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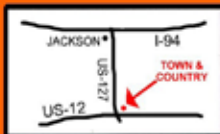
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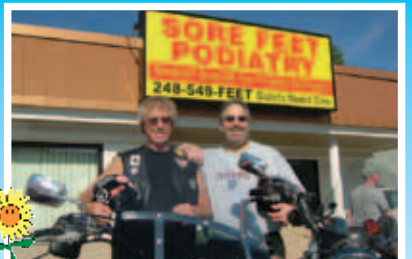
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K.I.S.S.

IN THE KITCHEN

KEEP IT SIMPLE SWEETIE

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

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

M.B.'s NEW YEAR DAGO CABBAGE SOUP

- 1 Large Head of Dago Cabbage
- 1 Lb. Mild or Hot Sausage - browned & sliced or crumbled
- 1 Pkg. Polish Sausage - browned & sliced
- 1 Lg. Can Spicy Hot V-8 Juice
- 1 Lg. Onion, Large Chop
- 3 Stalks Celery, Large Chop
- Salt & Pepper to Taste

In a large soup pot, chop up your head of cabbage into 4 quarters and pour your V-8 juice over top. In a skillet, brown up your sausage and your Polish sausage combined. Drain. Add to soup. Add your onion and celery and salt & pepper, turn on low, cover and just let it very slowly cook down. This is also simple to throw in a crock pot and let go all day. When all these flavors combine and cook down, the flavor is fantastic! Be sure and serve with hot, crusty bread and butter.

FESTIVE CRAB & CRANBERRY CUPS

- 1/2 Cup Cream Cheese, Softened
- 1/4 Cup Premium, Canned Crabmeat, drained, flaked & cartilage removed
- 2 Tbls. Chopped Green Onions (scallions)
- 1 Pkg. (2.1 ozs.) Frozen Miniature Phyllo Tart Shells
- 1/2 Cup Whole-Berry Cranberry Sauce

In a small glass bowl (anything but plastic, makes crabmeat taste funny), combine the cream cheese, crab & onions until blended. Place the tart shells on an ungreased baking sheet. Drop 1 Tbl. of crab mixture into each shell. Top each with 1 tsp. cranberry sauce. Bake at 375 degrees for 12-15 min. until heated through. These two flavors blended together is yummy!

PEACH-BOURBON HOLIDAY HAM

- 1/2 Cup Bourbon, Divided
- 1-1/4 Cups Packed, Light Brown Sugar, Divided
- 1 Semiboneless Ham Shank, Half-Smoked Ham (8 lbs.)
- 2 Tbls. Whole Cloves
- 1 Pkg. Freestone Peaches, Thawed & Divided

Preheat oven to 325. Combine 1/4 cup bourbon and 1/2 cup sugar. Score ham; insert cloves. Place slit side down on rack in roasting pan. Bake 1-1/2

hrs, basting with mixture. In blender, puree 1/2 cup peaches, remaining bourbon and remaining sugar. Bake 25 min. Remove. In greased skillet, saute blended ingredients along with 1/4 cup water. Serve with ham as a dipping sauce. Make extra and drizzle all over ham also.

SIMPLY DELICIOUS CREAMED ONIONS

- 6 Large Onions, Sliced
- 1 Cup of Real Butter
- 2 Tbls. All-Purpose Flour
- 2 tsps. Salt
- 1/2 tsp. white pepper
- 2 Cups Whole Milk (do not use skim or 2%) *A lot of cooks use 1/2 & 1/2 when doing a "creamed" side dish.

In a large skillet, saute onions in butter until tender and golden brown, about 25 minutes. Remove with a slotted spoon. Add flour, salt and pepper to skillet; stir until smooth. Gradually stir in milk until blended. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Reduce heat to medium. Return onions to the pan; heat thoroughly. Creamed onions have the sweetest taste and the perfect texture to compliment any meat dish.

NO-BAKE, NO FUSS, CHEESECAKE PIE

- 2 Tbls. Graham Cracker Crumbs, Divided
- 1 Pkg. (.3 ozs.) Lemon Gelatin
- 2/3 Cup Boiling Water
- 1 Pkg. (8 ozs.) Cream Cheese, Cubed
- 1 Cup Cottage Cheese
- 2 Cups Premium Whipped Topping

Coat the bottom and sides of a 9-in. pie plate with nonstick cooking spray. Sprinkle with 1 Tbl. cracker crumbs; set aside. In a small bowl, dissolve gelatin in boiling water; cool slightly. Pour into a blender, add cream cheese and cottage cheese. Cover and process until smooth. Transfer to a large bowl (not plastic). Fold in whipped topping. Pour into prepared pie plate. Sprinkle with remaining graham cracker crumbs and garnish with small coils of lemon peel. This is a truly

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Happy Happy Happy New Year!

Another one bites the dust! It is a new year, for some a new start, a new season, a new reason... whatever your resolution is - keep it up! It takes 21 days to create a habit. You can do it! Now we are off to a great start to the New Year with some exciting features, tips, sales, and great places to go as you will find in this issue.

Special thanks to the ENTIRE Thunder Roads Family that work hard to cover events, write articles, and get the Very Best #1 Free Biker Magazine out to your favorite biker friendly establishment and direct to You each month. There is a reason why on the cover it says Where There's Bikes There's Going To Be Thunder! We are all over the place and still looking for more! I have new territories added on page 7 and you can see if you live nearby and would like to join the Thunder Roads TEAM.

Thunder Roads Michigan is on the Discovery Channel! Remember those Thunder Roads T-shirts and hoodies I have been talking about and you see in the Thunder Cams? Well, watch this season of the Bering Sea Gold on Fridays at 10pm and you will see that Scott is a fan of Thunder Roads! You may remember an article Jackie did last January on Scott Meisterheim. So check that out and make sure to show your support by ordering your swag (see in each issue as well as the online store).

