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NOVEMBER 2014 Volume 12 Issue 1

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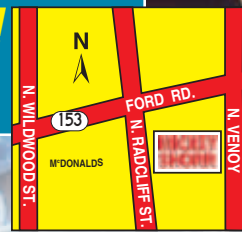
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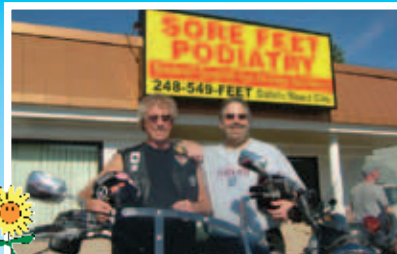
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Honor, Respect and Gratitude!

What are you grateful for? This month we have two very important holidays; Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. Everyday should be Veteran's Day. If it wasn't for those that have served our great country and for those that currently serve we would live in a whole different world. There are so many things to be grateful for like family, friends and the simple things that many of us take for granted every day. I have been thinking a lot about those that are no longer in my life and how I miss them, but that is all a part of life. We are here to do whatever it is we are supposed to do and hopefully make a difference. When you think about the things you are grateful for are they sentimental, irreplaceable and intangible or are they material? It's great to have "things", but just remember you can't take them with you when you go, make sure you appreciate and focus on the things in your life that are irreplaceable.

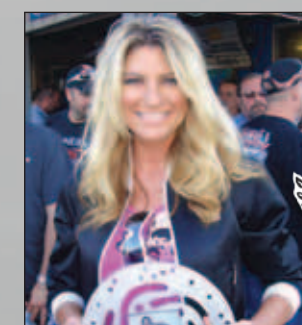
It was a great honor to meet and talk with "The General," he is on the cover this month. He is a WWII veteran, avid motorcyclist and one of the funniest people you ever met! In this issue we have some wonderful stories and photos in honor of our veterans. I hope you enjoy them and remember to tell a veteran thank you for your service! We also have a special feature on the infamous Ron Finch's custom bike "Girls Ride II," a bike he built for his daughter. Also, we have part II of tech tips by Steve following up on the amazing new blower by KraftWerks.

The Thunder Run Ride n' Win Contest is wrapping up as well. Please see the winners from the October Stops Schedule in this issue and hold onto your Ride Cards as we may be doing some random prizes throughout the winter. Thank you to all that participated. We look forward to next year's contest and of course the riding season!

Thank you to our fine advertisers for their support and for making Thunder Roads Michigan the #1 Free Motorcycle Magazine in the state. Please be sure to patronize our advertisers when you are looking for any biker friendly business.

Last month the Biker Friendly character was on page 48, on Corey Miller's glove. See if you can find him this month (larger version found in the Biker Friendly Directory). Be sure to like Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan on Facebook to stay up to date with the latest happenings or maybe even see if your Ride Card is the winner of a prize this winter!

Now for some "Mo" Advice:
You can change it all right now by using gratitude in your life. Any areas in your life that are not abundant & wonderful are due to a lack of gratitude. To receive you must give. Gratitude is giving thanks. Practice gratitude in your everyday life and watch your life transform.



Jody Mohowitsch

MICHIGAN



WORLD WAR II: FROM NORMANDY TO GERMANY

BY PLATOON SGT. BERTON PEEPERS, RETIRED

I landed on Omaha Beach June 10th 1944 at day break. I got on LST (Landing Ship Tank) at South Hampton, England and arrived off Omaha Beach after midnight. A short time later, I drove off LST onto a barge and sat there until daybreak. The call came over the loud speaker from the LST for number "26" GO. So I drove the armored car off the barge onto the English Channel. All I could see for a couple minutes was water through my periscope. It sure felt good to get on that beach!

Just a little water splashed in over the turret. MP's hurried us off the beach and up a road. They bulldozed alongside that cliff. As soon as I got to the nearest field I pulled in and dewater proofed my armored car. I'm pretty sure that field today is the cemetery that you see on TV and in all the history books.

A week before "D" Day they took me off my motorcycle and gave me the armored car and I was supposed to drive an officer. He never rode with me though. The first sergeant was supposed to ride with me also. None of them liked the armored car. They liked the Jeep better so I had the armored car all for myself and ended up mostly running errands throughout the area.

While we were in Normandy my First Sergeant got a case of whiskey out of one of the big German pill boxes we had taken out and told me to put it in the tool box of the armored car. I said, "What am I to do with the tools?" He said that was my problem. So I put the tools on the back of the armored car on the top of the motor. I got a case of good white wine out of the pill box and put it in the other tool box that had tire chains in it. So I put those on the back of the armored car with the tools.

Then on July 20th I happened to be in the area when a tank crew was ambushed by a German patrol while they were outside their tank. An officer came through and quickly grabbed men to

replace those lost on the crew. He pointed to several and told them that they were now on the tank crew and then he looked at me – "Peepers – you're tank commander." I didn't really know anything about tanks, but I was there. I lost my armored car and got a tank instead. Later I realized that I forgot all about the wine in the armored car in the excitement of them making me tank commander. I'd only gotten to drink about half a bottle and never saw any of it again.

On July 23rd I got a call on my tank radio to pull back about 200 yards because 1800 bombers were coming over to bomb Germans. It was called Operation Cobra. It clouded up so they cancelled the bombing and called me on my tank radio to move back to my old position. As I went into the hedge row opening a sniper had my head in his sights. The bullet hit about 3 or 4 inches on the outside of the turret. I yelled to the driver to kick it in the ass and get the hell out of there. Our turrets were open on the top, not like a regular tank that had a hatch.

July 25th I got the same order to pull back 200 yards because the bombers were coming. My Platoon Sergeant said, "Get out of the tank and let's watch the big show!" The first waves dropped their bombs on the Germans, but the wind was blowing all that smoke and dust across our men. The next wave started dropping on the smoke and dust. My Platoon Sergeant and I were standing next to a French house. The ground started shaking and the red tile on the French house was falling around us. I looked up at the bombers and I could see the bombs coming out of the planes and they were coming straight down on me! My Sergeant yelled, "Get back in your tank and pull back!" As I was running to my tank, he yelled, "The hell with your tank, run for your life, run for your life!" I think I was the fastest retreating soldier in the army that day.

**"THE HELL WITH YOUR
TANK, RUN FOR YOUR LIFE,
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!"
I THINK I WAS THE FASTEST
RETREATING SOLDIER IN
THE ARMY THAT DAY.**



A piper cub from the 9th division was observing for their artillery and he saw all of us running to the rear and swathe bombers dropping their bombs on our troops and called them on his radio and got them back on target. I would say in about 15 minutes or less we lost 93 dead and 600 wounded from the 9th division. After the bombing stopped then it was big division artillery on the Germans. When that was over, we broke out of those hedge rows into the French country side. I was the first into Belgium and one of the first in Germany.

That lasted for about 4 months and they made me Platoon Sergeant. Next was the Battle of Hurtgen Forest then the Battle of Bulge and next, Remagan Bridge. Another big story...

About a week before the end of the war I had heard they put me in for Platoon Leader Second Lieutenant. The war was over May 19, 1945. May 29th I was on my way home and was discharged June 21, 1945.

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VETERANS CORNER



Greetings Veterans! Not much in the way of legislation to learn about. The law makers have been quiet gearing up for elections. Of note this month is a new help line and a unique funeral.

Mich. veteran's agency launches 24-hour help call line

Michigan launched a help line military veterans can call at any time to get help about their government benefits and services.

The Veteran Resource Service Center is a partnership between the state Veterans Affairs Agency and the United Way's 211 phone system. Veterans who want help navigating government agencies can call (800) MICH-VET during business hours and 211 after hours and on the weekends.

"We're going to get you to the right place, the right way and we're going to get you those services you deserve," Gov. Rick Snyder said while announcing the initiative at the Veterans Affairs Agency in Lansing.

