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**SEPTEMBER 13TH - 15TH**

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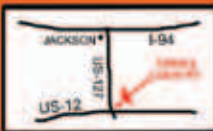


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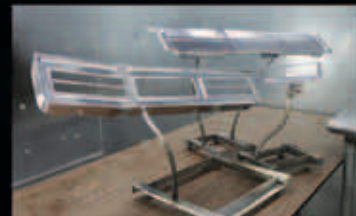
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**ON THE COVER**

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MODEL: Paulla Schemm with Sergeant Dave Bender

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#### Don't Panic!

We still have months not days of great riding weather left. Although, what's up with all the rain? It's like when you wash your vehicle and it rains or within 5 minutes a bird poops on it, almost every time I am on a ride here comes rain.... Hmmm good ol' Michigan 'cause then it's done. Just enough to dirty the ride and make you look like a drowned rat... awesome! Well, with our slight panic of only a few months left to ride before we are riding like eskimos let's saddle up and make sure to hit those events!

If you haven't ordered your Thunder Roads swag yet make sure to get yours to show your support for being a Michigan Biker. Email me a high quality photo of you in your Thunder Roads T-shirt or hoodie and you could be a Thunder Cam Star! Ok, that sounds funny, but maybe we could do something fun with this... wheels are turning. Have fun with it, but keep it clean folks this IS a family friendly magazine. I look forward to seeing your fun pics!

So, this month we had quite a few events to report to you about and you will see all the fun pics from many of those events. Also, if you are interested in becoming a part of the Thunder Roads family please check out the available territories on the staff page. If you live in one of those areas and would be interested in being a representative send me an email.

Last month the biker friendly character was on page 22, upper right picture. Check out the Biker Friendly Directory to see the character you are looking for (much smaller version) and see if you can find him this month!

As always, let's be sure to patronize our awesome advertisers! They are why Thunder Roads of Michigan is the # 1 Free to Readers Motorcycle Magazine in the state and why it can be FREE to you each and every month!

Now for some "Mo" Advice: The definition of attrition is an action or process of gradually reducing the strength or effectiveness of someone or something through attack or pressure. I have seen people do this to others in life. If you are on the receiving end, well my advice to you comes from the Kenny Rogers song, "The Gambler":

*"You got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em,  
Know when to walk away and know when to run.  
You never count your money when you're sittin' at the table.  
There'll be time enough for countin' when the dealin's done".*

So, live life to the fullest with grace, dignity and perseverance!



Jody Mohowitsch





# RAY C'S RODEO

BY Don Clark



What a great time as always at Ray C's Harley Davidson of Lapeer with their 2013 Rodeo. With great food, a Dyno horse power shoot out, bike show, live music and this year adding the NASCAR simulator. If you have never been to Ray C's you really need to check him out! Like Ray says, "It's not just a business name, it's also my name that is up there, so I try and do what I can to make my customers happy and coming back." So the next time you are out for a ride or just looking for somewhere to ride to, why not take a ride to Lapeer, even if it's to just look around or to just say hi. I would also like to say another job well done by all of you on team Ray C's.

*Ride Safe and God Bless Our Troops*



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# VETERANS CORNER



I hope you had a great labor day, and what labor you did was over a grill. There isn't much in the way of veteran's related news because the lawmakers in D.C. and Lansing are on recess back home, probably working on their reelection. Which could be a good thing, because it limits what havoc they could cause by creating new laws.

## Flint Apartment Complex For Homeless Veterans

A 78-unit apartment complex aimed at giving homeless veterans a place to live could be coming to Flint's south side. The project has been OK'd by the Flint Planning Commission but must still secure funding. The \$15 million project will use 80 percent federal funds. The three-story building would be at the corner of West Hemphill Road and South Grand Traverse Street. It will feature one-bedroom apartments for homeless or at-risk to be homeless veterans.

The project was brought to the city by Alternative Veterans Solutions, said the group's founder and Chief Executive Officer, Tredale Kennedy. Kennedy's non-profit group received donated office space inside the Insight Institute of Neurosurgery and Neuroscience building. The 12,000-square-foot office is planned to be a one-stop shop for veterans and their families. The institute donated five acres, which is currently unused parking lot, for the apartment project.

Flint's project will mimic a similar one in Battle Creek that featured 75 apartments that were built three years ago. That phase filled up with residents in three months and now Battle Creek is near completion of a second phase of 100 additional apartments.

## VA Funding

Congress is considering 'The Putting Veterans Funding First Act of 2013' (HR 813). This bill would fulfill our nation's promise to help veterans readjust back into civilian life. The bill would do so by ensuring that VA services aren't affected by Washington's partisan budget wrangling, and that the care and benefits veterans have earned are delivered them with timeliness and predictability.

The Putting Veterans Funding First Act would require Congress to fully fund the Department of Veterans Affairs' discretionary budget a year ahead of schedule, ensuring that all VA services will have timely, predictable funding in an era where continuing resolutions and threats of government shutdowns are all too frequent. If passed, the bill will make it easier for the VA to plan for key investments in information technology, claims processing and construction projects and it would grant Congress greater oversight on multi-year funding proposals, with one year building off of the next.

## Grant for Homeless Veteran Housing

Blue Water Center for Independent Living has received more than \$500,000 in grant money for homeless veterans. The one-year \$573,084 grant from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will go toward low-income or at-risk veterans who are homeless or seeking housing.

Blue Water Center for Independent Living will be the lead agency for the grant, but the funds will be shared among the center's five counties — Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola, Lapeer and St. Clair — as well as disability networks in the Wayne County and Detroit area, and the Oakland County and Macomb County area. The grant money will not be available until October and must be used within a year.

In the coming months, Blue Water Center for Independent Living and the two disability networks plan to reach out to other community and veterans' agencies for referrals. This is the second time the BWCIL has applied for the grant. This year, however, the group included counties outside the Thumb in its proposal.

This grant is only for a year and then they'll have to apply for renewal. The renewal will most likely be based on their performance. For more information, call the Veterans Community Resource and Referral Center at 313-576-1580 and ask to speak with a social worker.

## Polish Army Vet Home Closes

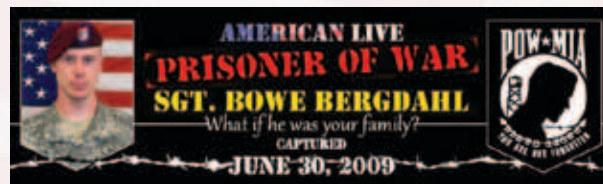
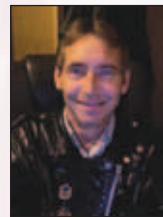
The last two residents of the Polish Army Veterans Home in Sterling Heights were moved out. The home closed because there were not enough residents and not enough money coming in to keep the home going.

The home for elderly and disabled veterans began more than 80 years ago in an old farmhouse. The present nursing-style residence was built in the 1960s. But it has no air-conditioning, bathrooms are outdated, and the roof needs to be replaced.

There are no plans to sell the property that has a section known as Wanda Park and a soccer field, which are open to the public. Posts of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars and others have long supported the facility by donating household items and clothing.

## David McCallister "Possum"

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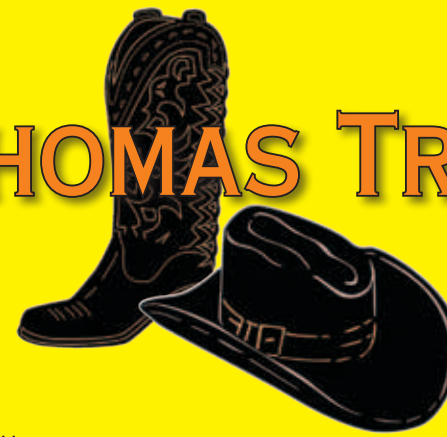


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# The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

## Michigan Court of Appeals case shafted motorcyclist

Insurance does not have to pay \$100K in medical bills

It really bothers me to see a motorcyclist get shafted by the law, so this month I wanted to talk about a recent case decided by the Michigan Court of Appeals that involved a motorcyclist. The motorcyclist, whom I did not represent, lost the case, which is unpublished, and I think there are some important lessons to be learned from his situation.

