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ON THE COVER

PHOTOS Billy D

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Biker Attitude!?!?

So it seems lately that I have had people share with me about some "biker attitude". Which we all have, but it has brought up some concerns and I feel it necessary to address them. One nice person that rides a Gold Wing said that Harley riders are rude to him, in fact he bought a beer for another biker that was riding a Harley and he declined it because in fact, he said he's on a Gold Wing. Are you kidding me? So, first of all a free beer is just that, but most of all, how rude! Are we not all bikers? Just like religion, I feel that there is something for everyone. Most importantly we are all bikers and have that in common! It doesn't matter what you ride, just that you ride and with that comes a common denominator. We should be respecting each other and appreciating our differences. As a kid growing up in my dad's motorcycle shop he taught me that philosophy. He started out as a "Harley man", but later became a Boss Hoss fan and dealer before he passed away. I sure hope that we hold more dignity than that and respect one another. That is some serious Mo Advice. It just makes me shake my head and quite frankly wonder if it's just a newbie on a Harley. Please if you are around someone like that, put them in their place and make sure they know that they are no better than anyone just because they take pride in their ride... so does everyone else! Point made, now let's talk about the Ride n' Win contest... whew!

Dust off your Ride Cards and get them out because the Ride n' Win contest has officially kicked off on May 1st! The Registration Stops are excited, the Ride Stops are excited, the event stops are too and so should YOU be, because you get to ride to these places and have a chance to win FREE stuff! There are more sponsors, more prizes and more chances to win! So read all about it and get out and ride. If you don't have a Ride Card yet, you can sign-up for one at Registration Stops, which are listed with a Ride Card picture next to them in this issue.

Thank you to all the monthly contributors to TRMI and our wonderful advertisers~ for you are all what helps make and keep Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan the #1 FREE Motorcycle Magazine in Michigan!

Last month the Biker Friendly character was on page 23. See if you can find him this month (larger version found in the Biker Friendly Directory). This month as a special treat, if you find him email me at Jody@ThunderRoadsMichigan.com (please put BFD Character in the subject line) and one person will win a Thunder Roads MI t-shirt as a prize. Be sure to like Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan on Facebook.

Now for some "Mo" Advice:



Always take the high road in life. Be kind to others and be the kind of person you, yourself would like to be around!



Jody Mohowitsch

THUNDER ROADS
MICHIGAN

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MAY 2016 THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE MICHIGAN 7

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RIDE THE LEGEND MAY - JUNE, 2016

K.I.S.S. IN THE KITCHEN

KEEP IT SIMPLE SWEETIE

Composed & edited by: Toni McCoy Shearon aka "Thunder MaMa" of Thunder Roads National Founders' Office.

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.

BLACKENED SPICY GARLIC SALMON

1-1/2 lbs. Wild Salmon (4, 6 oz. fillets, skinless)
1/2 tsp. Creole Seasoning
1/2 tsp. Dried Dill
2 Tbls. Pre-Chopped Garlic (in grocery's chilled veggie section) or use real garlic, peeled & finely chopped
3 Tbls. Butter - sliced into 6 thin pats
1 Juice of fresh Lime; juice & zest both
Salt & Pepper to taste

Preheat oven to Broil. Adjust oven rack to the top of the oven. Season both sides of the Salmon w/ salt & black pepper, creole seasoning & dried dill. Place on a non-stick baking sheet. Toss garlic evenly over the salmon and top with butter pats; 2 pats for every piece of salmon. Place in the oven and broil for 7-10 minutes, making sure not to over-cook. Remove, cut lime in half and juice all pieces and then zest the lime over all pieces.

This is such a great, light dish for Spring and the Creole seasoning and that blackened taste combined with the lime just makes it pop! Delish!

OH SO LUCKY! IRISH GREEN CUPCAKES WITH GREEN BUTTERCREAM FROSTING

1 Box of White Cake Mix
1 8 oz. Tub of Cool Whip
1 Egg
Powdered Sugar (Confection)

Mix all ingredients together to be dropped onto cookie sheet. Drop tablespoonfuls into a small bowl of Powdered Sugar to coat thoroughly to go on sheet. Bake at pre-heated 350 degrees for 12 minutes. Cool before removing gently with a spatula.