The governor created the veterans affairs office last year because Michigan ranked last among the states in federal money spent per person on services provided through the U.S. Veterans Administration — medical treatment, pensions, schooling, disability compensation and employment help. The phone lines are designed to complement a website.

Suzanne Thelen, communications and veteran engagement director for the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, said the call center was "soft" launched in July and has received more than 2,000 calls. About 30 veterans on average have been helped per day.

Thirty-eight percent of calls involved Michigan's driver's license designation for veterans and legal assistance. Housing questions accounted for 16 percent; health care another 16 percent; quality of life 13 percent; education 11 percent; and employment 6 percent.

Thelen said Michigan's new center is the first statewide resource center in the U.S. to fully integrate with 211 and provide referrals to service members and veterans.

The goal of the new program is to aggregate all veteran services across state government and provide "no wrong door" access to veteran resources, said Jeff Barnes, director of the Veterans Affairs Agency.

Coast Guard gives WWII vet a Viking funeral at sea

On Sept. 29, Coast Guard Station Atlantic City fulfilled the final wishes of service veteran Andrew Haines, a New Jersey resident who died in late August at age 89. Haines spent more than a decade planning his own Norse-style send-off, even building a funeral ship to carry his cremated ashes and then be burned.

"Oh, I was thrilled," Haines' son Andy told *Navy Times*. "I was thrilled when the Coast Guard called and told me we were doing it my way." Haines said his father, a World War II veteran who finished his tour at Atlantic City, had been planning his funeral for years. Andrew Haines emigrated from Norway as a child in 1927 and had stayed connected to his Scandinavian heritage throughout his life. About 10 years ago, Andy said, Haines' cousin in Norway

sent him blueprints for a 100-foot wooden ship, and he got to work on a scaled down version.

"When I came over to the house one day with the wife and one grandson, we were in the basement, and he's got the whole bottom shell done with the deck, getting ready to put the rest of the stuff on," Andy recalled. Then Andy had an idea. He asked his father if he still wanted to be cremated, and he said he did. "So I said, 'How about if we try to make a Viking funeral out of this for you?'" he recalled.

Haines built five versions of the ship, his son said, settling on a 54-inch version for the ceremony. More remarkable, Haines built the boats one-handed. He lost an arm in a 1975 boating accident, which ended his career as a commercial fisherman for Atlantic City Fisheries, the family business.

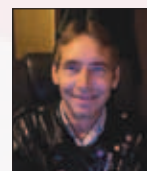
He passed away of natural causes on Aug. 26. After his cremation, Andy filed paperwork with the Coast Guard to have his father buried at sea.

"Burial at sea is not that uncommon," Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Christopher Fonseca, Atlantic City's operations officer, told *Navy Times*. "We probably do about seven a year just at Atlantic City."

About three miles off the coast, Fonseca and his crew brought the miniature Viking ship down to a recess in their boat, lit the wood shavings inside on fire with a flare and sent it out to sea. It took about 20 minutes to burn, he said. The family said some last words, and one crew member read a nautically themed Alfred Lord Tennyson poem, *Crossing the Bar*.

Fonseca said he'd done a few burials at sea in his career — they are free to any military veteran — but never one this elaborate.

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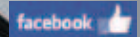
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The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

Wrapping Up Another Riding Season

As with every year, even though we had a decent riding season this year, it seems like this season was too short. I know I always dread the day I get my bike settled into winter storage. I also know it's worth taking the time now to prep my bike for winter, because it will make getting it out of storage in the spring quicker and easier.

On the off chance you're still out riding, remember that October and November tend to be the worst months for vehicle-deer collisions. Most of these types of crashes happen between dusk and dawn, so if you do go out for a ride, make sure your lights are working properly before you head out. Watch for blinking, moving, or vanishing reflectors, as these could be an animal's eyes or indicate an animal moving in front of roadside reflectors. If you're riding with a group, stagger riders in a formation that reduces the chances that multiple riders will be involved if a collision with an animal happens. Watch your speed, don't over-drive your headlights, and trust your gut: give yourself as much time as you can to avoid a collision.

If you have decided to hang it up for this riding season, there are a few things you can do right now to help protect your bike over the winter and potentially speed up your prep next season as well.

Keep your insurance active. Your Homeowner's Insurance does not cover your motorcycle! It's your motorcycle's Comprehensive Coverage that will cover damages if there is a flood, fire, or storm; if something falls on your bike; if rodents eat your wiring; or other damage to the motorcycle happens. The same policy may also cover your loss if the bike is stolen. I also suggest keeping your Bodily Injury Coverage active: You need Bodily Injury coverage to ride legally on the road. If we get a beautiful day early next spring, do you want to miss an early ride because your policy isn't active? Cancelling your motorcycle's Comprehensive Insurance is risky because you won't be covered for damages; cancelling your Bodily Injury means you could be risky because you may not think to activate it when the opportunity presents itself to get in a ride. I recommend keeping your policies active to help reduce these risks.

In terms of where to store your bike, choose a secure, dry space to help avoid rust and water damage. Too much light, including sunlight, can damage paint and leather, so invest in a high-quality motorcycle cover. Don't use a sheet or a tarp; these can damage your bike and won't keep moisture at bay. Wash, wax, and polish your bike before covering it, too: the wax will help keep the bike dry. Spray WD40 into your muffler ends and drain holes, then gently stuff these with light plastic to keep moisture out. Wrap the muffler in more light plastic to keep it nice and dry. Plastic grocery bags work well.

Take your battery out while your bike is in storage. I suggest getting a Smart Charger, which will condition the battery and keep it from getting under- or over-charged. This can prolong the battery life and save you money in the end. Leaving the battery in your bike

will discharge it, even if the bike is switched off, and a discharged battery can do major damage to your bike if it corrodes or leaks.

Even if it's not due, changing your oil is a good idea. Running the motorcycle can make the oil acidic, which in turn can corrode and damage your engine. Drain your carburetors and fuel lines, but fill up your gas tank with fresh gas and a stabilizer. Leave a little room for the gas to expand when the temperatures warm up in spring-time.

Finally, winter is tough on tires. Put foam, wood, cardboard, or another insulator between tires and the concrete floor to help prevent freezing. I always recommend keeping a small, portable air tank in your garage; use it to fill your tires to the maximum recommended pressure before you store your bike. Avoid using tire cleaning or shining products right before winter storage, as these can cause the rubber to dry out which can result in freezing or cracking.

Throughout the winter, you'll need to check on your bike now and then to make sure everything is ok. Inspect the area for water or leaks, check for signs of rodents, and just do a visual to make sure everything is nice and dry. Check your tire pressure now and then and keep your tires fully inflated.

These extra steps to get your bike ready for winter can help protect your bike from the cold and wet conditions, help you get back on the road quicker and easier when spring rolls around, and may even help extend the life of your motorcycle. Plus, it's a good way to get one last day with your bike this riding season.

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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1. When I was born, I was given a choice - a big pecker or a good memory.... I don't remember what I chose.
2. Your birth certificate is an apology letter from the condom factory.
3. A wife is a sex object. Every time you ask for sex, she objects.
4. Impotence: nature's way of saying, "No hard feelings..."
5. There are only two four letter words that are offensive to men - 'don't' and 'stop', unless they are used together.
6. Panties: Not the best thing on earth, but next to the best thing on earth.
7. There are three stages in a man's life: Tri-Weekly, Try Weekly and Try Weekly.
8. Virginity can be cured.
9. Virginity is not dignity, it's lack of opportunity.
10. Having sex is like playing bridge - if you don't have a good partner, you better have a good hand.
11. I tried phone sex once, but the holes in the dial were too small.
12. Marriage is the only war where you get to sleep with the enemy.
13. Question: What's an Australian kiss? Answer: The same thing as a French kiss, only down under.
14. A couple just married were happy with the whole thing. He was happy with the Hole and she was happy with the Thing.
15. Question: What are the three biggest tragedies in a man's life? Answer: Life sucks, job sucks and the wife doesn't.
16. Question: Why do men find it difficult to make eye contact? Answer: Breasts don't have eyes.
17. Despite the old saying, 'Don't take your troubles to bed', many men still sleep with their wives!