In late July, the Michigan Court of Appeals decided the case of Detroit Medical Center (DMC) versus Progressive Michigan Insurance Company ("Progressive"). The case stated that the motorcyclist was traveling upward of 100 mph on a desolate and very dark side street that crossed Jefferson Road. The motorcyclist saw motor vehicle headlights Jefferson Road and hit the brakes hard to avoid colliding with the vehicle. The aggressive braking caused the motorcycle to fishtail, and the rider lost control and dumped the bike. The motorcycle never came in contact with the motor vehicle. The motorcyclist was treated for extensive injuries at DMC, and incurred over \$100,000 worth of medical bills. As they can do in these situations, the DMC brought a case directly against the appropriate auto insurance provider, in this case Progressive, claiming that the motorcyclist was entitled to no-fault benefits.

It's important to understand how no-fault benefits work for motorcyclists. A motorcycle is not included in the definition of a "motor vehicle" under Michigan's no-fault law. If you own a bike, you must have insurance on it, otherwise you cannot make a claim for no-fault benefits. These benefits can include lifetime coverage of medical bills, wage loss, money for household help, medical mileage, and attendant care. In order for a motorcyclist to qualify for no-fault benefits under the law, a "motor vehicle" (car, truck, van, tractor trailer, etc.) must be involved in the crash. If the motorcyclist hits a pothole, loose gravel, a dog, or another motorcycle, no-fault benefits will not be paid.

In this particular case, the Court of Appeals decided that the motorcyclist was not entitled to the medical bills paid because the motor vehicle wasn't "involved enough". In its ruling, the Court stated that there has to be a connection between the motorcycle and the other vehicle that is more than just incidental. In other words, there must be a causal nexus established between the accident and the motor vehicle. It went on to state that the motor vehicle to be involved in the accident, must be actively, as opposed to passively, contribute to the accident and have more than a random association with the accident scene. For a motor vehicle to be causally connected to the motorcyclist's injuries, their injuries must originate from the use of the vehicle.

This Court of Appeals panel believed that the motorcyclist was startled, and overreacted when he saw the headlights on Jefferson Road. I was not directly involved with this case and don't have any inside information on the proceedings; my comments reflect my personal opinion, which is that this aspect of the decision is difficult for me to accept. The panel wanted evidence that the evasive action taken by the motorcyclist was necessary to avoid the motor vehicle, yet they did not accept the rider's opinion that a crash couldn't be avoided unless he hit the brakes. Often in these cases, there are no other witnesses to the crash besides the two drivers, and really the only person who can say for sure that the motorcyclist felt that a crash was imminent is the rider himself. The bottom line is, the Court of Appeals panel found that there was no objective need for the motorcyclist to take evasive

action, and therefore the motor vehicle was not sufficiently involved in the crash to entitle the motorcyclist to no-fault benefits. The DMC did not get its medical bills paid by the auto insurance company, leaving the motorcyclists on the hook for the entire cost of his treatment.

This, and other decisions by appellate courts (Court of Appeals, Michigan Supreme Court, etc.) is relevant because of how laws are made. When legislature passes a bill, it becomes a law "on the books", and we must follow it. A judge deciding a case filed in a lower court, like a District Court that hears traffic tickets and small criminal matters, or a Circuit Court that hears divorces or civil cases over \$25,000, looks to the written law to decide the legal issues in the case before them. However, published laws as written do not cover every single situation that might occur. So, if the written law does not plainly state what to do given the factual situation the judge has before them, the judge looks at the appellate courts decisions for similar factual cases with the same legal issues.

With the Michigan Court of Appeals, a case can be published or unpublished. A published case is authoritative; it's what we call "good law", and we must follow it as written, and it is used to decide future cases. If it is unpublished, then it is not authoritative; the decision was unique to the case, and is not the law that other judges must follow given similar facts. That said, even if a ruling is not authoritative, among the legal community we would say that it is instructional, and could give other judges an idea of how to rule on similar cases if there is not a published case on point. At the end of the day, whether this ruling is published or unpublished, the motorcyclist in this case is still stuck with a massive medical bill.

There are several lessons to be learned here. First, if you have a bike, insure it. We all like to think that nothing bad will happen to us, but it's not worth the risk. Next, if you crash and a motor vehicle was involved, it is important to establish evidence that shows how involved the motor vehicle was. As we saw with this case, your opinion may not be enough to establish the motor vehicle's involvement in Court. Finally, I always recommend that motorcyclists have health insurance as well. That way your medical bills are covered even if you are not entitled to no-fault benefits after a crash.

**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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- Ron Finch

- Jason Waechter

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Last week was my birthday and I didn't feel very well waking up on that morning...kinda' depressed actually. Feeling no excitement or surprises were left in my life. I missed surprises. I went downstairs for breakfast hoping my husband would be pleasant and say, 'Happy Birthday!', and possibly have a small present for me. As it turned out, he barely said good morning, let alone 'Happy Birthday.' I thought..... well, that's marriage for you, but the kids.... they will remember. My kids came bounding downstairs to breakfasts and didn't say a word..

So when I left for the office, I felt pretty low and somewhat despondent. As I walked into my office, my handsome Boss, Rick, said, 'Good Morning, lady, and by the way Happy Birthday!' It felt grateful that at least someone had actually remembered.

I worked until one o'clock, when Rick knocked on my door and said, 'You know, it's such a beautiful day outside, and it is your birthday, what do you say we go out to lunch, just you and I said, 'Thanks, Rick, that's the second greatest thing I've heard all day. Let's go!' So, we went to lunch. But we didn't go where we normally would go. He chose instead a quiet bistro with a private table. We had three martinis each, shared an appetizer and then capped off with 2 glasses of top-shelf Cognac. I enjoyed my birthday lunch tremendously, and had a sweet little buzz going as a bonus. On the way back to the office, Rick said, 'You know, it's such a beautiful day... we don't need to go straight back to the office, do we?' I responded, "You're the boss, what did you have in mind?" He said, 'Let's drop by my place, it's just around the corner.'

After arriving at his drop-dead, incredibly gorgeous house, Rick turned to me and said, 'If you don't mind, I'm going to step into the bedroom for just a moment. I'll be right back.'

"Umm, Ok." I nervously replied. He went into the bedroom and, after a couple of minutes, he came out carrying a huge birthday cake .... followed by my husband my kids, and dozens of my friends and co-workers, all singing 'Happy Birthday'.

And I just sat there.... On the couch.....Totally naked, totally mortified and totally surprised.

Duct Tape is like "The Force". It has a dark side and a light side and it holds the world together.

Never miss a good chance to just shut up & learn.

**Top 10 Country Western Songs:**

10. I Hate Every Bone In Her Body But Mine.
  9. I Ain't Never Gone To Bed With an Ugly Woman, But I Damn Sure Woke Up With a Few.
  8. If The Phone Don't Ring, You'll Know It's Me.
  7. I've Missed You, But My Aim's Improvin'.
  6. Wouldn't Take Her To A Dogfight 'Cause I'm Scared She'd Win.
  5. I'm So Miserable Without You It's Like You're Still Here.
  4. My Wife Ran Off With My Best Friend And I Miss Him.
  3. She Took My Ring and Gave Me the Finger.
  2. She's Lookin' Better with Every Beer.
- And the Number One Country & Western song is:  
It's Hard To Kiss The Lips At Night That Chewed My Ass All Day.

This morning on the Interstate, I looked over to my left and there was a woman, in a brand new Cadillac, doing 65 mph with her face up next to her rear view mirror, putting on her eyeliner. I looked away for a couple seconds... to continue shaving, and when I looked back she was half-way over in my lane, still working on that makeup job.

As a man, I don't scare easily. But she scared me so much; I had to put on my seat belt and I dropped my electric shaver, which then knocked the donut out of my other hand.

In all the confusion of trying to straighten out the car using my knees against the steering wheel, it knocked my cell phone away from my ear, which fell into the coffee between my legs, splashed and burned the hell out of Big Jim and the Twins, ruined the damn iPhone, soaked my trousers, and disconnected an important call to my yoga trainer.

Damn women drivers! Totally self-absorbed!