Make sure to check out our Facebook and like us to keep up with the latest happenings. Also, you can always view current and recent past issues of Thunder Roads on our website. Just go to www.thunderroadsmichigan.com.

Last month the biker friendly character was on page 23 by the Globe of Death. 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!

Now for some "Mo" Advice:

Many years ago I overheard some advice given to someone I was close to. It was, "That which you persist resist". So basically, what that means is sometimes you need to back off and walk away. As a metaphor; let that fire build before you approach it and continue to dump on it. Ever burn leaves when they are wet? If you put them on the fire before the timing is right it will put out the fire. If you wait until the coals of the fire have heated and is ready. Then they will continue to burn. So sometimes you just need to back away until the timing is right and now switching to life... they will come to you when they are ready.

Jody Mohowitsch



Two Wheels for Warriors

By Jean Quenby



Reading about events from Michigan's warm summer months is one thing that helps motorcyclists get through the cold Michigan winters!

One mid-week event had a winning combination. Held at Cornwell's Turkeyville (yum), live music and a great cause!!! Wednesday, August 21st, this charity event was held to benefit Two Wheels for Warriors. I had such a good time! There was GREAT food (as always) at Cornwell's, raffles with GREAT prizes, and LIVE music. All proceeds were to go for a GREAT charity whose mission is to build bikes for disabled veterans.

The event was sponsored by Greg Allen Insurance, Red Arrow Riders, Digger's Speed Shop, Wolverine Mutual and Eaton Corporation during Turkeyville's weekly Bike Night. And, what a successful event . . . there were bikes everywhere. The biker community is so generous and there were so many stories of individuals and groups opening their wallets for a well deserving charity. I heard that a waitress donated all her tips and the 50/50 raffle was also given back! But, this is not unusual for motorcycle events around this state or even this great nation!

If you were unable to attend the event, please consider donating to this wonderful charity. You can contact Brad, at 269-366-8676.



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VA Cards Put Veterans at Risk for Identity Theft

Anyone with a smartphone and a bar code app can scan any VA identification card issued since 2004 and the cardholder's Social Security number immediately pops up on the screen.

Veterans Affairs published warnings about the veteran's information, or VIC, cards on their website in 2011 and in July of this year. The alert states, "Some barcode readers, including those available as applications on cell phones, can scan the bar code on the front of the card, and reveal the veteran's social security number."

A VA spokesperson said they've begun work on the next-generation ID card, which will not contain a Social Security number. However, it's not being rolled out until next year.

Meanwhile, veterans should treat their current ID cards as they do their Social Security card and leave home without it, unless it is needed for a day-of appointment.

Bills to Waive Occupational License Fees

Senate Bills 671 and 672 propose occupational license fees be waived for honorably discharged veterans seeking private employment as security professionals, accountants, builders, barbers, engineers, surveyors, real estate agents and several other occupations.

The bill's build on Public Acts 165-169 of 2013 that allow certain military training and experience of honorably discharged veterans to be counted for purposes of professional licensure as an emergency medical technician, firefighter, boiler operator and stationary engineer, mechanical contractor, and residential builder.

\$30M in Renovations to Saginaw Lutz VA Medical Center

The facility is undergoing a multimillion-dollar overhaul. The work includes everything from a new front entrance to a new heating and air conditioning system. "The infrastructure here at the Saginaw VA, it was old," said George Berg, for the center. The heating, electric and air conditioning projects, completed by 2012, together cost more than \$22 million. The heat system replacement, which made up of \$12.4 million of that total, was funded through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The other two projects were funded through funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Two improvements being made to the facility in Saginaw are the installation of an elevator in the front entry and a covered walkway planned to extend the length of the rear parking lot.

The elevator replaces a wheelchair ramp notoriously difficult to negotiate. VA Medical Center staff expect the front entryway to be unveiled and opened to patients and the general public before the end of the year. Various improvement projects, including an upgraded ambulatory surgical suite and the redone parking area, are either underway or on the horizon.

A series of other projects also were tackled by the team, including a \$3.2 million replacement of the campus' water tower and bulk oxygen storage system. The new tower, in addition to replacing the old tower from the 1950s, nearly doubles the volume of emergency water storage to 250,000 gallons. A \$1.6 million roof replacement project involving two of the buildings at the center is ongoing. A nearly \$600,000 replacement of the sprinkler system in the main building is completed, a necessary step to bring the facility up to current building codes.

A \$52,000 project underway is adding a short walking trail for patients and employees in the northwestern corner of the property. That project is being funded with grant money through the VA Move program.

Next up is a renovation of the center's medical laboratory, expected to start in March 2014 and cost between \$2 million and \$5 million.

Merrill Institute in Alma offers welding course for veterans and the unemployed

The Merrill Institute is offering an American Welding Society accredited training course for veterans and certain unemployed people who live in the Saginaw area.

The 10-week course is open only to residents of the following zip codes: 48601, 48602, 48603, 48604, 48623, 48722, & 48724.

The course starts Feb. 3, running from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, at Merrill Fabricators, in Alma.

Space in the class is limited. Those wanting to be considered must have a high school diploma, an interest in welding and take a basic math assessment, said Tracy Thompkins, director of community services for the Saginaw County Community Action Committee.

For those who qualify, there is no cost to participate in the course, Thompkins said. Funding for the program is possible because of a partnership between the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the Merrill Institute.

Those who successfully complete the course receive a Merrill Institute Certificate of Completion and an American Welding Society Level I Certification, recognized as the premier certification by companies within the welding and manufacturing industry.

Math assessments are scheduled to take place Friday, Jan. 17.

For more information call the Saginaw County Community Action Committee at 989-399-9927.