Chopper Zeke was in a bar n' grill yesterday, feeling no pain and chillaxin' with a great mellow buzz, when he suddenly realized he desperately needed to fart. The music was really, really loud, so he timed his farts with the beat of the music.

After a couple of songs, he started to feel a whole lot better. He finished his beer, and noticed that everybody was staring at him... Then it dawned on him that he was listening to his iPod.

Two blondes living in So. California were sitting on the beach talking and gazing at a beautiful full moon when one blonde says to the other, 'Which do you think is farther away... Florida or the moon?'

The other blonde turns and says 'Helloooooo, can you see Florida ??'

Two bikers; Buster and Bodie rode into a gas station in Kentucky for a fill-up because they heard about a contest being offered by the station to patrons

who purchased a full tank of gas. When they went inside to pay, the guys asked the attendant about the contest.

"If you win, you're entitled to free sex" said the attendant. "How do we enter?" asked Buster.

"Well, I'm thinking of a number between 1 and 10, if you guess right, you win free sex." "OK. I guess 7," said Bodie. "Sorry, I was thinking of 8," replied the attendant.

The next week, the two buddies go back to the same station to get gas. When they went inside to pay, Buster asked the attendant if the contest was still going on.

"Sure," replied the attendant. "I'm thinking of a number between 1 and 10, if you guess right you win free sex." "2" said Buster.

"Sorry, I was thinking of 3," replied the attendant. "Y'all come back soon and try again."

As they walked back to their bikes, Bodie said to Buster, "You know, I'm beginning to think this contest is rigged."

"No way," replied Buster. "My wife won three times last week."

A biker's greatest achievement was his brood of six kids. He was so proud that he continually called his wife: "Mother of Six", which pissed her off to no end.

But he kept referring to her as "Mother of Six" no matter where they went. At end of a poker run, he shouted across the bar, "Hey, "Mother of Six", you ready to go home?"

His irritated wife screamed back: "Anytime you're ready, "Father of Four!"

An older man approached a young woman in the Mall, 'Excuse me; I can't seem to find my wife. Can you talk to me for a couple of minutes?' The young woman, feeling compassion for the old fellow, said, 'Of course, sir. Do you know where your wife might be?' 'I have no idea, but every time I talk to a woman with hooters like yours, she seems to appear out of nowhere. It's the damndest thing!"

Ever wonder why baby diapers have cute names like Luvs, Huggies and Pampers; while undergarments for old people are called Depends? Well, here's your answer.

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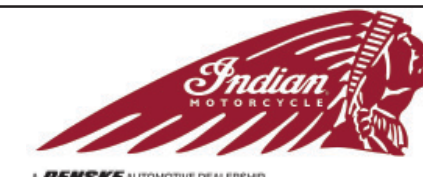
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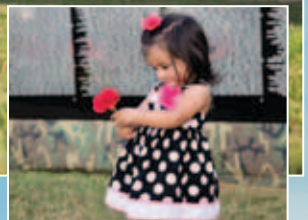


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By Rick Robison / PHOTOS Kim Wehl

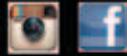
On Sept 4-8th the city of Auburn brought in the Vietnam Moving Wall. There were over 9,000 that came to pay their respects. Special thanks to Dale Gripenroth and all the volunteers that helped. The money raised will go to a WWII Memorial.



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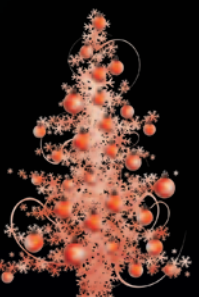
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Thank you to all our sponsors and for everyone that participated! Be sure to hold on to your Ride Card as it does not expire and you will be ready to go again next year. Also, there is a chance that I may do some fun giveaways to Ride Card holders throughout the winter. Be on the lookout for these opportunities in the magazine, Facebook or at events. Mark your calendars for The 2015 Michigan Thunder Run Ride n' Win Contest to kick-off May 1st next year!

Now here are the Ride Card winners from the October Stops Schedule:



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FREEDOM FEST



BY Billy D

Billed as Michigan's largest Labor Day weekend bike run, Freedom Fest takes place at the Iron Horse Bar & Grill each Labor Day weekend in Akron, Michigan. The annual event offers five days of live music, good times, and awesome Michigan riding. This year marked the 10th anniversary of Freedom Fest and featured bands that bikers dig such as The Matt Ryan Band, Jedi Mind Trip, and Moonshine Mavericks.

Naturally, when you get to Akron you will find vendors with just about anything, from parts for your bike, to brand new accessories, and riding gear. This year featured a meet and greet on Sunday with custom bike builder Ron Finch, who towed his gigantic chopper up from the Detroit area for all to see. Sunday also featured a bike run that takes riders on a tour of the best riding in the area and some out of the way bar's that quickly become regular stops for guys like me that live in Mid-Michigan. After the ride, the crowds line up for a truly spectacular Hog Roast that sets the stage for a long night of partying.

Ultimately, it doesn't matter how you make your way out to the Iron Horse Bar & Grill. The ride through Michigan's thumb is as good as it gets and at any destination you will be greeted with a smile and something cool to address your thirst. As the name of the events implies, Freedom Fest celebrates the rights that we strive to preserve and reinforces the fact that we are proud of our country and proud to be bikers. For those of you out there who have not attended this event, I encourage you to stop out next year. If you do, you will be impressed by not only the ride, but the hospitality the thumb area has to offer. Finally, thanks to Rich the owner of the Iron Horse and his staff for all the work they did to make Freedom Fest a great event.



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Hello great readers! I know many of you are like me and still riding, but it's some chilly days for us hard core riders.

Last month I left off just beginning an install on an amazing new blower from KraftWerks, The blower comes with almost everything you need to install it, the Rotrex centrifugal blower, new injectors, an impressively engineered plenum, oil and vacuum lines, Rotrex oil, oil filter, an oil cooler/canister for the blower oil with mounting bracket, gasket and misc. do dads you will need to complete the install. The blower comes in chrome or black and they even made it easy to customize the unit to your taste, the plenum cover has been engineered to use the sportster emblem and the new cam cover uses the stock twincam cover emblem bolt pattern. When I left you all last month we had stripped the ole bike down and installed the blower drive gear on the crankshaft making sure the timing of the cams and the crank were set perfectly. ONE change ... we switched bikes on you (Fig 1). I wanted to show you what this thing would do on a bone stock Harley so we are using an 2005 Ultra Classic with absolutely no engine or exhaust mods, then we will go step by step with upgrades giving us a true sense of what each modification will make us in Horsepower and Torque. After we get this blower installed we will show the dyno results so you can see what the blower will do all on its own with stock everything, then we will slap on a nice free flowing exhaust then we will throw back up on the dyno and see what numbers we get, then we will set it up with cams and so on getting new numbers at each stage.



Fig 1 2005 Ultra Classic- Before install- Bone Stock!

As stated, we have taken off the exhaust, air box, and old timing chain and gears and installed the new bottom drive gear for the blower, not terribly difficult, but getting the timing back in line with the pushrods installed (because you don't need to take any of that off) can be a bit fun! Fig 2 shows the lower gear installed.

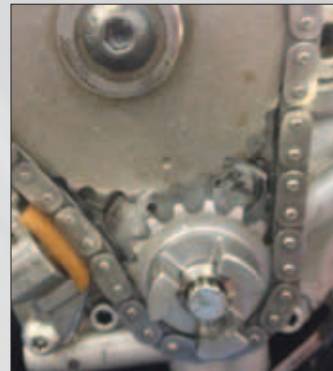


Fig 2 New blower drive gear on crankshaft

Then you install the lower pre-assembled lower drive unit (Fig 3). Simply line up the lower gear drive with the drive unit coupling and using a dab of Loctite on all of your bolts attach it on just like a cam cover. Next, install the oil lines onto the blower unit, if you forget to do this now you will be pulling it all back off to get the oil line to fit correctly, you ask how do I know this...hmmm guess. Using a copper crush washer on each side of fitting slide the banjo bolt in and tighten to 15lbft, then install the pre-assembled blower unit on to the lower unit with the two bolts supplied, loosely install the belt tensioner and slide the drive belt on making sure it is correctly aligned onto both pulleys and tighten belt tensioner. Fig 4 shows it installed.