The Texas preacher rose with an angry red face. "Someone in this congregation has spread a rumor that I belong to the Ku Klux Klan. This is a horrible lie and one which a Christian community cannot tolerate. The preacher continued, "God forgives all transgressions and so shall I. The truth will set u free."

Then, slowly, a drop-dead gorgeous blonde with a body that would stop traffic rose from the third pew. Her head was bowed and her voice quivered as she spoke. "Reverend there has been a terrible misunderstanding. I never said you were a member of the Klan. I simply told a couple of my friends that you were a Wizard under the sheets!"

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# READERS RIDES

People's Choice Winner at  
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**KEITH & JOSH LAFER**  
Father and Son Project

### DESCRIPTION

NAME OF BIKE: Bone Dragger

MODEL: 2013 Custom Hardtail Chopper

BUILDERS: (Main) Keith and Josh Lafer (Father and Son)

*With special thanks to:* LeGene Jenkins, Ron Harris of Chop Docs, the gang at Chop-n-Block, Steve and the boys of IFL, Ron Finch and my good friend John Harrow who did the awesome artwork with a Sharpie Pen!

### THE BUILD STORY

I was cruising some fine customs at a local shop in Waterford, MI – an area known for its original ground up customs when I was approached by an old greybeard who said “You don’t know what you got unless you build it yourself”. Well that’s all I needed to hear.

With my son a top level aviation mechanic and my ability to finish long range projects, that was just what I was going to do – build my own! Searching the web for frames and rollers I came across a nice tall frame for my long legs offered by LeGene Jenkins of Kingsley, MI. It was a dropseat which I loved and came with that wild looking springer front end, a one off rear wheel and a semi-finished coffin tank. That was a great start but building a bike takes more than just kewl parts and now the real work would begin. I then picked up an Evo, an Ultima RSD Trans with a hydraulic clutch and the primary. We changed the belt pulleys for a chain and sprocket set up and figured out what to with no space for an oil bag that typically would mount under the seat. Once everything was mounted and aligned we finished off the tank and began thinking about paint. Originally the parts were destined to be painted in a Devils Hand motif, something that would have gone particularly well with the spades cut into the rear wheel but I wanted something of my own design. The various parts seemed to be screaming Gothic, so I began searching the web for Gothic influences and came across many litho’s of the dark ages and shared them with the renowned artist John Harrow of Classic and Exotic Airbrushing in Troy, MI who produced the original artwork – done over approx 80 hours with a Sharpie Pen (black magic marker) and light airbrushing. The bone colored base coat and finish coats were laid down by Ron Harris of Chop Docs who has a wealth of talents, painting bikes and cars is a special talent he’s perfected to excellence. This article wouldn’t be complete without giving very special thanks to my son Josh who without his innate mechanical ability this build would not happen. But more so it gave him and I a lot of great irreplaceable quality time together. As I write this article, I am dying of cancer and I know when I’m gone he’ll look at this build and remember the time we spent together building this fine bike – a tribute to a great father and son relationship!

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SEPTEMBER 13-14-15, 2013  
DOWNTOWN FLINT

# BIKES ON THE BRICKS

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY

- 10AM-5PM: Police Training on the “Surface Lot”
- 10AM-7PM: T-shirt and Saturday Ride Registration
- 4PM: Globe of Death Show
- 4PM-10PM: Beer tent opens in Riverbank Park
- 4PM-10PM: Bands performing in Riverbank Park Amphitheater
- 6PM: Globe of Death Show
- 6PM: Fenton Karate performance

### SATURDAY

- 8AM: TV5 Shooting LIVE from downtown Flint and VCHD
- 8AM: T-shirt and ride wristband sales
- 8AM-10AM: Police Officer training
- 8AM-11AM: Ride registration at Vehicle City Harley-Davidson
- 11AM: Police Escorted Ride leaves Vehicle City Harley-Davidson
- NOON: Beer tent opens in Riverbank Park
- 1PM: GR Finest Stunt Show
- 1PM: Buffalo Solders Raffle Drawing
- 1:30PM: Police Ride returns to downtown Flint
- 1:30PM: Globe of Death Show
- 2PM-5PM: Police Officer Training
- 2PM-3:30PM: Police Last Man Standing Preliminaries - UM Ice Rink

### SATURDAY CONTINUED

- 2PM-10PM: Bands performing in Riverbank Park Amphitheater
- 4PM: Biker Fashion Show - Main stage at Kearsley & S Saginaw
- 4:45PM: Globe of Death Show
- 5:15PM: GR Finest Stunt Show
- 7PM: Globe of Death Show
- 7:30PM: GR Finest Stunt Show
- 8PM-10PM: Skinny Molly performs in Riverbank Park Amphitheater

### SUNDAY

- 10AM: Opening ceremony
- 10AM-1PM: Motorcycle Show registration - Enter at S Saginaw & 4th St.
- 10AM-5PM: T-shirt sales
- 10:30AM: Law Enforcement Skills Competition
- 11:00AM: Globe of Death Show
- NOON-5PM: Beer tent opens in Riverbank Park
- NOON-5PM: Bands performing in Riverbank Park Amphitheater
- 1PM-2PM: Police Last Man Standing Finals - UM-Flint Ice Rink
- 1PM-4PM: Motorcycle Show judging
- 1PM: Globe of Death Show
- 2PM-2:30PM: Police Donut Eating Contest - Main stage
- 3PM: Awards Ceremony for Law Enforcement Officers
- 4PM: Globe of Death Show

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EVENT



# 4TH ANNUAL **Seats & Saddle** TOUR

BY Kirk & Jean Quenby PHOTOS Angie Cunningham



Everyone has been touched by cancer. This disease has affected family members, friends and sometimes even us. Loreen Wickens, the promoter of the Thunder on the Grand Seats and Saddle Tour has been touched by cancer in more ways than any one person should. She lost her mother when she was just 15 years old to cancer. She is a survivor three times over by three different cancers in 1997, 1998 and 2008. And, her daughter, Mandy has been living cancer free for the past 10 years. It is very easy to understand Loreen's dedication to raising funds towards cancer victims and their families. Her heart and soul has been touched in so many ways that it is hard to remain dry eyed when you are talking with her about her event and those she is helping.

The 2013 Thunder on the Grand was the best ever. Even though the thunder was rolling in off and on throughout the weekend here in the Mid-Michigan area - spirits and pocketbooks were not dampened for this Cancer Benefit event. Amanda Overmyer from American Idol fame rode 6 hours on her motorcycle and 6 hours home to sing the American Anthem again this year. She has said it every year that she will not miss this event! Thanks, Amanda!!!

Friday evening, three children were honored: Bryce Worthington, who was just 9 when he passed away from brain cancer. His charity is St. Jude's; Harley VanZadt, who at the age 14 lost her battle to bone cancer. Her charity is Battle Creek Elementary School Foundation; and Jayden Lamb, at the age 7 also lost his fight with brain cancer. Jayden Lamb Foundation was his charity. If you did not attend this year's event, please consider donating to these worthy causes.

Following this year's dedications the Mud Run started with the Bikini Girls taking first, followed by the

Thunder on the Grand Team taking second and the Guilty Girlz taking third. Bean're (in his pink outfit) went up against Honkey - and lost. Will be a grudge match next year??

Other events over the weekend included a rodeo by Lost Nations Rodeo, bike show, Jell-O wrestling, golf cart races, and other entertaining biker games. The annual tug-of-war is always fun. The Chopping Block rounded up the cowboys from the rodeo to go against the Thunder Grand Team this year (isn't that kinda cheating??). But, they still lost! But, Preacher is my hero! His shenanigans raised \$1000 (getting a tattoo on his head -

OUCH!!) and to ride a bull \$1700 (BIG OUCH!!!).

Music and dancing Friday with SRP from Detroit which continued Saturday evening with All In from Dorr, Stone Throwing from Grand Rapids and SRP once again. An amazing \$5750 was raised in this year's auction, as well.

Big thanks to Tony Jackson who donated his awesome sculpture to the auction and to all the volunteers and friends who helped make this year one to remember. See you next year!