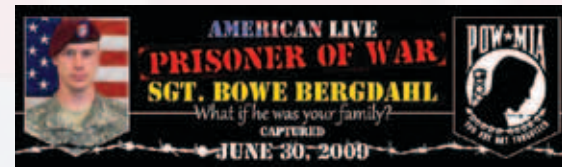
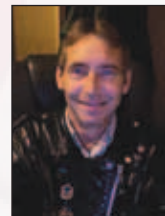
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For Ice Racers, Winter is the Beginning of the Season... Not the End

Most motorcyclists in Michigan, myself included, see the first snowfall as the end of the riding season. We spend the winter reading gear magazines and dreaming about that first nice day in spring when we can get back on our bikes. There is one group of bikers, however, who look forward to the snow and ice almost as much as I look forward to the spring: Michigan's amateur ice racers.

Ice Racing in the Northern United States

The history of ice racing is a little patchy, but according to FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme), the first recorded ice races took place in Sweden back in 1924. Ice racing is similar to Speedway racing, in that races take place on a flat, oval track. Speedway tracks are made of dirt or loose shale, while ice-racing tracks are made of ice and snow. Most ice races take place on outdoor tracks, but there are a few events that take place indoors; Flint Motorcycle Club, for example, holds an annual ice race for charity. Last year's event, held in December 2013, at the Perani Arena and Event Center, raised money for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint. International Championship Events (ICE), runs a circuit of indoor events throughout the first three months of the year.

This February 8th and 9th, Mitchell State Park in Cadillac, Michigan, will host the AMA Ice Race Grand Championship. This outdoor event kicks off the 2014 ice-racing season and will crown the first national champion of the year. The Ice Race Grand Championship features a variety of race classes and events for riders as young as four years old. The outdoor ice-racing season tends to be short due to the unpredictable weather in the northern states. Races are generally scheduled through January and February, in order to ensure low enough temperatures to maintain good ice conditions.

Bikes on Ice

There are a number of different categories of bikes used in ice racing, from lightly modified off-road bikes to bikes designed specifically for ice racing. In addition to two-wheeled motorcycles, there are events for bikes with sidecars, quads, mini bikes, and even karts.

Obviously, traction is a problem when you are racing on ice, and ice racing has evolved to deal with that challenge in different ways. In the early days, one of the ways that racers helped themselves stay vertical was with the addition of metal spikes or studs to their tires. Today, ice-racing equipment is a little more sophisticated and highly regulated in order to ensure a level playing field for all racers. For example, the AMA's 2014 rulebook is very specific about the type, size, and material used for tire studs for ice racers: "Studs must be sheet metal screws between sizes #7 and #10, with a hexagonal head and one screwdriver slot." Fenders are required in events with studded-tires, and bikes must have a kill switch on a tether attached to the racer's body (not their clothing), to turn off the bike in case of a spill. In studded-tire classes, riders are not allowed to wear traction-enhancing devices on their clothing or boots. Front brakes are not permitted on ice racing motorcycles or sidecars.

Ice racers have a distinct riding style that is different from other racing styles. Riders in studded-tire classes cannot slide or drift through the corners like racers on more traditional courses can. However, the studs allow riders to lean their bikes at what should be impossible angles, until their handlebars nearly skim the track as they move through corners. I know this technique takes a lot of guts, and I bet it takes a lot of practice too; going down, even with a hay bale barrier to stop your slide, is never fun.

Not for the Faint of Heart

Ice racing is a wild ride that embraces the skills of the hardest riders. Racing in the freezing cold on a slab of slipperiness you would normally avoid at all costs seems crazy. I have to admire and respect the guys and gals who get out there and race on ice during the coldest months of the year, as well as the fans who go out to watch these events. I have to believe the sheer physicality of these racers and the adrenaline rush they get from a race keeps them from feeling cold. I know I'd love a longer Michigan motorcycle-riding season, but the idea of riding in sub-zero temperatures chills me to the bone. I guess you could rent a bike if you are travelling to warmer climates to tide you over, but if not, enjoy the off-season!

Source(s):

American Motorcyclist Association
Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme
Wikipedia
Flint Motorcycle Club
International Championship Events

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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A woman meets a gorgeous man in a bar. They talk, they connect, they end up leaving together. They get back to his place, and as he shows her around his apartment, she notices that his bedroom is completely packed with sweet cuddly teddy bears. Hundreds of cute bears up on (3) shelves, cute, little ones all the way along the floor, cuddly medium-sized ones on a shelf a little higher, and huge enormous bears on the top shelf along the wall. The woman is surprised that this guy would have a collection of teddy bears, especially one that's so extensive, but she decides not to mention this to him, and actually is quite impressed by his sensitive side. She turns to him... they kiss... and then they rip each other's clothes off and make hot steamy love. After an intense night of passion with this sensitive guy, they are lying there together in the afterglow, the woman rolls over and asks, smiling, "Well, how was it?" The guy says, "Help yourself to any prize from the bottom shelf."

A young mother, accompanied by her small daughter, was in New York City. The mother was trying to hail a cab when her daughter noticed several women, scantily dressed, which were loitering on a nearby street corner. The mother finally hailed her cab and they both climbed in, at which point the young daughter asked her mother, "Mommy, what are all those ladies waiting for by that corner?" The mother replied, "Those ladies are waiting for their husbands to come by and pick them up on the way home from work." The cabbie, upon hearing the exchange, turned to the mother and said, "Ah, c'mon lady! Tell your daughter the truth! For crying out loud ~ they're hookers!" A brief period of silence followed, and then the daughter asked, "Mommy, do the hooker ladies have any children?" The mother replied, "Of course, Dear, where do you think cab drivers come from?"

Three Bikers, a Honda Rider, a BMW Rider and a Harley Rider were sitting in a sauna. Suddenly, there was a continuing beeping sound. The Honda Rider pressed his forearm and the beeping stopped. The others looked at him inquiringly. That was my pager, "he said, "I have a micro-chip under the skin of my arm." A few minutes later a phone rang. The BMW Rider fellow lifted his palm to his ear. When he finished he explained, "That was my mobile phone. I have a micro-chip in my hand." The Harley felt decidedly low tech, but not to be out done he decided he had to do something just as impressive. He returned with a piece of toilet paper hanging from his ass.