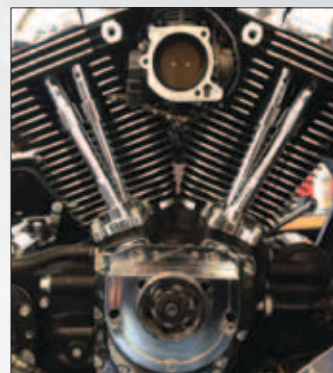


Fig 3 Lower drive unit installed



Fig 4 Lower unit, upper unit with blower, belt and tensioner installed (notice the 2 oil lines behind unit on right)

Next is to install the plenum adaptor plate and the vacuum lines which control the blow off valve and vent the heads. KraftWerks have included a set of head vent bolts with barbed end fittings, attach one on each head then attach the vent lines

to the vacuum port on the intake. They included two "T"s, one is for the head vents and the other is to attach the vacuum line coming from the plenum from the blow off valve. Fig 5



Fig 5 Adaptor plate and Vacuum lines installed

Next is the Plenum backing plate install, first slide on the connecting hose for the supercharger and test fit it for proper alignment. Once aligned tighten upper hose clamp before installing plenum backing plate. Install plenum back plate with the four supplied bolts and tighten bottom hose clamp onto blower unit. Now attach front heat exchanger plenum cover, then run the vacuum line through the backing plate and attach to the blow-off valve, it must be done in this order or there is a bolt you cannot get to behind the blow-off valve connection. (Fig 6)



Fig 6 Plenum installed, the blow-off valve connection is on the lower left side of the plenums heat exchanger cover, there is a sneaky bolt behind that blow-off valve vacuum fitting.

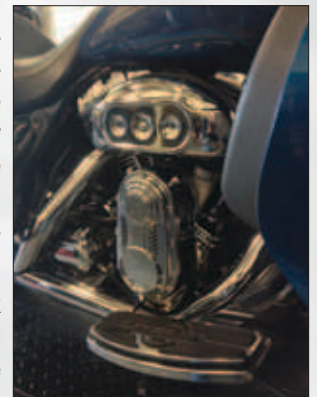
Next is to install the new injectors supplied by KraftWerks (Fig 7). These are a massive 6.49 grams per second ... stock Injectors are 3.91 grams per second, we need the ABILITY to get more fuel as needed when the blower starts to shove more air in the motor, I said ABILITY on purpose, some will be reading this and think that this blower will be shoving all kinds of fuel and air pressure to the engine all the time and the reliability and fuel mileage will go to crap, Not true my friend. This system is an on demand style, when you are riding along on the freeway nice and easy you basically get the same mileage and no more than the normal wear and tear is being done, but when you want some power and twist that throttle, well yeah baby let's GO! Then we need the ability to shove more fuel to that motor, because if we start shoving all that extra air to her with no more fuel, oh my will we have a super lean condition that will toast that motor of yours fast. The computer will tell the engine when to do it and when not to do it after it is tuned correctly, so no worries. It is actually a much better way to go, if you build a similar naturally aspirated engine that makes the same horsepower and torque it will be trying to tear itself apart all the time, this unit only put the pressure to your engine when desired ... NICE!



Fig 7 Stock injector on right

Now it's time to install the oil canister and route the oil lines with the oil filter, first take the regulator off its mounting bolts, but no need to completely remove it, install the oil tank onto the supplied mount and slide it onto the regulator mounting bolts and re-attach the regulator, this location ensures good cooling. Now you need to route your oil lines and oil filter getting them connected correctly according to the supplied directions! This is an easy, however it is a crucial step that MUST be followed or all will be destroyed! The filter has a distinct arrow for flow so you cannot get it wrong. Next we have to fill the oil canister and prime the system. Simply loosen the oil fitting on the inlet side of the blower and carefully apply 15psi or less to the oil canister fill opening using a rag and blow nozzle until you get oil coming out of the inlet fitting. Tighten fitting and start engine, do not rev above 2000 rpm and visually look into oil canister to make sure oil is flowing, then shut engine off and refill oil canister to appropriate level.

Ok all tested and good to go for final steps, we put the rest of the cover plates on the blower unit but then dang it, the exhaust hits and won't fit properly! The blower unit is a bit wider in the lower cam cover area, we are told there are many pipes that fit without any modification, however the stock Harley head pipe needs to be modified, we made a small relief in the front head pipe down by the floorboard/timing cover area and bam the exhaust fits! I did cheat a little; I used an old set of 2008 head pipes with O2 sensor bungs already in them for easy tuning later.



Floorboard is on and it's time to do a quick tune on it using wide band O2 sensors and Techno Research tuning software then a nice break in time of about 65 miles with no high revving or loading. Then final tune and ZOOM-ZOOM!!!!!!!

Next month I'll let you in on the dyno results, I'll be riding this to West Virginia this week so I'll have a good amount of riding time on it too!

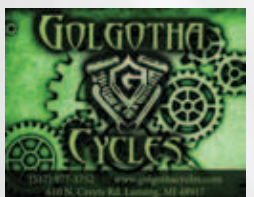
God bless you all and have a fantastic spectacular awesome Thanksgiving!

Steve

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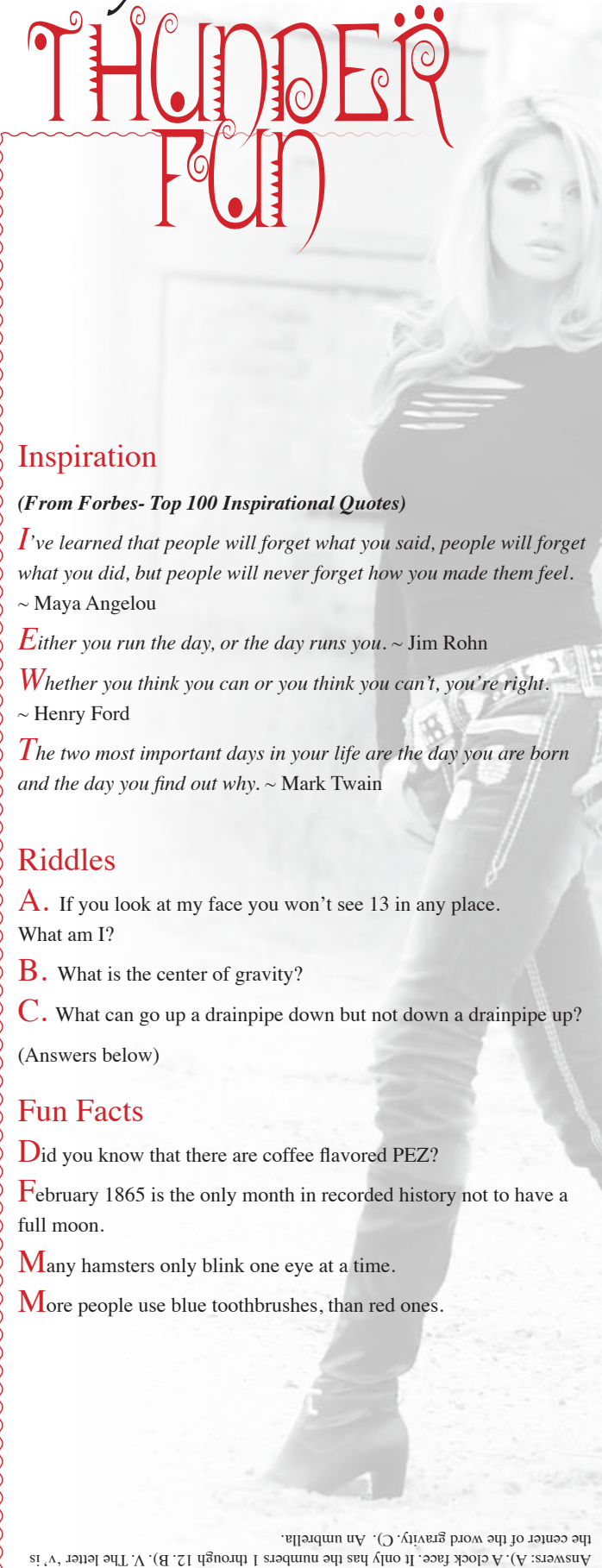
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Jody "Mo's" THUNDER FUN