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EVENT



# 25TH ANNUAL SANDY CORLEY MEMORIAL RUN



by Gary Bredeweg



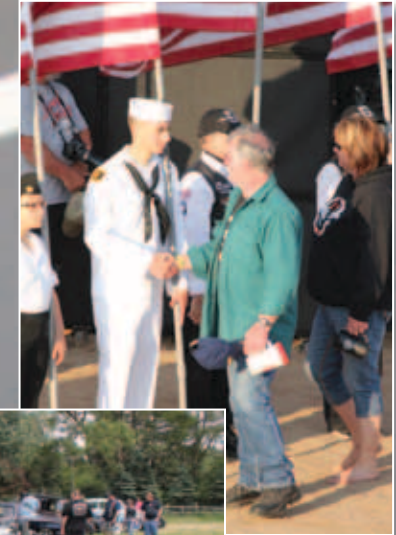
As we take a moment to look at the anniversary of this event and its accomplishments, I would have to say that it has made a very huge impression on west Michigan. For twenty-five years this event has grown to be trademark to the lakeshore residence and has now spread out to more than that. As we took some time this year to venture through its eighty plus acres of campground to see just how it was laid out, we found patrons from thirteen different states plus Canada, that's huge considering this all started as just a one day ride just twenty-five short years ago.

With the grounds opening on Wednesday afternoon, patrons started setting up their area and gearing up for the weekend's events which got a great kick off this year with knock-out promotions hosting an MMA cage fight on Thursday night that filled the arena with on lookers cheering on their favorite fighters. With the sun coming up Friday morning, riders look forward to the Forgotten Eagles Veterans ride that has played another huge role in this event for more years than I can remember, the Forgotten Eagles of Michigan also have hosted the beverage tent for several years as volunteers come from all across the state to ensure that it rolls smooth. As the evening hours fast approach, the famous hog auction gets under way as the massive tent fills to check out the donations that have been given to the event from so many area businesses for this incredible auction. With the main stage set Even Keel hit the stage to open the evening's entertainment in the arena with Slaughter and Pop Evil two more great performing acts that would be Michigan favorites.



Saturday morning kicks off with the main cancer ride that Steve Merrit for many years now has done this lay-out with the rider views in mind as it travels through some of west Michigan's inspiring routes from Sandy's HD back to the Double "J" Ranch and Resort, the hosting grounds of this great event. The grounds offer afternoon festivities like biker games hosted by the Grand Haven Eagles, Bike show by Ken and Becky Neuman and car show by Different Strokes Car Club. The evening entertainment starts out with a special military ceremony then on to the main stage with special guest Great White, North Bound and Night Ranger. To close out the night with an awesome fireworks display dedicated to "Kaboom" Tom Lusk.

As you all know it takes some time to figure out the total donation for the event, but this year on August 3rd, the check was delivered in a special ride to the Johnson Center for Cancer Care in the amount of \$157,500.00... This is all possible when the help and dedication of so many people and businesses come together to "Make a Difference".







SEPTEMBER 13TH - 15TH

# September 2013

MODEL: Paulla Schemm  
 PHOTO: Christy Woods ~ Into the Woods Photography

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <b>LABOR DAY</b> 	3	4	5	6	7 RIDE 4 RESCUES Capitol HD FREE BREAKFAST Grand Rapids HD ZIP'S ANNIVERSARY Zip's HD
8 GRAPE ESCAPE Paw Paw	9	10	11 LADIES NIGHT SHIWAASSEE HD	12	13 BIKES ON THE BRICKS Downtown Flint	14 BIKES ON THE BRICKS Downtown Flint RIDE TO BRICKS - Shiawassee HD KIDS FUN DAY - Fox Shawmut MODEL REVEAL - Capitol HD OPEN HOUSE - Sandy's HD MEMORIAL RUN Town & Country HD
15 BIKES ON THE BRICKS Downtown Flint RED WHITE & BLUE Boondox Motorsports	16	17	18	19	20 HOG DAZE RALLY - Marion IN OPEN HOUSE - Ray C's HD	21 HOG DAZE RALLY - Marion IN OPEN HOUSE - Ray C's HD BIKERS 4 BOOKS - Capitol HD TOYS FOR TOTS - Capitol HD
22 PAUL BUNYAN DAYS Barefoot Beach	23	24	25	26	27	28 CHECK OUT HDs Gildner's HD
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

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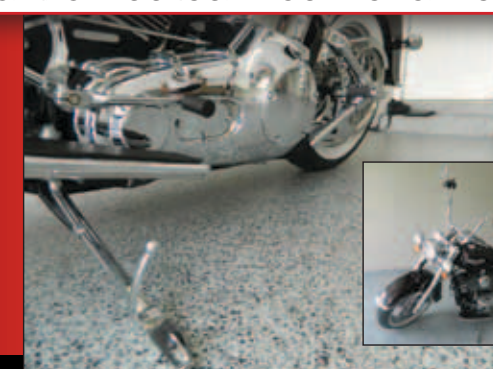
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# Jody "Mo's" THUNDER FUN

## Inspiration

*The secret of many a man's success in the world resides in his insight into the moods of men and his tack in dealing with them.*  
~ J.G. Holland

*To rejoice in another's prosperity, is to give content to your own lot; to mitigate another's grief, is to alleviate or dispel your own.*  
~ Thomas Edwards

*Such as are thy habitual thoughts, such also will be the character of thy mind; for the soul dyed by the thoughts.* ~ Marcus Aurelius

*Life is a daring adventure or nothing.* ~ Helen Keller

## Riddles

**A.** I am a word of meanings three. Three ways of spelling me there be. The first is an odor, a smell if you will. The second some money, but not in a bill. The third is past tense, a method of passing things on or around. Can you tell me now, what these words are, that have the same sound?

**B.** It's red, blue, purple, and green, no one can reach it, not even the queen. What is it?

**C.** What question can you never honestly answer yes to?

**D.** What has a neck and no head, two arms but no hands?

(Answers below)

## Fun Facts

America once issued a 5 cent bill.

Barbie's measurements if she were life size: 39-23-33

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

A toothpick is the object most often choked on by Americans.

## Weird Laws

**Wisconsin:** In Sun Prairie, No rider of a bicycle shall remove both hands from the handlebars or practice any trick or fancy riding in any street in the city nor shall any bicycle rider carry or ride any other person so that two persons are on the bicycle at one time, unless a seat is provided for a second person

**Ohio:** In Oxford, It is unlawful for a woman to appear in public while unshaven. This includes legs and face.

Answers: A). scent, cent, sent B). a rainbow C). Are you asleep? (or dead) D). a shirt (or sweater, jacket, etc)





# O G E M A W H I L L S B I K E W E E K



BY Tim & Amy Walraven  
ADDITIONAL PHOTOS Bill Moore & Jody "Mo"

Ogemaw Hills Bike Week, what a great time! We look forward to it every year. This year was hot and steamy, so to stay cool we would cruise around on the golf cart. We saw a lot of activity this way. In the front of the campground a crowd was gathering, there were people throwing water on the roads so when the bikes go by people can show off their "burnout" skills. As we were watching this, a guy who goes by the name of Donn Donn gave HIS bike to Al Cooper to show off his burnout skills. Anyone who knows Coop knows that you don't give him your bike if you want to keep your tires! And boy did he smoke those tires!

As we ride around we enter the Vendor Area. There is the Ives Brothers Stunt Show, the ball of steel and the free style mx. We see two stunt bikes jumping huge ramps, as their flying through the air they are doing handstands on the handlebars and standing on the seat without hanging onto anything, while 30-40 feet up in the air. All I could think was how amazing but I'm glad that's not my son! I had goose bumps just watching. After they had finished two small stunt bikes came out and rode up inside the ball of steel. The two bikes were going around and around at the same time, but that wasn't enough. So they added a woman to stand in the middle while their hands encircled her head. Wow!



That evening we hop on the golf cart and drive through the park picking up as many friends that the golf cart could hold without flipping over, and down to the Grandstands we go! The LoCash Cowboys were playing, and boy did they rock! What a great band. Lots of dancing, singing, drinking and lots of people sharing their beads! As the concert came to an end the fireworks show started and what a beautiful display that was!

The after concert party in the Corral Party tent was starting so we decided to head down there. As we were leaving the Grandstands we seen a couple making more fun for everyone... they were mudwrestling. Flipping each other around, watching the mud ooze down their bodies looked like fun for them!