The others raised their eyebrows and stared at him. The Harley Rider finally declared..."Well, will you look at that, I'm getting a fax."

Three guys were sitting in a bar. After a sip of his martini, one young professional says; "You know, tomorrow is my anniversary. I got my wife a diamond ring, and a new Mercedes. I figure that if she doesn't like the ring, she will at least like the Mercedes, and know that I love her."

After finishing his scotch, the older guy says; "Well, my past anniversary I got my wife a string of pearls and also a trip to the Bahamas. I figured if she didn't like the pearls, she would at least like the trip, and know that I love her."

The older biker downs his shot of Jack Daniel's and says; " Yeah, well for my anniversary I got my old lady a tee-shirt and a vibrator. I figured if she didn't like the tee shirt, she could always go screw herself."

Two factory workers were talking . . . a guy and a blonde. "I know how to get some time off from work." said the man. "How do you think you will do that?" asked the blonde. He proceeded to show her...by climbing up to the rafters, and hanging upside down. The boss walked in, saw the worker hanging from the ceiling, and asked him what on earth he was doing? "I'm a light bulb" answered the guy. "I think you need some time off," said the boss. So, the man jumped down and walked out of the factory. The blonde began walking out too. The boss asked her where she thought she was going? "Home. I certainly can't work in the dark".

A man and woman were having marital problems so they went to see a marriage counselor. The counselor, in an attempt to find some common ground from which to begin his analysis said, "Tell me about any-thing the two of you have in common." The husband spoke up first and said, "Well, let's see.....for starters, neither one of us sucks dicks." * Reminds me of that tee-shirt.... Sick My Duck!

For all those men who believe that there's no reason to buy the cow when you can get the milk for free, well nowadays 99% of women are against marriage, as they have wised up to the fact that for 8 oz. of sausage, it's not worth buying the entire PIG!



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HOT RODS & HARLEYS 2013



by Kirk Quenby



Every year there is something to do for everyone at Eaton County's Largest Street Party: Hot Rods and Harleys. The 10th Annual event was no exception. There were toy tractor pulls and a water balloon toss for the kids, and a barrel push, hot dog grab and my favorite, the old lady carrying a pitcher of beer over her old man's head (through an obstacle course no less) for the bigger kids!! Every time I go to this event I have a great time and it is a DO NOT MISS for 2014!

And, like the name says there are LOTS of hot rods and LOTS of motorcycles lining the streets, hoping to win one of Tony Jackson's beautiful custom trophies! This event was supported by everyone within this small village of Mullikan, including the firehouse which had a BBQ, the church bake sale and the restaurant and bars all pitched in, too. There was even a sidewalk sale with special deals and a swap meet. Everything possible to welcoming Michigan Bikers!!

There are some of Michigan's own bike building celeb's joining in on the party, including the Chopin-Block crew. Plus, the beer tent and the live music are always a huge success.

ALWAYS FREE (for vendors and attendees) ALWAYS FUN and ALWAYS in AUGUST!!

See you there!



THUNDER ROADS FACTORY FEATURE

SLEDS ~ LET IT SNOW!

What do a lot of Michigan bikers do in the wintertime? Oh yea, ride sleds! So it makes perfect sense to take this opportunity in a cold and snowy January to share with you just a few of the many snowmobiles that are currently available. That way if you typically hibernate during the winter here is one way you can get out there and make the best of this season and have some fun! Looking to purchase a sled, motorcycle or gear? Make sure to check out all the advertisers in this issue!

Thank you Steve Allie for your assistance with this month's factory feature on sleds.

YAMAHA Apex XTX

Top Performance 4-cylinder Genesis 4-Stroke engine

The Top Performance 4-cylinder Genesis engine remains the best combination of pure power and rock-solid reliability. Throw in excellent fuel efficiency, low emissions, and no need for pre-mix oil and it's easy to see why the Yamaha 4-cylinder Genesis is the most complete engine on snow.

15 x 144 x 1.25-inch Rip Saw™ track

The Camoplast® Rip Saw track™ is a standard feature on the Apex XTX. It has been widely acclaimed in the industry as the best all-around OEM track for acceleration, cornering bite and everyday trail usage.

New! Tuner Dual-Keel ski

The Tuner dual-keel ski greatly contributes to the Apex XTX's aggressive trail character. The dual keels keep the ski tracking straight and true down the trail, eliminating nosiness and darting. Each keel has its own wearbar, and Yamaha has four different bar configurations to choose from, which means you



can tune your sled's cornering bite and steering effort to suit your personal preference.

Dual Shock CK 144

The Dual Shock CK 144 rear suspension is the culmination of many years of development and testing. In order to be the ultimate top performance cross country snowmobile, the Apex XTX needed to have cornering like a 121-inch trail sled, bump bridging like a 136-inch sled and the flotation of a 144-inch sled. The solution is the aggressive 6-degree rear tip-up on the rails, which gives the sled the footprint of a short track model on hardpack and the footprint of a long track model in fresh snow. The coupled design delivers excellent comfort and bump absorption over a wide variety of trail conditions.

New! Graphic packages

The Apex XTX comes in two new graphic packages; Yamaha Blue as well as Heat Red.

ARCTIC CAT XF 8000 Cross Tour

8000 2-Stroke Engine

The 8000, 794cc, liquid-cooled 2-stroke engine produces 160+ HP. It features a lightweight crankshaft, batteryless EFI, APV electronic exhaust valves, Exhaust Pipe Temperature System and weight-saving engine-reverse technology.

FasTrack® Rear Suspension w/141" Track

This springless 141-in. FOX FLOAT 2 air shock rear suspension reduces snow buildup weight while providing a full range of pressure/tuning options.