Inspiration

(From Forbes- Top 100 Inspirational Quotes)

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.
~ Maya Angelou

Either you run the day, or the day runs you. ~ Jim Rohn

Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right.
~ Henry Ford

The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why. ~ Mark Twain

Riddles

A. If you look at my face you won't see 13 in any place. What am I?

B. What is the center of gravity?

C. What can go up a drainpipe down but not down a drainpipe up?

(Answers below)

Fun Facts

Did you know that there are coffee flavored PEZ?

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

Many hamsters only blink one eye at a time.

More people use blue toothbrushes, than red ones.

Answers: A.) A clock face; It only has the numbers 1 through 12. B.) V; The letter 'v' is the center of the word gravity. C.) An umbrella.

NOVEMBER 2014 THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE MICHIGAN 33

2014 Holiday Gift Buying Guide

When it comes to holiday shopping there are 2 categories of folks. Those that start their holiday shopping early and those that procrastinate and are out in the madness on Christmas Eve. To help you find ideas for those hard to buy friends, family or loved ones we have put together a gift buying guide for you. This issue is part I of II and next issue we will have even more gift suggestions for you.



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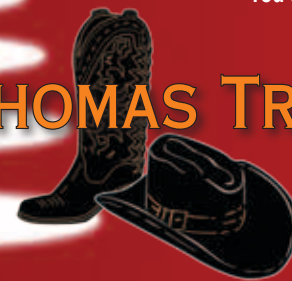


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K.I.S.S. IN THE KITCHEN

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 National Founders' Office.

ORANGE ZEST TURKEY BREAST

- 2 Large Turkey Breasts - And if you want to add legs & thighs in, then get those also.
- 2 Large Oranges - zest completely; put aside
- 2 Cups of Orange Juice poured into a long glass baking dish. Place your chicken pieces in here to marinate slightly, skin side down then flip after 15 minutes.

In a small glass or ceramic bowl, combine together as a rub; in palmfuls: Rosemary, Parsley, Basil, Salt & Pepper
Have a traditional turkey roasting pan ready and sprayed down with cooking spray. Take your legs, thighs and breasts out and put on a platter and generously season both sides of chicken. Now, take McCormick Valencia Orange Zest Peel seasoning in a bottle (in any spice aisle) and sprinkle both sides of chicken generously. Place in roasting pan with skin side up on (legs will be skin all around so just lay them in). Now, on my large Turkey Breasts, I make a small slit and gently slide my fingers up under the skin and spread the orange zest all up underneath the skin and distribute evenly. I do this with the thighs also. The legs I just sprinkle on top. I tent the entire roasting pan with Reynolds Heavy-Duty aluminum foil and cook at 350 degrees for 40 minutes (until you stick a fork in and juices run clear). I then remove the foil and actually spray butter cooking spray (from a distance) onto the chicken (easier than basting) and then leave the foil off and continue cooking until the skin is crispy, golden brown (you may need to rotate you legs). But this all happens fast, like 10 minutes, so keep an eye on it. Remove from oven and serve while super hot and skin super crispy. Excellent alternative to same old whole turkey, and there's no wasted parts and slice your turkey breasts thin or thick, your choice. If you want to serve with gravy, just use the quality bottled kind or make your own the old flour & chicken broth way. But the flayva' is phenomenal!! It's deep, rich and with that citrus zing!

SPAGHETTI SQUASH; Peppers, Onions & Shrooms

- This is a fab side-dish. If you've never had Spaghetti Squash, it has a superb squash flavor but really fun to eat.
- 1 Large Spaghetti Squash - Cut in half & deseeded
 - 1 Medium Yellow Pepper, Orange Pepper & Red Pepper
 - 1 Box of Pre-Sliced Button Mushrooms
 - 1 Medium Sweet Onion; Cut a thin piece all the way down and then cut that in half. Do entire onion this way.

Cut your Squash in half, take a spoon and scoop out any seeds, place on a flat pan that's covered in foil. Place the inside part down and rub olive oil and salt & pepper all over the outer flesh. Bake at 400 degrees for 45 mins. Remove and let cool slightly. Take a dish towel and hold in one hand and using a Fork, start at the top and scrape down in long strips and repeat doing until you've removed all the flesh into a glass bowl. Do both sides. It will have the appearance of spaghetti pasta, hence the name. While your Spaghetti Squash is baking in the oven, cut off tops on all peppers and slice into slim strips, towel dry mushrooms as they give off a lot of liquid. Start by adding butter to the skillet and saute' over medium heat, add in the mushrooms and get all that golden brown, turn down to low and add onions and get them a golden brown. Turn down to simmer and just let cook down a bit. Salt & pepper to your taste with a dash of nutmeg. Take the saute' mix and add to your squash, add a couple pats of butter and gently toss to combine all. Top with parsley. This is truly delicious and once you try it, you'll be a major fan foreverva'!

CARROT, PINEAPPLE & GINGER CAKE WITH BUTTER CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

- 1 Pkg. of a quality Carrot Cake mix. Just go w/ a brand you trust.
 - 1 Can of Pineapple Tidbits (that's how reads on the label) Be sure and save juice off to side.
- You'll need dry Ginger spice so grab that in the Spice aisle.

Make your cake mix as per pkg. instructions only add the can of Pineapple Tidbits (strain off juice into a measuring cup) and add 1 tsp. extra of Vanilla and one palmful of Ginger spice. Bake in whatever format you're using; tube pan, 2 round cakes, cupcakes, whatever. Remove from oven, take a toothpick and poke holes all over the top of cake and carefully pour your pineapple juice all over and down into holes. Now....let's make some frosting. In a large chilled glass bowl, add 2 sticks of softened real butter, 1 Tub of Whipped Cream Cheese, 3 Cups of Confectioner's Sugar, and approx. 1 Cup of Whipping Cream (says so on box in Milk Section at grocery store), also add in 1/4 cup of Honey (spray measuring cup w/ cooking spray so won't stick to cup). Now, use your hand mixer on medium, and then go up to high and blend until you get nice stiff peaks and then STOP. If you go too far it will fall flat on you and there's no bringing it back. Frost your cake and my Mom always taught me to take a knife and just tap the frosting gently all over while pulling knife up and it gives it a spiked look all over.

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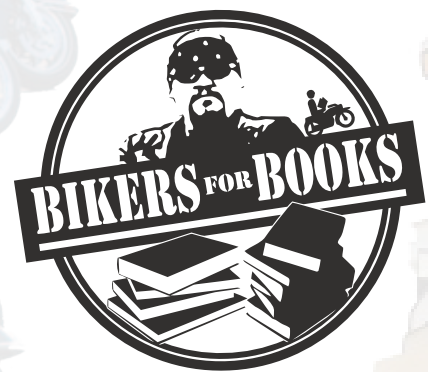
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Biker Preacher's Corner

Here we are heading into November – Thanksgiving month. Looking back I've got a lot to be thankful for this year! A few things are the many great miles ridden this year, the privilege of meeting and ministering to a lot of great people along the way, my family and church family. Praise God!

Ya see, it's important for us to look back over our lives from time to time and give thanks to the God who created us! **1 Thessalonians 5:18** says, "Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Ya see, giving thanks to the Lord helps us to take stock of our lives and give praise to the One from whom all blessings flow.

