding will have little to no output) back to using your multi-meter on this test. With either a single or three phase system, first set your meter to AC this time and range at 200, unplug the regulator and then start the engine, rev it to a steady 1000 RPM.

On a single-phase system, connect one lead from the meter to each pin on the stator plug this will show you what the stator is putting out.

On a three-phase system, there are three separate windings hooked end to end. You need to test the voltage on each set of windings. The plug has three pins. First, take a voltage reading between pin one and pin two. Then pin one and pin three. And finally, pin two and pin three. This will test all three windings. All three should read the same voltage at the same RPM.

You will need to know what size your charging system is to know if it is working properly, for example a 32 amp stator should put out 18 volts VAC at 1000 RPM, at 2000 RPM it should be 36 VAC and at 3000 RPM it should be 54 VAC.

A stator that is shorted to ground may still produce full AC voltage from pin to pin. The problem with this is the rectifier changes the AC current to DC current and then uses the ground as one leg of the DC. When the stator shorts to ground the AC and DC get mixed together and our charging world is kaput.



In my humble opinion, if your stator is bad I would replace both the stator and regulator, it is just a safe way to go. Also, if you have a single phase unit I would replace it with a three phase unit if you can afford it. Three phase units do a much better job, especially at low RPMs.

Cycle Electric makes some great stuff right here in the USA and they have systems to retrofit almost all bikes to three phase. They also do the regulator thing a bit different, according to Karl, President and head master mind at Cycle Electric: "To control voltage on Harley Davidson alternators other rectifier regulators dump current to ground. This causes maximum stator current and temperature at all times. Cycle Electric rectifying regulators block current to control voltage. This reduces stator current resulting in lower temperature and less drag on the motor, which means more efficient operation. The largest and most noticeable benefit is a smoother charge to the battery. This means less battery maintenance and longer battery life."

As always, there can be more to the story so if you have a crazy charging story or repair please email it to me ... love to hear all about your experiences!

Well that's all I have for you this month, I sure hope you all had a great June and have a spectacular July! Ride safe my brothers and sisters, God Bless you all!

Remember, if you have questions or comments please email them to [golgothacycles@comcast.net](mailto:golgothacycles@comcast.net) or give us a call at 517-290-0984 or just stop by the shop ... I love talking with you all!!!!

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# WATKINS BOYZ SPEED & KUSTOMS



BY POOCH

*(Third in a series about some of the world-class, state-based motorcycle builders we have in Michigan)*

Kip Watkins, owner of Watkins Boyz Speed & Kustoms, loves to paint. No matter if it's bikes, hot rods, Jeeps or even signs. He says, "I paint because I love to. I don't do it for the money or the fame...and besides it's too late to become a brain surgeon." He is a second generation painter. He followed his father, Donnie Watkins, a custom painter, into the business at age 14. Donnie painted custom choppers in the 60's and 70's was happy to pass along his skills to his son. Kip's first paint job was his '67 Firebird. And since opening his first shop in 1983, Kip has "...never looked back." Over the past 30 years he has always maintained a shop in the Traverse City/ Kalkaska area. And his newest shop is on US 31 South just outside Traverse City.

Since then, Kip has learned how to do more than just paint. He has done 30 ground-up builds, dozens of 'mild' custom builds, 300+ paint jobs as well as too many 4 wheeled vehicles to count. The walls in Kip's shop are filled with the magazine plaques showcasing his talents. A lot of bikes including, Kenny Olson's (yup that Kenny) "Six-String Sled", to the "So-Kal (Kalkaska) Speedster", the "#38 Bike" (one of Kip's favorites), or the "Rajun Indian" (more on that in a bit). As well as building bikes for Kenny Wayne Shepherd (yes that Kenny), A.J. Foyt and Larry Foyt (grandsons of the Champion Indy driver). And even a satiny-blue and white bike for the Editor of American Iron Magazine, Chris Maida.

Although he can do anything, the style of bikes Kip REALLY likes to build are the vintage racing style bike of the 30's, 40's and 50's. Something you'd have seen at the drag strip, road race or even the salt flats. As witnessed in the aforementioned "Rajun Indian". A vintage, raced-themed, copper clad beauty. All built around an Indian Motorcycle 'bottle cap' motors Kip acquired through a chance meeting at the Detroit AutoRama, with the man responsible for manufacturing them for Indian. One minute he's saying what a great design the engine was, and how well it looked, and then they're exchanging names, numbers and addresses and talking details for shipping a complete engine. What all started as a random conversation turned into one very nice bike! It's funny how things sometimes happen.



Over the years, Kip has had some great influences, some from car builders, like Scott Sullivan and Dan Webb. And to some other bike builders, like the late Billy Westbrook, and his own Dad. He also respects and admires the work others have done for the industry. Like Jessie James, for helping to bringing back old school 'metal working'. That is the (almost) lost art of taking a flat sheet of steel and cutting, pounding, and caressing the metal into a fender, gas or oil tank, etc. And re-introducing some seldom used words to us, words like punishing hammer, annealing and English wheel. As well as my good friend Ron Finch, who as Kip says, "...just keeps on doing what he's always done. You have to respect someone who just follows their own path, never submitting to what's currently cool or trendy." He also Thanks his Dad, his family and Roche Featherstone, for without their support, Watkins Boyz Speed & Kustoms would not be what it is today.

I asked him, "Where do you think the industry is going?" Kip believes that regulations will slowly continue to strangle the small builders, eventually out of business altogether. He says "...you have paint; you're going to need a fire suppression system and special storage area." "...you do welding; you're going to need extra insurance.... Not to mention permits and other associated fees." And of course, there is the "e-commerce" factor. People that ALWAYS are buying online for "cheaper prices". I mean, I like to save as much as much as the next guy (just ask my kids, lol), but I also try to support the real "brick and mortar" stores as well. I'm talking about the dealers AND the smaller, independent Mom & Pop shops. C'mon folks, let's spread the wealth a little bit. And let's not forget to tell them you saw their ad in Thunder Roads Magazine-Michigan.

Be sure to look for the Watkins Boyz Speed & Kustoms display this summer. Some of the current projects include a '64 panhead FLH in the original "HiFi Pur-



ple", a Honda CB550 Café style racer and a vintage race bagger. What else is Kip up to, well I guess you'll have to check out his shop and find out. His new shop is at 657 Blue Star Drive, Traverse City. (231) 642-6093 just off 31 South, literally. [www.watkinsboyz.com](http://www.watkinsboyz.com) Tell him I sent ya. And once you're there, you are about an hour away from some of the best riding in Michigan. Can you say Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Old Mission Peninsula, Torch Lake or possibly The Tunnel of Trees? Or maybe, just a nice ride along the shoreline of Grand Traverse Bay or Lake Michigan would be better..... See ya there.



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