ProCross™ Chassis

The ProCross chassis utilizes a triangulated upper-spar assembly which provides incredible strength and reduced weight. Combining an inner- and outer-formed shell with boxed support structure to



make up the two-piece tunnel gives additional strength and weight savings. Put it all together and you get one amazing chassis.

1.352 in. Cobra Track

The Cobra track's cupped lug design delivers superior handling, acceleration and braking in loose snow conditions. Its "traction teeth" add extra grip on hard-packed surfaces. The 1.352 in. paddles provide that extra traction needed in the deeper stuff.

POLARIS 800 Switchback

800 Cleanfire® Engine

This liquid-cooled Cleanfire® engine with semi-direct injection (SDI) deliver outstanding throttle response and instant acceleration. These powerful, efficient engines produce the impressive power-to-weight ratios that deep snow riders demand. Cleanfire® engines start easily and reliably and they calibrate automatically as the temperature and elevation change. These engines deliver impressive fuel economy in real-world riding situations, which, for Polaris riders, means aggressive, up-tempo riding, not low-rev lab conditions

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SKI-DOO Renegade E-Tec 800R Backcountry

ROTAX E-TEC 800R ENGINE

This revolutionary direct-injection two-stroke features a stunning combination of 163.9 hp*, up to 19 mpg (12.3 L/100 km) and up to 30% less oil consumption than the PowerT.E.K. 800R.

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* Result based on independent third-party dyno test

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rMotion Rear Suspension

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THUNDER ROADS PUBLISHER OF THE YEAR 2013 is.....

DEREK SMITH, Publisher/State Editor
Owner of THUNDER ROADS OHIO

Congratulations, Derek. You've damn sure earned it. Derek's magazine has not been under 100 pages for 18 months now. And he sells all ads himself, which to me is amazing until someone told me he's been selling since he was like 10 years old. That's not been officially confirmed, but it totally makes sense. But this Award is not just about his ad sales or his page count, it's about the fact that Derek has taken time from his own busy schedule to try and help states that are experiencing difficult times and dig in his boot heels and either drive to their state to help them or give them proven methods of marketing hook-ups that help supplement ad revenue. He cares about the success of each state edition as he "gets it" that in the overall picture, one state's actions reflect upon all of us. So, with that and much more.....CONGRATULATIONS, DEREK. You work hard, you play harder, and you damn sure are a phenomenal sales man with a striking magazine each and every month. Respectfully, Toni Girl and Brian Bear, National Founders, Thunder Roads Magazine® * WAY TO GO, DEREK! We'd say the first round's on us, but we've seen your circle of friends and our credit card would be maxed out in 5 minutes. Have fun, have a shot and shout out.....
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Tech Tips By Steve

YOU ARE NOT TOO LATE!

WINTER STORAGE ... Yeah, gives me the chills too!

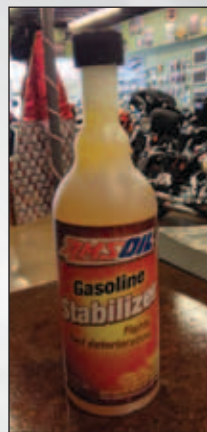


Well, well... it is COLD out there! I hope you all had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year ... with all that holiday cheer did you forget one of your best friends? Did you ride the darn thing and put her up without the proper storage steps? Not to worry, it's not too late, you can still get it all done in the chilly weather and make sure your mighty friend is ready for the pending spring thaw!

A place to sleep, inside heated storage is best; use a commercial storage facility, an independent shop or dealership may offer this service. Yup, we do that here at Golgotha Performance Cycles, heck we will even come pick it up for ya! If that's not an option, the next best place is an unheated garage or shed. No shed, then find an old piece of plywood, some towels and a good tarp ... roll the bike on the wood, cover the paint with towels and tighten the tarp down well with bungee cords or rope so the wind does not slap the tarp around and ruin your paint.

Precious petroleum and a clean body, if you did not get a chance to give your ride a good ole wash before you put her up at least try some of the spray detailers and get those bugs off, the acid can do a real number on your paint and windshield if you have one. Lube the chain (if so equipped) and cables, and check your tires for wear and inflate them to the proper pressure. Petroleum purge ... it is best to change the oil before you store it for the winter, the dirty oil contains contaminants that can increase corrosion, leading to premature engine wear. Start by firing up the engine and let it run for several minutes to get everything up to operating temperature. Then, drain the old oil, replace the oil filter and refill the engine with some nice sparkling new oil of your choice, we prefer Schaefer's lubricants and Amsoil. If you have a bike that has a separate transmission and primary drive, it may be a good time to replace that fluid also.

Today's fuel is the worst so you will need to add fuel stabilizer. Add stabilizer like the Amsoil fuel stabilizer according to the instructions on the bottle, and then wiggle the bike around mixing it up a little, start the engine. Let it run long enough so the stabilizer can work its way through the fuel system and get into small parts and passageways. You can buy fuel stabilizer from your local independent motorcycle shop, auto store, or the big department stores that have an auto section.



Proper coverage needed for that lady of yours! Plastic tarps trap moisture and can scratch paint; this can increase corrosion/rust on chrome and painted surfaces where you can see it and inside mechanical parts where you can't. A wise investment is a good soft/breathable cover designed for your motorcycle. Check with your local shop there are a few types to pick from. I like the Geza covers, they have a stretch fit, and you can tow the bike with 110mph wind gusts with their pro-extreme series, I know crazy, huh?

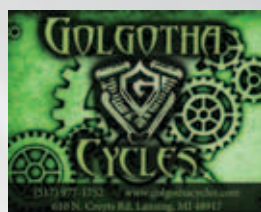


Be amped up all the time! Your battery will last many years if it's kept charged, don't overdo it though, make sure you use a good battery maintainer (tender) not a charger per say. Overcharging will not only kill a battery, it can boil the fluid inside that could get onto your bike, or worse case scenario it could cause it to overheat and lead to an explosion. Good maintainers start around \$35 bucks like the "Genius" or "Battery Tender" brand chargers ... buy the good stuff and you only buy it once, brothers and sisters!