However, we've gotta be honest with ourselves here... The cynically-minded person will only see problems and issues in a negative light, resulting in their own misery. While, those that are positive will see problems and issues as opportunities to do better the next time. Thus, gaining wisdom through the circumstances and situations of life. Those that are cynical will blame God saying, "Why did God do this to me?" The fact is that it wasn't God that did it to you. **Psalm 136:1** says, "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love is eternal." Ya see, God is GOOD and His mercy and love endure forever!!

Listen, God doesn't put sickness, disease, poverty, and the like, on us. Many times it's our own bad decisions that are causing us to reap a bad harvest in our lives. Yes, the devil is bad and does these kind of bad things in people's lives too, but God doesn't. In the end, when we're honest with ourselves and with God we can, as **Psalm 34:8** says, "Taste and see that the LORD is good. How happy is the man who takes refuge in Him!"

The greatest thing that I am grateful for, in my own personal life, is first and foremost Jesus! If it weren't for Him I'd be dead, at least dead in my own sin. But, because of His great love, He made a way for me and you, to be right with Him. Jesus, "You didn't have to love me like you did But you did, but you did. And I thank you."

I'm also very thankful for my beautiful and loving wife, Diane, my 3 sons (James, Daniel and Duncan) whom I love and am so proud of, my Victory Biker Church family and all my brothers and sisters.

This Thanksgiving season, if you haven't known Jesus, I invite you to. Then you'll truly be able to taste and see how good God really is!! Then and only then will you find the joy, peace and happiness that you have always been looking for.

Happy Thanksgiving!!

Apostle Brian "BMAN" McKay
 Senior Pastor, National President
 & Founder of Victory Biker Church
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TRM EVENTS CALENDAR 2014

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

NOVEMBER

November 1
 Boom Audio Workshop
 Biker Bob's HD, Taylor, MI.
 10:30 am- 11:30 am, RSVP early. For more info go to www.bikerbobshd.com (See ad this issue).

November 2
 Motorcycle Boot Camp
 Biker Bob's HD, Taylor, MI.
 1pm- 3:30 pm, RSVP early. For more info go to www.bikerbobshd.com (See ad this issue).

November 8
 Veteran's Appreciation Day
 ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 11 am- 3 pm, lunch with the veterans, free gift for all veterans & Color Guard Ceremony. For more info go to www.abcharleydavidson.com (See full page ad this issue).

November 8
 Hamilton HD Fashion Rally
 Hamilton HD, Sturgis, MI. See latest styles modeled by local celebrities. Call 269-651-3424 for more info.

November 14
 Ladies Night
 Wolverine HD, Clinton Township, MI. 6- 9pm. Go to www.wolverinehd.com for more info (See full page ad this issue).

November 15
 Deer Widows Shopping Day
 Gildner's HD, West Branch, MI. Wine, appetizers, prizes and great buys. For more info go to www.gildnershd.com (See ad this issue).

November 28
 Boom Audio Workshop
 Ray C's HD, Lapeer, MI. 5:30 pm- 7 pm, RSVP early. For more info go to www.raycshd.com (See ad this issue).

November 28-29
 Annual Customer Appreciation Days
 Sandy's HD, Fremont, MI. Fri 8- 5:30pm & Sat 8- 3pm, Fremont HOG Chili Cook Off, gift wrapping available for donation to benefit the Veterans Christmas Program. For more info go to www.sandysharley-davidson.com (See ad this issue).

DECEMBER

December 6
 Toys for Kids
 Shiawassee Sports Center, Birch Run, MI. Call 989-624-4400 for more info. (See ad this issue).

December 6-7
 Motorcycle Swap Meet
 Gibraltar Trade Center, Mount Clemens, MI. Motorcycle parts, accessories, apparel & more. Vendor spaces available. For more info call 586-465-6440 (See ad this issue).

December 19
 Performance Workshop
 Ray C's HD, Lapeer, MI. 5:30 pm- 7 pm, RSVP early. For more info go to www.raycshd.com (See ad this issue).

January 16-18
 AMSOIL Arenacross
 Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, MI. For more info & tickets call 1-800-745-3000

FEBRUARY

February 7
 2nd Annual Thunder Fun Night
 Midland Resort, Midland, MI. Reserve your spot for this fun night, package deal includes overnight stay, party bus, dinner, breakfast, 1 free drink & prizes. For more info contact Jody Mo 989-615-5757 or email Jody@ThunderRoadsMichigan.com (See full page ad this issue).

2015

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January 16-18
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 To get your event listed in Thunder Roads Magazine and on our website, send the information to Editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com
 Event information must be received prior to the 10th of the month preceding the event month to be posted in the magazine.
 Remember to call ahead before planning to attend any event as the information/ dates may change. Thunder Roads is Not responsible for errors or omissions.

GIRL'S RIDE II

BY R.H. Swan / PHOTOS Billy D

This Finch Custom 1975 Sportster Iron Head has been owned by two independent, successful women. Originally completed in 1993, it was named "Just Another Girl's Bike". It made its debut at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, where it won First Place in the 750 – 1000 cc Class at the Rat's Hole Custom Show! In March of 1994, it appeared in Super Cycle Magazine with Claudia Roberts, the original owner. That was 20 years ago, and now this Sportster is turning heads again!

"I always loved that bike," said Ron Finch's daughter, Gail Vires. "I watched it come together in my dad's shop when I was a teenager. When I learned that Claudia could no longer ride because of injuries from a horrific auto accident, I began scheming for a way to buy it...to keep it in the family! My dad offered to help by building a large METALife sculpture dragonfly for her home in Arizona. It would be part of the payment along with my savings. I was so excited when our offer was graciously accepted!"

Most of the original custom work has been preserved. The Finch signature rod work handlebars, fender struts, chain guard, and license plate bracket are all intact. The taillight, from a 1939 Chevrolet, is skillfully molded into the rear fender. The distinctive aluminum wheels are Performance Machine Solids.

To add fuel capacity, a new gas tank was designed by Finch and fabricated with the expertise of Chris Phillips of Doomtown Choppers. A new set of exhaust pipes were hand built with fins that were machined by Peerless Metal Works and welded by Jeremy Tingley.

Then came the real facelift..... A Finch Custom paint job! Claudia chose a cross between hot pink and purple, which was the color of her favorite nail polish. For Gail it was the color of her preferred sport drink while running a marathon, namely, Grape Powerade Zero. Finch sprayed Voodoo Purple over Super Max Silver and added pink pearl details with shades of blue and three color pin stripping.

"I call the bike "Girl's Ride II" for two reasons", Gail explained. "I feel privileged to be the second owner of this special custom, and also because it is my second motorcycle! My first was a 1987 BMW R65, which I still ride occasionally."

Another unique connection exists between the two owners of this custom beauty. The Finch family refers to it as "the birthday connection". Claudia won the first place trophy on her birthday! She describes riding through Sturgis proudly holding the tall trophy during a thunder storm! Gail was born in 1975, so she shares a birth year with her Sportster! Add to that the fact that her father, Ron Finch, personalized the custom for her in the year that he celebrated his 75th birthday!



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MOTORCYCLE '101

A QUICK GUIDE TO TYPES OF BIKES

So you consider yourself a biker or at the very least a "motorcycle enthusiast" – but do you really know the basics? You may think you do – but do you know the difference between a dirt bike and a trials bike? Or how about an Enduro or a Supermoto? Here's a quick run down on the basics – just in case you get put on the spot.

Adventure/Touring, Dual Sports

The offspring of rugged dirtbikes and long-distance tourers, these bikes boast lots of suspension travel and upright postures that are comfortable for lengthy rides.



Adventure Touring - The Triumph 800xc

Choppers

Choppers are a type of cruiser, so called because they are a "chopped", or cut-down, version of a production cruiser. Choppers are usually custom projects that result in a bike modified to suit the owner's ideals, and, as such, are a source of pride and accomplishment. Stereotypically, a chopper may have raked-out forks, small fuel tanks and high handlebars. Choppers were popularized in the Peter Fonda film Easy Rider. Being designed primarily for visual effect, choppers will not usually be the most efficient riding machines.