The Corral Party tent was rocking all night long with a couple of different bands each night, Gunnar and



the Grizzly Boys, Hired Guns, Revolver, Commander Cody and his Modern Day Airmen, Whitey Morgan and DJ's. Across from the party tent is the Corral where people can take their bikes and show off their skills or blow up their bikes. As the night goes on more and more people get out there and get crazy on their bikes. I'm sure it's not from the alcohol! If that's not enough entertainment they have a mechanical bull. And let's say there were things that you don't want your kid to see! In fact we seen things we didn't really need to see!! Ha ha.

It's a good thing you have to be 18 to enter Ogemaw Hills Bike Week. People ages 18 and up are all having a good time. And if you don't have a Harley, don't worry everyone is welcome no matter what you ride. It's all about having fun with other bikers in a big biker family.





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# Biker Preacher's Corner

Ever feel like you're lost (feeling alone, empty and hopeless)? Jesus came to save the lost (Luke 19:10) not to create more religion! We've had more than our fill of man-made religions that judge people that don't look like them and throw them to the curb of life. We bikers know that first hand – the truth is; God loves bikers and all social outcasts too, just as much as anyone else!

There's a story in the Bible about a man named Zacchaeus. He was a tax collector, who weren't popular people back then either, but Jesus hung out with such people. Luke 19:2-9 "2 There was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. 3 He was trying to see who Jesus was, but he was not able because of the crowd, since he was a short man. 4 So running ahead, he climbed up a sycamore tree to see Jesus, since He was about to pass that way. 5 When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down because today I must stay at your house." 6 So he quickly came down and welcomed Him joyfully. 7 All who saw it began to complain, "He's gone to lodge with a sinful man!" 8 But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, I'll give half of my possessions to the poor, Lord! And if I have extorted anything from anyone, I'll pay back four times as much!" 9 "Today salvation has come to this house," Jesus told him, "Because he too is a son of Abraham. "This is just one example of Jesus hangin' out with those that others, especially the religious crowd, wouldn't dare be seen hangin' out with. I truly believe that if He were walking the earth today He'd be a biker.

Jesus said in Luke 5:31-32 " ...The healthy don't need a doctor, but the sick do. 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Jesus came to save those that are lost so my question for you today is. Ever feel sick inside when there's nothing wrong with you?

My friends, we were all created with a God shaped hole inside of us and only Jesus can fill that hole. We've all tried to fill that hole with many things from religion to booze to girls/guys. But nothing, and I mean nothing, satisfies like a relationship with Jesus.

Jesus is calling out to you today and saying "I love you and want to know you!" Revelation 3:20 Listen! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and have dinner with him, and he with Me.

Will you answer the door today?

Apostle Brian "BMAN" McKay  
President/Founder of Victory Biker Church  
12190 Miller Rd Lennon, MI 48449  
[pastorbman@victorybikerchurch.org](mailto:pastorbman@victorybikerchurch.org)  
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# Tech Tips By Steve Monkeys and Apes! Handle Bar Fun!

**SO** as I am sitting around...yeah right I do a lot of that... thinking ... again, yeah right, thinking ... me? Well, I was thinking because my head ached profusely and my small mind was compiling ideas of what to write about this month for you fine people. Then it came to me as I look over at a customer's bike that we were putting a set of Paul Yaffe Monkey Bars on ... handle bars, I will talk about these blasted handle bars!

## CONSIDERATIONS WHEN PICKING HANDLEBARS

The first question to ask is, just how do you want to sit on your bike, would you like your hands low and wide, then consider beach bars. If you like your hands up higher about shoulder height, then pick Ape hangers. Or, are you like me and rode motocross for years and liked that style, then consider drag or MX style bars. Basically, what position is your back and shoulders most comfortable or is it a certain look you are going for? Next is, do you want to hide your wiring, if so you will need to find a bar with drilled holes and you will have to take apart your wiring connectors and have hours of some real fun! Will the bars be substantially wider or higher, then you will have to purchase longer cables, hoses and wiring. Do you want the finish to be chrome or a color? Would you like larger than stock diameter? And the last big question ... what is your budget?

Handle bars are given all kinds of great names like ape hangers, boardtrack, MX bars, touring, T-bars, drag bars, monkey bars and the list goes on, but what we really need to know is two basic things, how our are bars mounted and where do we want our hands to be while riding.

## MEASUREMENTS

Unfortunately, there is not a true industry standard on how handle bars are measured, they are however measured by height, width, center and pullback, but how the bars are specifically set when making these measurements is not standard. The height or end rise is the measurement from the mounting point of the handle bar (this is the part that is mounted onto the triple trees) to the highest point of the bar, usually this is the point where is turns toward the rider. The width is measured from outside grip area to outside grip area. The center is the flat part width before the start the rise turn. Lastly, the pullback is the distance from the triple tree mounting point to the end of the bar at the grip area. Confusing? Here is a picture that should help. (Fig1)

Drag Bar	35" width	4" pullback
Street Bar	32" width	3 1/2" pullback 2 1/4" rise
Street Bar High	33 1/2" width	4 1/2" pullback 2 3/4" rise
Superbike Low	29" width	5 3/4" pullback 2 3/8" rise
Superbike	30" width	4" pullback 2 1/2" rise
Naked Bike	31" width	6 3/4" pullback 3 3/8" rise
Sport Tourer	26 3/4" width	4 1/2" pullback 1 5/8" rise
Tourer Bar	31 1/2" width	8 3/4" pullback 5 1/4" rise
Flat Track Bar	33" width	7 3/8" pullback 4 1/2" rise

Fig 1

## DIMPLED, DRILLED OR NEITHER

Another piece of the information pie is knowing if you need your bars to be drilled, dimpled or neither. If you want your wiring inside the bars for a cleaner look you must have the bars drilled, if you have a bike that needs a dimple near the grip for your wiring then make sure you order bars with dimples. In Fig 2, the top bar is dimpled (and drilled) and the lower bar is drilled



Fig 2

## RISERS and CLAMPS

Your handle bars are attached to the triple trees via a set of risers and/or clamps. Sometimes, the riser is built right into the handle bars and they bolt directly into the top triple tree. Like the second set in Fig 3.



Fig 3

With a bike that uses risers, sometimes you can get the change you are looking for by simply going to a set of risers with more pull-back or more height. You can see in Pic 4 that this bike has a very short riser with no pullback, if your wiring and cables will allow it, you could gain a few inches of rise or pull back or a little of both with a simple riser change.

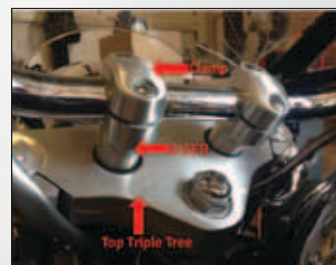


Fig 4

## INSTALLING MONKEY BARS ... HEADACHES INCLUDED!

We have the basics down, now I would like to take you through a handle bar swap on a 2008 Harley Road King. Bryan wanted more pullback and his arms a bit higher, he picked out a set of Paul Yaffe 10" Monkey Bars with internally hidden wires. His bike has throttle by wire so we ordered the bars cut for the sensor (Fig 5).

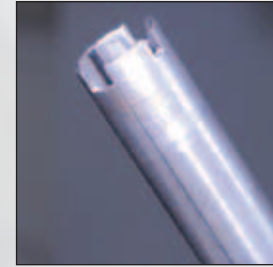


Fig 5

Since the bars were a bit higher than stock, we ordered a longer brake line and clutch cable, and with the wiring going through the handlebars, the wiring for the switches had to be extended by 8" so we used Namz wire extenders (Fig 6).



Fig 6

Now we have all the parts we need, so it's time for disassembly. Out comes the headlight and here are the connectors (5 of them, 4 for the switches and one for the TBW) inside the nacelle you have to disassemble. (Fig 7)



Fig 7

Harley was nice enough to make one side of the handle bar connections with white Molex connectors and one side with black Molex connectors, so it is difficult to mess things up. Before you take these connectors apart, make a very detailed wire guide with correct orientation of the plug, heck, take a few pictures just for safe measure so you can rewire everything correctly. Once you have the wires out of the connectors, you can pull them out of the nacelle and remove the protective sleeve. (Fig 8) Then untangle and straighten out the wires best as possible and slide them in good quality shrink wrap, heat and shrink, this makes them a smaller protected package so you will be able to get them through the bars easier.