Remember warm weather will be here very soon, yes I am an optimist, so start saving some cash for those new tires, wear items and upgrades! Be well my great friends, God Bless you!

Steve

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Biker Preacher's Corner

What plans do you have for the New Year? Many people make New Year's Resolutions and plans to make needed changes in their lives. Resolutions to eat better, or quit smoking or get a new job, and a common one is to get a gym membership and start working out. Heck, I've got one of those - I just need to use the membership that I pay for each month!

But, did you know that God, your creator and lover of your soul, has a plan for you? Ya see, each and every person on this planet that is still suckin' air has a God given call on their lives - there are no losers in His eyes. **Jeremiah 29:11 says 1 For I know the plans I have for you" —this is the LORD's declaration—"plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.**

You were not put here to flounder and aimlessly wonder through life trying to fill that empty hole in your soul with 'things'. God created you to know Him and be known by Him! He has great and amazing plans for you and your life. Not to harm you or thump you over the head like some people say - but to forgive you and bless you! He has what you are really looking for... hope, peace, love and joy. These only come through being in a relationship (not religion) with God Almighty through His Son, Jesus Christ. He bought and paid for your "all access pass" to God with His own blood!

Jesus said in John 14:6 ...**"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."**

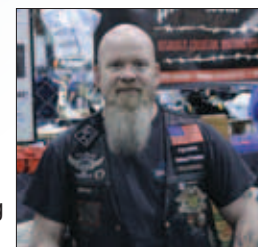
So many times, we human beings, try to make our own way to God by self-help stuff, self-medication and or getting involved in false religions that just leads to more and more emptiness, regret and guilt. The fact still remains the same - we can't earn our way to God! He was the only one that could - so God, in His infinite love, grace and mercy, for us, made the "Way" and that way is, Jesus!

If you would like to get in on God's plan for you, know what I know and experience these things I write about each month; ask Christ Jesus into your heart today and make Him the Lord of your Life. I'm telling you - you will never regret it!! He wants to bless you and have wonderful relationship with you (yes YOU) individually and He made the first move by paying your sin debt - the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ.

God loves you and so do I!!

Much Love & Respect,

Apostle Brian "BMAN" McKay
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Inspiration
Love life and life will love you back. Love people and they will love you back. ~ Arthur Rubinstein

Hurt people hurt people. That's how pain patterns get passed on, generation after generation after generation. Break the chain today. Meet anger with sympathy, contempt with compassion, cruelty with kindness. Greet grimaces with smiles. Forgive and forget about finding fault. Love is the weapon of the future. ~ Yehuda Berg

People were created to be loved. Things were created to be used. The reason why the world is in chaos is because things are being loved and people are being used. ~ Unknown

Riddles

A. What kind of rocks does Frankenstein have in his collection?
B. I run too fast.
C. A blue house is made of blue bricks. A yellow house is made of yellow bricks. A red house is made of red bricks. And orange house is made of orange bricks. What would a greenhouse be made of?
D. What has roots that nobody sees, is taller than trees. Up, up it goes. And yet never grows?

(Answers below)

Fun Facts

Every person has a unique tongue print.
Even if you cut off a cockroach's head, it can live for several weeks.
Non-dairy creamer is flammable.
Murphy's Oil Soap is the chemical most commonly used to clean elephants.

Biker Poems

With a scowl on his face, a friend challenges a race. Well, I know all the while, he'll win by a mile, but I take up the chase as he sets the pace. Still can't help but smile, knees in the breeze and those good memories easily pleased. Playin' in the Road.
~ Two Wheels Fred

Answers: A.) Tomstones B.) A Mountain C.) Glass D.) A Mountain

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The seminar will be an information-packed weekend of education, entertainment, and more fun than you can shake a stick at. Guest speakers from all over the country will be there. Including leaders from the largest motorcycle rights organizations in the USA! Hundreds of organization members will be there to share their experience and wisdom with you!

The facilities are outstanding and the Conference Center staff is set to provide the best services we have ever had for our 39 year history of doing this annual seminar. After a pleasant, option filled day of engaging in a variety of subject matter related to the biker lifestyle the excitement really begins to flow. Music, and camaraderie of the sort only bikers share will emanate through the pool area until the wee morning hours. Great contests, raffles, and dancing in addition to some mild cocktail consumption will fill the nights.

Remember, no experience is necessary! You do not even have to own a motorcycle, and if you do, there is no preference as to what make, model, or style you ride. All that's required is enthusiasm, and an interest in maintaining the God-given, constitutionally protected rights of all citizens of this state and country. Our highly successful organization has enjoyed the services of a multitude of the best and brightest bikers in Michigan for half a century. Come and join us at the seminar, and see if we are right for you!



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IRON COWBOY

Bullet Points

SIX TIPS FOR CHOOSING THE RIGHT CONCEALED CARRY SYSTEM

COURTESY OF Lee Williams ~ HERALD-TRIBUNE

Professionals who carry a firearm every day know that when it comes to concealing a pistol: simple is better, comfort is great and security is everything.

Also, the latest gimmick or concealment fad is probably a waste of money.

Here are some tips to help you find the right way to conceal your firearm safely and securely while still allowing quick access:

1. The best way to carry a concealed weapon is on your strong side, in a secure holster affixed to a quality belt, concealed under a shirt, jacket or suit coat. If you live in the northern climes or wear a suit often, your concealed carry concerns are solved. The rest of us have to rely on a shirt. There are dozens of models of concealed carry shirts on the market, designed with Velcro seams that break free and allow quick access to your pistol. The problem is, they're expensive. I've always found it much easier to buy a shirt one-size larger, which usually offers enough room for a medium-framed automatic for most people, or a larger frame pistol or BAR for us XXL-ers.
2. Pocket carry is a good option, but only with a pocket holster. My pockets are usually full of lint and bits of tobacco - neither of which improves a weapons function. A pocket holster keeps your pistol clean, but it also keeps it properly oriented, allowing a smoother, more reliable draw stroke.
3. Avoid garments with built in holsters. There are t-shirt holsters, underwear holsters, and non-bullet-resistant vests with holsters incorporated into the design. These are great if you don't sweat. If you do, you'll need to wash the garment often, which significantly degrades the holster's retention properties.