The Classic Chopper

Epitomized by the Harley-Davidson Panhead in the film Captain America, choppers tend to have extremely raked forks, reclined seats, and lots of showy chrome.

Cruisers

Cruisers are styled after American machines from the 1930s to the early 1960s, such as those made by Harley-Davidson, Indian, and Excelsior-Henderson. Harley-Davidsons largely define the cruiser category, and large-displacement V-twin engines are the norm, although other engine configurations and small to medium displacements also exist. Their engines are tuned for low-end torque, making them less demanding to ride because it is not necessary to shift as frequently to accelerate or maintain control. Cruisers are like muscular, relaxed choppers; their fork rake is less extreme, and they're designed for laid-back riding – "cruising the streets".



Cruiser - The Yamaha Roadliner

Dual Sport

Dual-sports, sometimes called dual-purpose or on/off-road motorcycles, are street legal machines that are also designed to enter off-road situations. Typically based on a dirt bike chassis, they have added lights, mirrors, signals, and instruments that allow them to be licensed for public roads. They are higher than other street bikes, with a high center of gravity and tall seat height, allowing good suspension travel for rough ground.



Dual Sport BMW R1200GS



Dirt Bike

Dirt Bikes

Dirt bikes generally refer to motorcycles designed for offroad riding, and typically feature knobby tires, long suspension travel, and minimalistic frames and bodywork. Variants of dirt bike designs compete in Enduro, Motocross, and Trials events, among others.

Enduro Bikes

Designed for long distance offroad competitions, Enduro bikes are usually equipped with headlights and taillights for nighttime riding, and can be outfitted with timers and roll chart reading devices that aid riders with navigation and timekeeping.



Enduro - KTM

Naked Bikes

Naked bikes recall British motorcycles of the sixties, and lack bodywork or a fairing that would normally hide their engines and inner-workings.



Naked Triumph Speed Triple

Power Scooters

Power scooters are like scooters on steroids, and they share a similar step-through (or near step-through) design. But they also boast large engines (sometimes up to 650cc) rivaling the powerplants found in some motorcycles. Power scooters usually offer commuter-friendly creature comforts and numerous storage compartments.



Power Scooter - Bergman 650

Scooters

Typified by Italian-made Vespas, scooters are like small motorcycles with bodywork that allows the rider to "step through" and sit without getting his or her clothes stained by oil. Scooter engine sizes can be as little as 50cc.



Scooter - Vespa Primavera

Sport Bikes

Designed purely for performance, sport bikes tend to require arms-forward posture, powerful engines, and tight handling.



The Naked Ducati Monster 1200

Sport Touring

Sport touring motorcycles combine attributes of sport bikes and touring motorcycles. The rider posture is less extreme than a sport bike, giving greater long-distance comfort. Accommodation for a passenger is superior to a sport bike as well, along with luggage capacity.



Sport Touring Bike

Supermoto Bikes

Based on race machines that compete on a combination of road and dirt surfaces, Supermoto bikes combine offroad characteristics such as deep suspension travel with road tires and bodywork reminiscent of so-called "street fighter" bikes.



Christini-AWD-SuperMoto

Touring Bikes

Touring motorcycles are specifically designed to excel at covering long distances. They have large-displacement engines, fairings and screens that offer good weather and wind protection, large-capacity fuel tanks for long ranges between fill-ups, and a relaxed, upright seating position. Usually the bike is designed to accommodate a passenger as well – along with plenty of luggage space.



Touring - Harley-Davidson

Trials Bikes

These specialized competition bikes are tailor made for trials events, in which motorcycles are maneuvered around offroad or man-made obstacles, and riders are penalized if their feet touch the ground. Extremely lightweight, trials bikes lack seats and feature stiffer suspension than most dirtbikes.



Trials Motorcycle

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THE 2015 HARLEY-DAVIDSON

ROAD GLIDE

The shark is back!

Road Glide enthusiasts have spent the last year wondering what Harley had in store; but after a one-year hiatus, a new 2015 model has finally emerged. The new model was revealed at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota and Thunder Roads Ohio was there to check it out. It was immediately evident that Harley-Davidson had given the customer driven, Project Rushmore treatment to this new model. It had many changes which all seemed to be focused on making the Road Glide the undeniable King of the Road when it comes to touring

— a title that it holds in the eyes of many touring riders. The factory also introduced a Road Glide Special version that features a few further enhancements. One look at the new Road Glide and immediately you notice its more aggressive “Shark Nose” fairing. It is roughly an inch and a half narrower than its predecessor and brings a significantly more aerodynamic, cooler feel on those hot summer days. The split stream fairing vents really are one of the most noticeable improvements and tremendously cut back on the airflow issues common with a fairing of Road Glide proportion. The vents are manually controlled and allow the rider to

determine exactly how air is routed through the nose of the bike.

Many Road Glide owners have asked for better lighting and Harley delivered for 2015. “Dual Reflector Daymaker LED” headlights offer just what you need for a foggy night with 85% more spread. Another Project Rushmore improvement comes with the improved hard injected molded saddlebags already found in Harley’s other touring models. These new style saddle bags have an easier, more accessible lock and lid system which you can easily operate with one hand. Other improvements include an adjustable air-ride rear suspension, a swept back handlebar, cruise control, and ergonomic hand controls.

Opt to spend the roughly 3k more for the Road Glide Special and you will find a better sound system - BoomBox 6.5GT (compared to the BoomBox 4.3) which includes touch screen and GPS navigation. Reflex linked brakes with ABS and a painted inner fairing also bring appeal to the Special. You may consider the special if you also must have that Superior Blue color which is not offered in the Road Glide standard package.

Paint schemes include Vivid Black, Amber Whiskey, Mysterious Red Sunglo, and Black Denim. A bold Superior Blue color is only offered with the Special package; but the Mysterious Red Sunglo is only found in the Road Glide base package.



2015 Harley-Davidson Road Glide Specifications

MSRP	\$20,899/\$23,399
Engine Capacity	103.1 cu. in. / 1690 cc
Engine Type	Air-cooled, High Output Twin Cam 103 with integrated oil-cooler
Bore x Stroke	98.4 mm x 111.1 mm
Compression	9.7:1
Fuel System	Electronic Sequential Port Fuel Injection (ESPFI)
Transmission	6-speed Cruise Drive
Final Drive	Belt
Frame	Mild steel; tubular frame; two-piece stamped and welded backbone; cast and forged junctions; twin downtubes; bolt-on rear frame with forged fender supports; MIG welded
Front Suspension	49 mm telescopic fork
Rear Suspension	Air-adjustable low profile twin shocks
Front Brakes	32 mm, 4-piston calipers and dual floating rotors
Rear Brakes	32 mm, 4-piston caliper and single rotor
Front Tire	D408F 130/60B19 61H
Rear Tire	D407T BW 180/65B16 81H
Seat Height	27.4 inches
Wheelbase	64 inches
Rake/Trail	26°/6.8 inches
Curb Weight	849 pounds
Fuel Capacity	6 gal.
Observed MPG	39

COURTESY TROH



BFE RUN

by Robert Bailey
 The 8th annual Teamster Horsemen Motorcycle Association 43 West's BFE (Benefiting families everywhere) Run was enjoyed by over 120 bikers on August 16. The event began with a free breakfast at AJ's in Dorr. The event continued with a 94 mile ride to Horn Creek Pub in Delton, Champs Bar & Grill in Middleville, and Cocktail II in Hopkins and ended with a free dinner at Hilliard's Corner Lounge.



The benefit run was to help support the Marine Corps Coordinating Council of West Michigan. The MCCC helps veterans and active military families, of all branches of the armed forces, that are in need. The members of THMA 43 West were proud to present a check for \$9000 to the MCCC this year.