Fig 8

Slide a fish wire through the handlebars and attach it to the wires by wrapping it around them and use a light layer of electrical tape to cover the wire. Get a

helper for the next step, (You may have to put cable lube on the shrink wrap to get it slippery enough to slide through) One of you push while one of you pull the wire carefully through the bars. I will tell you these monkey bars were the hardest I have ever done, these bars have two 90 deg turns and that makes life a bit difficult!!!! The throttle side is the hardest due to more wiring but it will fit.

## THE THROTTLE SENSOR

The stock throttle sensor has a green connector that will not fit through the bar holes, (Fig 9) you have two choices here, replace it with the \$99.95 Harley through bar sensor that does not have the connector or you cut the connector off and solder it back together. Both options will work, however if you have a set like these monkey bars that take a lot of pulling and tugging I suggest the new sensor. Why Harley didn't make them this way from factory and makes you buy these are beyond my comprehension.



Fig 9

Once you have all the wires through the bars set them on the bike, slide wires through the nacelle and snug up the bars in the clamps to hold things safely. Reinstall all wiring correctly into the Molex connectors, install the switches onto the handlebars then install the longer clutch cable, adjust properly, install the longer brake line, bleed brakes and it's time to test things. OK, all wiring is working properly so it is time to get the owner to sit on it and adjust the bars and controls to their liking. We re-checked everything for proper function then we stuffed the headlight back in. Done!

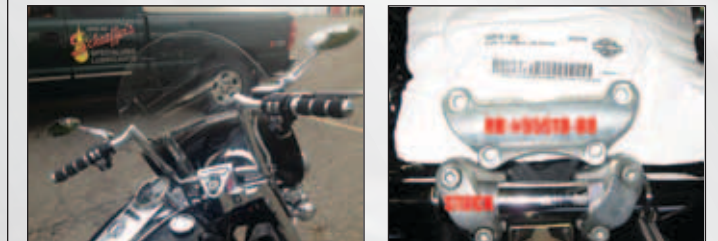


Fig 10

NOTE: Many bar manufacturers state that if you have a FLH style Harley with a two piece handle bar clamp (Fig 10 complements of Burly Bars) under the chrome clamp cover, it would be wise to replace it with a one piece style. You will get much better clamping force and fewer troubles down the road.

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



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517-977-1752  
www.golgothacycles.com  
golgothacycles@comcast.net





# TRM EVENTS CALENDAR 2013

## SEPTEMBER

September 5-8  
19th Annual Fall Rodeo- ABATE of MI Region 5  
Twisting Trails Snowmobile Club, Twin Lake, MI. Gates open Friday at noon. \$30 at gate, \$25 in advance. 18 yrs and older, live music, rustic camping, state raffles & more. For more info contact Scott 231-206-9579 or Val 231-578-4778

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. Kickstands 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.**

September 7  
2nd Annual Luther Biker Bash  
Loggers Landing, Luther, MI. Regis. 12-1 pm, leave at 1 pm, \$10 pp, ride, games, food, music, prizes. More info

contact Dixie 231-797-5688

September 7  
The Joe Stumpo Memorial Poker Run  
Hog Heaven, Dearborn, MI. Regis. Starts at 10 am, \$15 rider, \$10 passenger, prizes and more, 1st bike out 11 am, last bike in 5 pm. For more info call 313-562-9090.

**September 7**  
**Zip's 12th Anniversary Celebration**  
**Zips HD, Gaylord, MI. Live entertainment, refreshments & door prizes. Go to [www.zips45thhd.com](http://www.zips45thhd.com) or call 866-667-8443 (See ad this issue).**

September 7  
Warriors Poker Run  
4300 N. State Rd, Davison, MI. Begins at Noon, entertainment, food & more. For more info call 810-412-4511

September 7  
Fallen Heroes Ride & Pig Roast  
American Legion Riders, Oxford, MI. Regis. 9:30-11:30 am, ride leaves at noon, \$20 per rider early regis./ \$10 per passenger early regis. or \$5 extra pp on day of event, includes pig roast. For more info call 248-413-9650

September 7  
Toy Run Parade  
Hamilton HD, Sturgis, MI. For more info call 269-651-3424

September 7-8  
Thunder in the Valley  
Bubba's Tri-City Cycle, Linwood, MI. Sept. 7th John Steward Memorial Run, sign up 10-12. Sept 8th Bubba's Remember our Troops Run, sign up 10-12. Two days of food, music, friendship & fundraising. Proceeds to veteran support groups. For more info go to [www.bubbastricitycycle.com](http://www.bubbastricitycycle.com)

**September 8**  
**Paw Paw Grape Escape Motorcycle Ride**  
**Seal & Air Inc. Travel Service, Paw Paw, MI. Regis. starts at 9:30 am, ride at 11 am, \$20 per bike. Call Tom 269-998-2067 for more info (See ad this issue).**

September 8  
31st Annual Battle of the Brits  
Camp Dearborn, Milford, MI. Classic British & European bikes. Regis. 8am-noon, \$10 bike show entry, \$4 Camp Dearborn entry. Show open to public 10 am, \$6 per vehicle. For more info call 586-944-7456 or go to [www.metrotriumphriders.com](http://www.metrotriumphriders.com)

**September 11**  
**Ladies Appreciation Night**  
**Shiawassee HD, Birch Run, MI. 6-8 pm, wine & cheese tasting, numerous vendors for the ladies, live auction to benefit The Pink Fund. More info at [www.shiawasseeharley-davidson.com](http://www.shiawasseeharley-davidson.com) (See 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**  
**2nd Annual Charitable Ride to the Bricks**  
**Shiawassee HD, Birch Run, MI. Ride leaves at 11:30 am sharp to arrive at Bikes on the Bricks at noon. Proceeds benefit The Pink Fund. For more info call 989-624-4400**

**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 14**  
**Sandy's H-D Annual Open House**  
**Sandy's H-D, Fremont, MI. Demo rides 9am - 2pm, Fremont HOG Chapter Toy Run, Flag Ceremony, pig roast, music & more, visit [www.sandysharley-davidson.com](http://www.sandysharley-davidson.com) for more info (See ad this issue).**

September 14  
Alto American Legion Lucky Hand Run  
Alto, MI. Regis. 10-11.30am Ride starts at Noon, \$15.00 per person, \$20.00 per couple, food, 50/50, & other prizes. More info contact Butch Shaffer 616 666 1638

September 14  
American Hero's Ride  
Regis. 9 AM at local American Legion Posts (Caledonia post #505, Grand Haven post #28, Allegan post #89, Wayland VFW, Rockford post #102), kick stands up at 10am, \$20 per person, all bikes welcome, benefits the West Michigan Veterans Assistance Program, Chili Cook-off at 12 noon at Grand Rapids Harley Davidson, Hudsonville, MI. More info contact Kris 616-218-9684 or see [www.grhog.com](http://www.grhog.com)

September 14  
3rd Annual Amway/United Way Motorcycle Run  
Amway World Headquarters, Ada, MI. 1 pm departure, donations, 50/50, live music, open to public. For more info contact 616-787-6290

**September 14**  
**The 12th Annual Charity Memorial Run**  
**Town & Country HD, Cement City, MI. For more info go to [www.cementcityharley.com](http://www.cementcityharley.com) or call 517-547-3333 (See ad this issue).**

September 14  
Animal Rescue Fundraiser & Open House  
Motor City HD, Farmington Hills, MI. For more info go to [www.motorcityharley.com](http://www.motorcityharley.com) or call 248-473-7433

September 14  
Habitat for Humanity Charity Ride  
Hot Rod HD, Muskegon, MI. Go to [www.hotrodhd.com](http://www.hotrodhd.com) for more info or call 231-722-0000

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 15  
Car and Bike Show sponsored by Peckham Veteran Services  
Peckham, Inc. Lansing, MI. Regis. Begins at 9:30 am, event 10 am-3 pm, bikes & cars can register for \$5 each (veteran's free registration). Awards for top 15 cars/trucks and 15 bikes (all veteran voting), door prizes, music, & food. For more info email Bonnie at [bzimmerman@peckham.org](mailto:bzimmerman@peckham.org) or call 517-316-4412.