4. Avoid gimmicks. People have been carrying handguns for more than 300 years. Strapping on a pistol is really not that complicated a process, so every time I hear of a new holster system, I get skeptical. The explosion of concealed-carry permits across the country has given rise to some rather unique concealment options, some of questionable utility. Some of the new concealment gadgets defy description - such as the man-bra-holster, or the concealed carry jock - one that looks like a girdle.



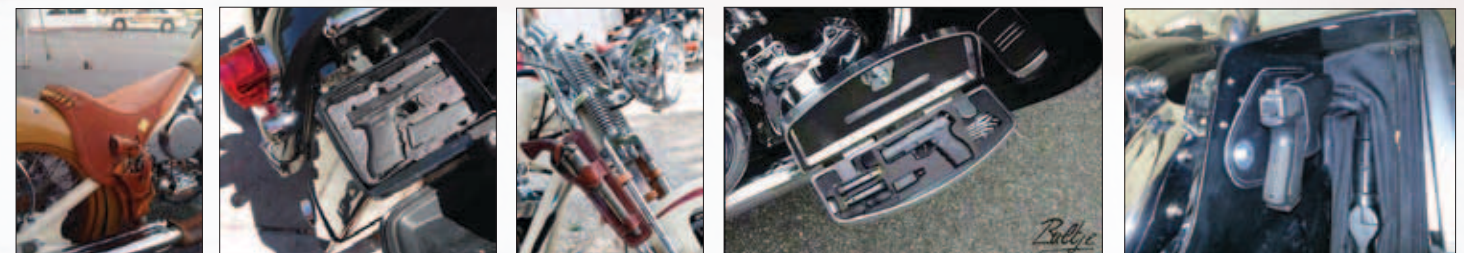
5. Avoid concealed-carry handbags and fanny packs. What's the first thing a robber is going to snatch from a woman - her purse. There goes her money, keys, ID and pistol. There is a cottage industry being created to manufacture designer CCW purses. However, these are not safe. Even if the robber isn't successful at yanking the purse away on the first attempt, it will be difficult to draw a pistol while engaged in a tug-of-war. As to fanny packs, here in Sarasota a fanny pack screams one thing - TOURIST! The bad guys know they are chock-full of cash and credit cards. If they snatch one containing a pistol, it's an added bonus.



6. Avoid tactical garments. To a bad guy, someone dressed in BDU pants, desert boots, a tactical vest and a tactical shirt sends one message - shoot me first. I am guilty of violating this self-defense tenet. My wife says my closet is starting to look like that Big and Tall rack at an Army-Navy store. In my own defense, many of these garments come with very handy concealment options. The best solution is not to wear all of them at once.

For more info go to: thegunwriter.blogs.heraltribune.com

Different Ways to conceal on a Motorcycle (not practical in all states):



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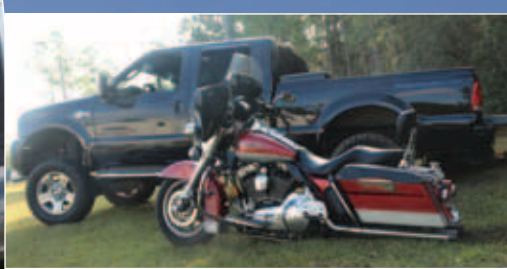


by Debra Wright

Friday, October 11th before the event we, Bud and myself decided to pack up and hit the road heading to Daytona, Florida for the four day party at Biketoberfest. This was the first time I had ever done a one day pack and go and a first time for Biketoberfest. We arrived in Florida on Monday, October 14, weather in the 80s, clear and sunny.

We set up camp at The Cackleberry Campground, home of the Big Rooster in New Smyrna across the road from The Cabbage Patch Bar, well known for one of the hot spots during Biketoberfest. You know, the one that has the girls' coleslaw wrestling. After meeting Ron and Jen (owners of Cackleberry), and spending some time with them I have to tell you they are wonderful people and have a nice family of four kids. They set up the campers with ease and had the accommodations needed for us, with clean bathrooms and showers 24/7. The rates were perfect and it was only a 15 minute drive to the beginning of Biketoberfest. There was a lunch on Thursday for the campers to meet and greet. They hosted a poker run around the area to local bars. This is a must stay spot if you're looking for a camping area with full hookups if needed. Lots of spots and well maintained all year around, just close enough from the events and the ocean.

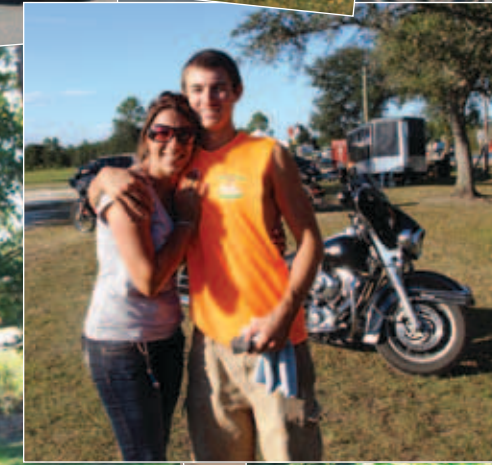
Bud and I mounted up and took a ride to explore all the areas before the riders rolled in. Main Street, Beach Street and Bethune Boulevard in Daytona Beach, Bruce Rossmeier's Destination Daytona, J & P Cycle and Iron Horse



Saloon in Ormond Beach, Sopotnick's Cabbage Patch Bar in Samsula, State Road A1A in Flagler Beach, Broken Spoke Saloon, The Flea Market and of course, the Daytona International Speedway. Each place had an area for vendors, food, live bands and bike shows with lots of parking with easy entry and escape. The orange vests that helped you in and out really had this down to a science. With thousands of bikers, I can say the traffic flowed and you were not hung up for that long in a hot spot.