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Thunder Roads Harley Davidson Rider Ryan Kerr finished the 2014 AMA Pro Road Racing season in an overall 12 place position in spite of a season ending track injury which occurred in July. Kerr reflects positively on his first season as and AMA Pro Harley Davidson rider and explains, "I have learned so much this season and was able to improve at every race. Unfortunately, my foot injury in July did not allow me to compete in any further races but I'm happy to report that I have been cleared to get back on the track. I plan on spending my off season focusing on a structured physical fitness program combined with many track days on the bike. I promise to be a top contender throughout the upcoming 2015 season in the AMA Pro Road racing series." EXCITING NEWS!!!! Ryan Kerr is honored to have been selected for the 2014 Vance and Hines Harley Davidson Rookie of the Year award for his success this season. CONGRATS for a job well done!!! Become a member of the Ryan Kerr Fan Club by checking out his website at www.Flyinryankerr.com. Also, take the time to like the Ryan Kerr Racing facebook fan page to get the latest information about Ryan and his racing career. SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE NEEDED FOR THE 2015 SEASON, CONTACT MAMA COTTON AT 614-395-5338.

Bullet Points

LOCK IT UP

Courtesy of Wolverine Shooting Sports, Inc. ~ Dani Sparks



MiniVault and MultiVault Deluxe by GunVault



MicroVault by GunVault (drawer safe)



NanoVault 100 & 200 by GunVault

So, you have a handgun. Now what? It's your responsibility to keep it out of the hands of unauthorized persons. Even if it's on your hip most of the day, you still have to be sure that it's properly stored when you come home at night. How do you do that?

The answer seems pretty simple: with a gun safe! However, now that you're looking at all the different safes available, the choices may seem overwhelming. Do you get one with a keypad? Do you need biometrics? What about those new safes that Hornady makes now, with the RF ID chip?

First, you need to answer a couple questions for yourself. First, how many guns do you own? What types of guns are they (i.e. handguns, shotguns, rifles)? Do you need to have quick access for a specific gun or guns for home defense?

If you're looking to store shotguns and rifles, as well as handguns that you don't use for home defense, and you won't need quick access to them, you can't beat a floor safe. These safes are designed for longer term storage, and are much more difficult to access quickly, but keep your guns very secure. There are several manufacturers for this style of safe, and they can get to be very expensive quickly, depending upon which features you want, such as size and the fireproof/waterproof qualities.

If you have a handgun that you use for self-defense, be it carry or strictly for home defense, you must keep it securely stored in some fashion, whenever it's not in a holster on your hip. There are many different types of safes and locking devices designed to securely store a loaded handgun for quick access. From there, it comes down to personal preference and how much you're willing to spend for the different features of each safe.

You can choose a small lockbox that will hold a single gun, and will cost you anywhere from \$25 to \$50, depending on the construction of the box. Those generally operate with a keyed lock. The safes that operate by using a push button code in addition to having a keyed lock will generally run you anywhere from \$150 to \$250, and many have additional features for added security and can store more than one handgun or other valuables, as well. The biometric safes, which generally use a thumbprint method as well as a keyed lock can be much more expensive than that, but carry with them some additional peace of mind, as only the thumbprint(s) you have programmed will open the safe.

There are fewer options out there for storing home defense shotguns, but they do exist! Hornady makes a small safe that is designed specifically for home defense shotguns and AR platform rifles and carbines! It is much smaller than a floor safe, but allows adequate room for a shotgun or rifle, and has the added benefit of quick access. As a general rule, all the quality safes designed for gun storage also have the ability to be bolted to a stud, or just about anywhere else you could imagine, so regardless of the model you choose, you can be sure that it will not be easily removable in the event of a break-in!

My suggestion would be to do a little research once you know what your own needs will be. Many gun stores have floor models that you can look at to see what may be useful to you. When in doubt, ask some questions! Keep in mind that there are many different safes out there, and just because it's not on the shelf somewhere, that doesn't mean you can't get exactly what you want!

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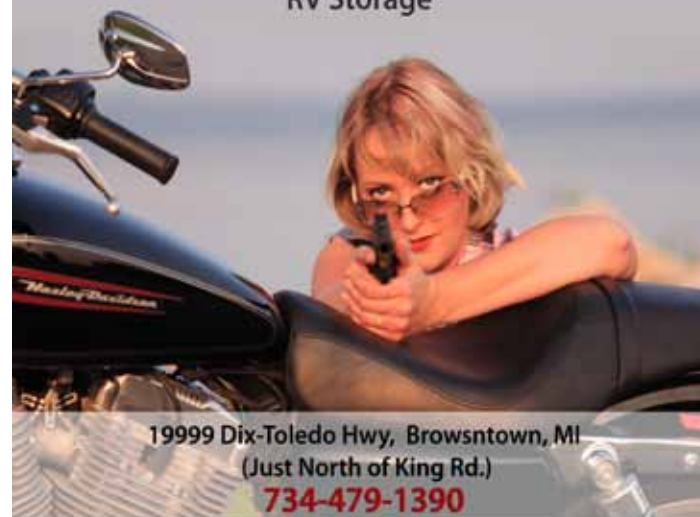


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ABATE OF MICHIGAN
Thanks

A little gratitude goes a long way and it's that time of the year when not only do we gather with family and friends to indulge our appetite for turkey, but maybe we sort through a little mental list of all that we have to be thankful for.

I have been fortunate as a biker and freedom fighter to have accumulated friends all across the country who I consider to be the epitome of what that means. Several have been recognized in the Sturgis Freedom Fighter hall of fame and have been inspirations to those of us who take the fight to those who would tame us, contain us, and maybe even eliminate us from the roads. Some of these folks have put their own literal freedom on the line many times through acts of civil disobedience. I really appreciate these people and am thankful for their efforts and certainly the results of their efforts.

Abate of Michigan, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, and Bikers of Lesser Tolerance are the largely unaccounted for organizations that have kept motorcycling in Michigan, as well as the USA, intact as a way of life. Beyond the leaders and activists of these organizations are the supporters of them, without whom these organizations would be without relevance. As simple as it may seem to join these organizations and support them by being a member, (at the cost of an event t-shirt), it's but a very small fraction of the Michigan motorcycling riders that make the effort. I cannot express enough the appreciation I have for you who do! Thank you for standing up and defending our freedoms from encroachments by City, State, and Federal regulators and safetycrats!

In this day and age where common sense would dictate motorcycles and motorcyclists be treated with respect and as real practitioners of conservation and being "green", just the opposite view seems to persist. We have the least destructive impact on our roads, use the fewest petroleum resources in our traveling, and per capita probably are one of the highest contributors to our economy. Yet we get taken advantage of on every level, from having to pay the highest rates for insurance for the least return, being taxed the same as automobile drivers for road and highway maintenance that predominantly is tailored to the benefit of non-motorcycle traveling, and being constantly poked and prodded to submit to outrageous "safety" ideas generated by non-motorcyclists.

In Washington D.C. our MRF freedom fighters have defended us on the HIPAA front, the Ethanol front, the re-introduction of laws decreasing our choices, what repairs we can make, what exhausts we use, what we wear, and what we can ride. On the State level Abate of Michigan freedom fighters have protected our motorcycle training funds, halted huge cost increases for registrations, maintained fairness in our insurance costs, kept a dialogue going on other issues of concern, and seen bills that benefit us passed, like mandatory motorcycle awareness training in drivers training, red light regulations, and unendorsed riders.

Thank You to all of you who have been active, supported, or financed these efforts by being members. Motorcycling in this country would not be the same without you!

Live Free, Die Free! But, don't eat too much stuffing.

Rusty



Rusty Bongard
Communications Director, ABATE of Michigan
Asst. State Rep. MRF
Co-Director B.O.L.T. of Michigan
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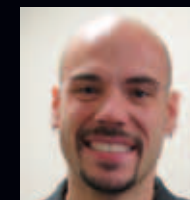
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