These are so light and not too sweet, just right. I've also done them with other types of Cake Mix... red velvet, fudge chocolate and spice. The white ones just look airy and fluffy for Spring. Garnish w/ the zest of a tangerine over top for a little kick. Yummers!

CAMPFIRE STRAWBERRIES

1 Container of Big Sized Strawberries (it's peak time now so be choosey)
Farm Stands are good because often if you tell them they're for a special recipe they'll let you create your own selection box.
1 Bottle of premium Marshmallow Crème; pour it out into a small glass or ceramic bowl. Wash your strawberries gently under cool water and dry with a paper towel very gently and then let rest on double paper towels to dry complete. Soak kabob wooden spears in water so they don't burn and stick them into top of strawberry and then dip the bottom in the marshmallow crème' and gently toast over fire until bottom golden brown. Can do over open flame gas stove too.

These are so simple. Great to do w/ your kids. Enjoy!

PASTA & FRESH PEAS SALAD

31 Box of Corkscrew Pasta
3 Tbls. Quality Margarine
1 Reg. Size Bag of Frozen Peas (thawed)
1 Large Red Pepper cut up and roasted in oven @ 350 degrees for 10 mins.
1 Bottle of Alfredo Sauce (in grocery aisle along with spaghetti sauce)

Cook your pasta until still a little bite left in it; do not cook until mushy. After draining pasta, add to a glass or ceramic bowl and add your heated all the way through Alfredo sauce and the roasted red peppers. Salt & pepper to your desired taste and add the thawed peas last and gently stir so as not to squish the peas.

This is a really good side dish to have with your Blackened Salmon as the creaminess of the Alfredo sauce truly compliments one another.

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 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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 10:00 am **Blessing** Ceremony and Prayer
 10:30 am **Ride** 2 stop - 100 mile ride
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VETERANS CORNER



Michigan Veterans to Soon be Able to Receive Health Care Outside The VA

Veterans in Michigan will soon have the opportunity to receive health care outside the VA. Ascension Michigan is partnering with the Veterans Choice Program to give vets the choice to receive care at Ascension Michigan locations throughout the state. Genesys hospital is one of those sites.

To qualify, veterans must face wait times longer than 30 days at the VA or have to travel further than 40 miles from their home.

Privatization Savings Fade as Vets Home Answers Audit

When the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs terminated 150 state nursing aides at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans in 2013 and replaced them with a contractor paying much lower wages, state officials said the move would save taxpayers about \$4 million a year.

The state stuck with the cost-cutting move over the objections of veterans living at the home who complained the private nursing aides were poorly trained, frequently quit for better jobs, and had seriously injured veterans by trying to lift them in an unsafe manner. A scathing February audit documented the mishandling of neglect and abuse reports and said the contractor, J2S Group of Grand Rapids, did not meet staffing requirements 81% of the time, lawmakers and administration officials say they are scrambling to assure "our heroes" are getting adequate care.

But the planned remedies — another pay hike for the contractor and bringing in more oversight — could mean higher costs to care for the veterans than existed before the privatization push.

The auditor, by checking surveillance video, also found that 47% of required room checks were not performed, despite documentation showing it was done, and that complaints of abuse and neglect were not properly investigated.

Gov. Rick Snyder called the audit "deeply troubling," accepted the resignation of former campaign manager Jeff Barnes, who headed the Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency, and named as the home's interim director his chief legal counsel, former Kent County circuit and U.S. Navy judge James Robert Redford. Now, actions are happening so quickly that officials aren't able to pinpoint all the associated costs, though Redford told the Free Press he believes there is "still a substantial reduction in cost" from when state employees served as nursing aides.

Officials at the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, which represented the laid-off nursing aides, say even before the latest pay hike for J2S — which the union had not received details about as of Friday — the state is paying more than it did before the switch, and for an inferior level of care, when the extra costs of supervising the contract and other associated problems are included.

During a union appeal in 2013, state officials told the Civil Service Commission the home would easily exceed the required 5% savings threshold for replacing state workers with private contractors.

Nick Ciaramitaro, Michigan AFSCME's legislative director, said the state is now realizing the perceived savings from hiring low-cost workers to care for the state's veterans has not materialized. "You're not going to be able to hire enough people. And even if you do, you're not going to be able to keep them," he said.