**September 15**  
**3rd Annual Project Red White & Blue Run**  
**Boondox Motorsports, Grand Rapids, MI. Regis. 9-11 am, kickstands up at 11 am, veteran home visit, silent auction, raffles, & more. \$20 per driver, \$5 passenger. For more info go to [www.projectrwb.us](http://www.projectrwb.us) (See ad this issue).**

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. Go to [www.milandragway.com](http://www.milandragway.com) for more info

**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 20-22**  
**Ray C's Model Year Open House**  
**Ray C's HD, Lapeer, MI. Demo rides, hot dogs, & a cold drink. Go to [www.raycsh-d.com](http://www.raycsh-d.com) for more info (See ad this issue).**

**September 21**  
**Bikers 4 Books Charity Ride**  
**Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. Regis. 10 am, ride leaves at noon. \$10 bike, \$5 rider. For more info go to [www.capitolhd.com](http://www.capitolhd.com) or call 517-646-2345**

**September 21**  
**Toys for Tots Ride and Party**  
**Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. Regis 9-10 am, Late Regis. 10:01 am food, 50/50, prizes, cash bar. Cost is \$10 with new unwrapped toy & \$20 without. Late registration is \$15 with new toy and \$25 without. Help local children have a Christmas to remember! For more info call 517-646-2345**

September 21  
10th Annual Rally for Mooseheart  
Moose Riders of Dorr Lodge #2541 in Dorr, MI. Regis 9 am, rally ride leaves by noon. \$20 pp, includes Rally Tee, Pig roast, door prizes, raffles & live music. 2013 H-D Switchback to be raffled off that evening, tickets on sale up until 6 pm on Rally day - \$10 each. All proceeds from rally to benefit the children of Moose Heart. For more info contact Phyllis @ 616.292.0134 or email [pjt5902@aol.com](mailto:pjt5902@aol.com).

**September 22**  
**Paul Bunyan Days Motorcycle Show**  
**Barefoot Beach Resort, Oscoda, MI. 11am-3pm, carnival, wood carving, bbq cookoff competition & more. For more info call 989-739-7322 or 989-225-6344**

**September 28**  
**Check out the 2014 Harley-Davidsons**  
**Gildner's HD, West Branch, MI. Check out new motorclothes, grab a hot dog and pop. Go to [www.gildnershd.com](http://www.gildnershd.com) (See ad this issue).**

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.

September 29  
Ride For Those Who Served  
Wolverine HD, Clinton Township, MI. Regis. 9 am- 11 am, bikes leave at 11:30 am sharp, free breakfast & lunch, music, giveaways & more. For more info go to [www.wolverinehd.com](http://www.wolverinehd.com)

## 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 5  
Annual Toy Run & Color Tour- ABATE of MI Region 5  
Pats Roadhouse, Muskegon, MI. Regis. At 10:30 am, ride leaves 12:30 sharp, bring non-violent unwrapped toy and \$10 donation. For more info contact Scott 231-206-9579 or George 231-861-0819

October 5  
7th Annual Breast Cancer Ride  
Hamilton HD, Sturgis, MI. Ride leaves at noon. Go to [www.hamiltonharley-davidson.com](http://www.hamiltonharley-davidson.com) for more info or call 269-651-3424

October 6  
18th Annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off & Motorcycle Show  
Downtown Plymouth, MI. 11am- 6pm, bike show held 11 am- 4pm at Kellogg Park on Ann Arbor Trail. To register or for more info go to [www.greatlake-schili.com](http://www.greatlake-schili.com)

October 6  
26th Annual Michigan Dressers MC Toys for Kids Rally  
Fraser VFW Post #6691, Fraser, MI. Regis. 10:30 am, 1 new unwrapped toy or \$10 cash donation per person, parade begins at noon, live music, food & more. For more info go to [www.michigandressers.8k.com](http://www.michigandressers.8k.com) or call 586-354-7715

**October 11**  
**Gibraltar Trade Center Bike Night**  
**Finale and giveaway**  
**Gibraltar Trade Center, Mt. Clemens, MI. Enter drawing every bike night to increase chances. Live**

music & no cover. For more info see [www.gibraltartrade.com](http://www.gibraltartrade.com) (See full page ad this issue).

**October 12**  
**40th Annual Motorcycle Swap Meet & Parts Expo**  
**Wings Stadium, 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)**

**October 17-20**  
**Biketoberfest, Daytona Beach, FL.**

**October 20**  
**Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet**  
**Tri-Cities- Birch Run Expo Center, MI. 11 am- 4pm, go to [www.motorcycleswap.com](http://www.motorcycleswap.com) for more info (See ad this issue).**

**October 26**  
**Auction- HD Motorcycle Shop & Complete Machine Shop**  
**2161 S. Meridian Road, Midland, MI. Auction starts 10 am sharp. To view some items or for more info go to [www.furloauction.com](http://www.furloauction.com) (See full page ad inside back cover this issue).**

**October 27**  
**Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet**  
**Detroit Area- Suburban Collection Showplace, MI. 11 am- 4pm, go to [www.motorcycleswap.com](http://www.motorcycleswap.com) for more info (See ad this issue).**

## NOVEMBER

November 9  
6th Annual Hamilton HD Fashion Show  
Hamilton HD, Sturgis, MI. Noon- 3 pm. For more info go to [www.hamiltonharley-davidson.com](http://www.hamiltonharley-davidson.com) or call 269-651-3424

### EVENT LISTINGS ARE FREE!!!

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To get your event listed in Thunder Roads Magazine and on our website, send the information to  
[Editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com](mailto:Editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com)  
Event information must be received prior to the 10th of the month preceding the event month to be posted in the magazine.

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






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## ABATE OF MICHIGAN

Intelligent Transportation Systems. If you're not familiar with the term, you might want to get informed. It's coming at us like a runaway train on an international track.

"Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) encompass a broad range of information and communications technologies that improve the safety, efficiency, and performance of the transportation system. When integrated into the nation's roadways, vehicles and public transportation network, ITS can help reduce congestion, improve mobility, save lives and optimize our existing infrastructure." <http://www.itsa.org/aboutus/mission-bylaws>

Sounds good, eh? Especially to those of us who would like to see a greater degree of safety while out traveling on two wheels. But this bug has a lot of legs and portends to be a very invasive species in my opinion.

I am by no means a techie or infrastructure specialist, but I have been following this trend as it's built up for about 10 years. You may already be familiar with a lot of components of ITS that have already been incorporated into our travel lives. Like:

- Electronic Toll Collection**
- Ramp Meters**
- Red Light Cameras**
- Traffic Signal Coordination**
- Transit Signal Priority**
- Traveler Information Systems**

[www.its.dot.gov/factsheets/benefits\\_factsheet.htm](http://www.its.dot.gov/factsheets/benefits_factsheet.htm)

There is a push federally to continually upgrade and incorporate ITS electronics into our automobiles that will interact with the infrastructure and other vehicles. The roadway infrastructures are continually being upgraded to interact with our vehicles. The goal as I understand it is to at some point take the human equation out of the transportation process making it safer, more enjoyable, and personally productive by allowing us to do things besides.... Drive.

But, I got a problem or two with this stuff.

Aside from the fact I do not trust any government agency to do anything even close to 100% right, and the fact that the most frequent technological problems I have are electronic, there is the fact that I just plain like traveling under my own control. And particularly on motorcycles.

Which brings me to the main issue I have, and that is that I am not seeing any consideration for motorcycles in this transportation future. It's evident already that current systems were not designed with motorcycles in mind. The red light cameras that were created to detect vehicles at intersections and cut down on the length of time waiting for lights to turn green are notorious for leaving bikers sitting for long periods of time waiting because the cameras were not designed to recognize them. By the way, Abate of Michigan has been working on a bill to allow motorcycles to ignore the red light when it is not operating for them. In fact we are interacting with

legislators in Lansing on several possible upcoming ITS concerns that do not seem to be taking us into consideration.