Thursday, October 17th the party began everywhere! The weather was still in the 80's by day and 60's by night. Having the water close by, riding, you felt a cool breeze that was great to ride in. This was repeated for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Friday and Saturday nights we got to enjoy the music by Geneva at Broken Spoke, David Allen Coe at Iron Horse Saloon and ran into Hog Wild leather goods set up at the flea market area as well. Even the churches and the locals were getting in on the benefits with garage sales. You name it, you saw it!!

It was said that the attendance was down but from what we saw and experienced it was packed! The atmosphere was upbeat and we met many riders from all over, some of them native to Michigan but now living in Florida. We did a couple of double takes when we came across many pets, reptiles, (snakes - big ones), farm animals (miniature horse and a camel) and wild ones (Kudamonday). Not to mention all the costumes riders were in going down Main Street. This is a must attend event in my opinion. A perfect time of year to visit the state of Florida!!



TRM EVENTS CALENDAR 2014

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

JANUARY

January 3-5
Michigan Progressive International Motorcycle Show
Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi, MI. Fri 3pm- 8 pm, Sat 10 am- 8 pm, Sun 10 am- 5 pm. For more info go to www.motorcycleshows.com/novi (See cover & full page ad this issue page 10)

January 11
3rd Annual Hasting (MI) Motorcycle Swap Meet
Barry County Expo Center 1350 N M 37 Hwy Hastings, MI. Buy-Sell-Trade, Bikes, Parts Leather, Food, Beer. Admis. \$6 per adult/ children 12 & under FREE. 10 am - 4 pm. For more info call 1-800-800-6034 or go to www.hastingsmotorcycleswap.com (See ad this issue).

January 11-12
26th Annual Michigan Motorcycle Show
Birch Run Expo Center, Birch Run, MI. For more info go to mibike-show.com (See ad this issue)

January 17-19
30th Annual Chicago Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet
Pheasant Run Resort & Convention Center. For more info go to www.paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

January 25
Support for Loreen Wickens Benefit Diamondbacks M.C. 7037 Windsor Hwy, Pottsville, MI. Starts at 4pm, door donations \$10 each or \$15 couple. Live Band- SRP performing,

taco, chili buffet, many auctions, 50/50 & cash bar. For more info contact Sandi 517-652-1797 or Angela 517-230-2180.

January 25
Chili Cook-Off & Blood Drive
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. Chili Cook-Off 12-2 pm and Blood Drive 9 am - 2 pm. For more info go to capitolhd.com or call 517-646-2345

January 26
Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet
Lansing Center, Lansing, MI. 11 am-4 pm. \$9 Adults, \$2 kids. For more info go to motorcycleswap.com (See ad this issue).

FEBRUARY

February 2
30th Peotone (IL) Motorcycle Show & Parts Expo (Indoor Event)
Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. 10 AM until 4 PM. \$7 per adult, Early Birds Admis \$10 per adult from 7-10 AM only Buy-Sell-Trade, Bikes, Parts Leather, Food, Beer. For more info go to www.paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

February 8-9
Easyriders National Invitational Finals
Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. For more info go to www.easyriderevents.com (See ad this issue).

February 16
Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet
Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi, MI. For more info go to motorcycleswap.com (See ad this issue).

February 21-23
Motorcycle Swap Meet & Expo
Gibraltar Trade Center, Taylor, MI. \$2 parking, \$7 admiss, 12 & under free. For more info go to www.gibraltartrade.com

February 22
Salsa Showdown
Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. Salsa Showdown 11 am - 2 pm. People's Choice Best Salsa. Donation to taste. For more info go to capitolhd.com or call 517-646-2345

February 23
Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet
Perani Area, Flint, MI. For more info go to motorcycleswap.com (See ad this issue).

February 27
One and Only Bike Night of the Year
Stevens' Cycle Sales, Bay City, MI. 4 pm- 7 pm. Buy It Now pricing, music, food, giveaways. It don't get any better than this. DJ Impact Sound. For more info go to www.stevenscycle.com or call 989-684-9872

MARCH

March 16
41st Annual Kalamazoo (MI) Motorcycle Swap Meet & Parts Expo
Wings Stadium, Kalamazoo, MI. 10 AM - 4 PM \$9 per adult, Buy-Sell-Trade, Bikes, Parts Leather, Food, Beer. For more info, call 1-800-800-6034 or go to www.kalamazooswap.com www.paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

March 22-23
Custom Motorcycle Show & Expo
Gibraltar Trade Center, Mt. Clemens, MI. For more info go to www.gibraltartrade.com

APRIL

April 19
11th Annual Cadillac (MI) Motorcycle Swap Meet & Parts Expo in the Wexford County Civic Center, Cadillac, MI. 10 AM - 4 PM \$6 per adult and for children 12 and under are FREE. Buy-Sell-Trade, Bikes, Parts Leather, Food, Beer. For more information, please call 1-800-800-

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

April 27
Blessing of the Bikes
Gibraltar Trade Center, Mt. Clemens, MI. For more info go to www.gibraltartrade.com

MAY

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

May 10
14th Annual Jackson Blessing of the Bikes
1st Church of the Nazarene, Jackson, MI. Start time is Noon, with the Blessing Service at 1:30 PM. Door Prizes, Food, Donation Drawing, Music, Ride-In Bike Show (\$5 to enter), Michigan Veterans Traveling Wall on display. ALL bikes, bikers, clubs, and general public invited. NO attitudes or alcohol allowed. Questions, call Gary at 517-531-3481

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
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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