Another concern I have is the invasion of my privacy and right to travel FREELY around the country. Black boxes and GPS built into our vehicles allow the government to know where we go, when we go, and where we are whenever they want to know. Not only do I not want my personal traveling information available for government purview, I also can foresee rumored use taxes based on vehicle miles traveled being leveled on us. And really, who thinks getting a ticket sent by automated mail for an infraction reported by an automated camera that was able to photograph our license plate, upload our speed and actions, identify who we are, and fine us without human interaction, acceptable?

We tend to take it for granted, but freedom to travel is a big issue and always has been. It's not a right I care to hand over to government computers, robots, and electronic gizmos. There is always a line in the sand that has to be drawn where past safety hawks, nanny crats, and well intended do-gooders' should never be allowed to tread. We motorcyclists need to start thinking real hard where that line should be for us. We need to ensure that our voice and our will is heard in Lansing and Washington D.C. We must demand that ITS includes consideration for motorcycling and respects the rights given us by our maker and guaranteed in our countries founding documents.

A good start is by joining, supporting, and working with a motorcycle rights organization or two or three.....

*Rusty*



**Rusty Bongard**  
**Communications Director, ABATE of Michigan**  
**State Rep. MRF**  
**Co-Director B.O.L.T. of Michigan**  
**V.P. SWMC**  
**C.O.C. / U.S. Defenders**

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# MUSKEGON BIKE TIME



BY Gary Bredeweg

We all know that Michigan is one of many states that has some of the best riding to be had across the country with all the great views along it's hundreds of miles of scenic shoreline and majestic national forest. Now take a town with some of the finest beaches, bars and restaurants with a huge passion for motorcycles and what would this do? You got it, created an event that started back in 2007 called Muskegon Bike Time. Bike Time has for several years now grown by leaps and bounds with people that carry the same passion as this small town tucked against the water's edge with a population of about 40,000. The Thursday night kick off to this event held great attendance at one of many beverage tents with a performance from "Old Dudes Rock" that played the sounds from the 60's and 70's and a "Mini KISS" made up of little people that emulate the original band "KISS" that surely busted your gut. At the very top or should I say start of this massive line of motorcycles is Hot Rod HD also known as "Steele Horse Station" where there also were multiple vendors that lined the massive parking area that is also suitable for the great concerts that have been there for many years, this year we had the great privilege to see two great acts over the course of the weekend, former lead singer from Boston, Fran Cosmo on Friday's main stage and former lead singer Steve Augeri of Journey on Saturday, both filled the venue to standing room only.

There is so much to see and do over the course of the four day event that its challenging to



get to it all, one of my personal favorites is the bike show, "Biker Pro's" hosted this years show at "Steel Horse Station" with everything from wild to mild and as you know some of these creations come from some of the minds that have the driving passion for the industry so you never know what you will see. Another crowd pleaser is the Babbitt's stunt team with their high revving rockets doing spin-outs to burn-outs, and wheel stands they know how to bring the crowd to their feet.

As you stroll down the thirteen city blocks of western avenue you will find vendors with everything you could imagine you would ever need or think you may need from places like "Speeds Performance", "Moster



Brite LEDs" and "Grandpa Bad Ass" that has that shirt that just says you are never too old to ride, and we can't forget to mention the heart throbbing, blood pressure raising of the "Miss Bike Time" and "Bud Stud" contest that heats things up no matter the temp outside.

I have seen this event grow every year since the start and like every other it's all been from the ground level but this year was a little different for Jane and I, with the help of a good friend Tom Marotta we had the chance to see the entire town from a bird's eye view. Our pilot Andy Stroup and daughter Chloe Stroup of "West Michigan Flying Club" gave us the opportunity to see just how large and spread out this really is, now I will have to say that with local standings they estimate 70,000 to attend this event, seeing from where I did this year I would have to say there were a lot more...







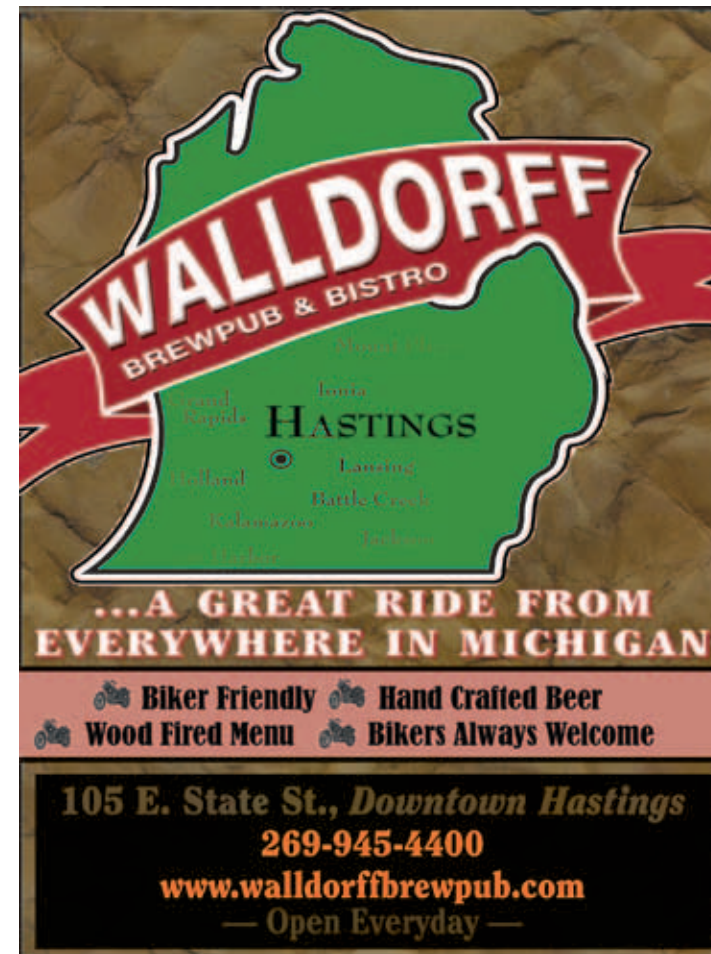
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# WHEELS OF THUNDER

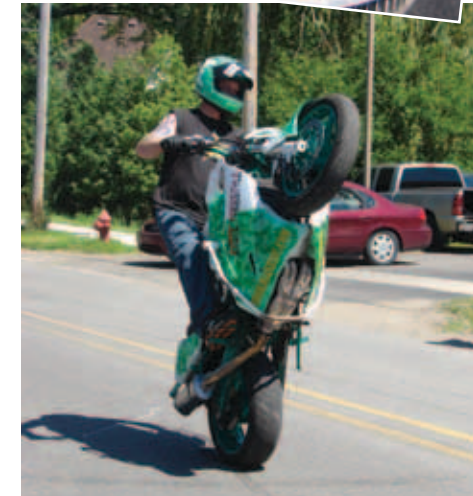
by Kirk & Jean Quenby

Friday and Saturday, July 12-13, in Grass Lake, motorcyclists from around Michigan enjoyed one of the best Battle of the Bands around. Music filled the air both days while attendees wandered through vendors or sat leisurely underneath the beer tent. Congratulations go out to the winner of the Battle of the Bands - Les Raquet.



Saturday, the Color Guard and the singing of the National Anthem by Lisa Bascom, reminded everyone that the Wheels of Thunder event honors the Men and Women of our Armed Forces. The 2013 Soldier of the Year award was presented to CW3 Matthew Duckworth and the 2013 Veteran of the Year award was presented to SFC Michael Kraus. The crowd joined in to thank them for their service to our country and for their sacrifices to keep this country home to the free because of the brave!

The Stunt Team Show by Exotic Freestyle hit the streets several times on Saturday to entertain all which always draws quite a crowd. The bike show was judged by Don Weimer, of Weimer Original Designs, who brought a great display of his custom (and nationally award winning) bikes for everyone to admire, as well.



The 11th Annual Wheels of Thunder event was a celebration of the memory of its founder, Joe Michner, who died days prior to the event after his battle with cancer. His vision to provide a gathering place for motorcycle enthusiasts was achieved for the 11th year! Let's keep the event rolling . . . for Smokin' Joe!

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