The union has offered to call back former state nursing aides who are willing to return. Redford, who is preparing to call for bids on a new contract, said returning state workers to the home, is among the options being considered.

30th National Veterans Golden Age Games in Detroit

Eight hundred men and women are expected to compete in the 30th National Veterans Golden Age Games in Metro Detroit this summer. To make it happen, organizers say, they'll need 2,500 to 3,000 volunteers.

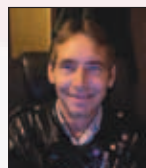
The athletes are veterans age 55 and over who are enrolled in VA health care. They'll compete July 10-14 in events as varied as air rifle, nine-ball billiards and the 1,500-meter run. Bringing to life the old saying about where close only counts, people who used to carry hand grenades will now pitch horseshoes. Figure three days of it with two volunteers for each of two shifts at 40 pits, and that sport alone has 480 volunteer slots.

"We need a lot of hands on deck," says the Detroit VA Healthcare System's William Browning, who, despite his choice of phrase, is actually a veteran of the Army.

The tasks begin with handling baggage at the airport. Genial helpers will need to keep competitors hydrated, keep them from getting lost and keep score.

To sign up, find the Volunteer button at www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov or call Browning at (313) 576-1000.

David McCallister "Possum"
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Sandy's Harley-Davidson: 231.924.3020

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The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

JASON'S TOP 3 LESSONS FROM RECENT TRIAL VICTORY

Just in Time for Motorcycle Awareness Month

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month: The riding season is getting into full swing, and it's our best opportunity to spread the word that motorcycles are everywhere. I recently represented an injured motorcyclist in a court trial, and am pleased to say that justice was served in the form of a verdict of over half a million dollars. The trial, and the crash that led up to it, really hit home for me and showed me that motor vehicle drivers are still not getting the message that they need to be Motorcycle Aware. I want to share the lessons I learned from this case and how they highlight the need for better awareness among vehicle drivers, and then provide a few resources to help you spread the word.

The Backstory: My client was badly hurt when a minivan driver smashed into him while he was riding his Harley on a two-lane country road. The minivan was stopped in the lane ahead, with only the passenger wheels over the fog line. It was a no-passing zone, so my client slowed down well before reaching the minivan, then started to go around. The minivan suddenly made a left turn, slamming into my client in an attempt to turn around. My client had serious injuries, including a head injury, broken clavicle that needed surgery, broken ribs, broken teeth, road rash and scarring, and a back injury that needed surgery two years after the crash.

This case ended up in court because the minivan's driver and the defense team were betting on what is known as the 50% rule: if the defense could convince a jury that my client (the badly injured motorcyclist) was more than 50% at-fault for the crash (over 50% negligent), they would not have to pay non-economic damages, such as pain and suffering, scarring and disfigurement, and loss of enjoyment of life. In other words, they would be off the hook for the long-term effects of the crash. This brings me to my first lesson:

Lesson #1: There may be a bias against unhelmeted motorcyclists. In this case, the defense team thought they could convince a jury that my client was more than 50% negligent in the crash mostly because he was not wearing a helmet (they also said he was passing on a double line). Since Michigan's helmet law was repealed in 2012, I have talked to a lot of riders and non-riders, and conducted focus groups (mock trials), to find out what people think about riding without a helmet. What I learned is that non-riders in particular seem to feel that riding without a helmet is negligent, or that it puts the rider in greater danger than if he were wearing a helmet.

Because of my extensive research and experience handling these types of cases, I was prepared to fight this apparent bias. I filed a motion to prevent the defense team from arguing that my client was negligent for not wearing a helmet, but that motion was denied by the judge. I explained it to the jury this way: whether or not my client was wearing a helmet that morning wouldn't have made any difference in terms of preventing the crash. And, even if he had been wearing a helmet, it wouldn't have prevented the majority of his injuries. I also explained to the jury that my client was riding legal that day, which brings me to my second lesson:

Lesson #2: Riding legal matters, and can make a huge difference if you are ever injured in a crash. During the trial, I emphasized over and over that my client was legal when he rode without a helmet: He had a motorcycle endorsement (CY), his bike was registered, he had proper insurance, he was over 21 years old, and he was carrying the extra \$20K in medical coverage you need to have to ride without a helmet. How could the defense say that my injured client was negligent when he was so conscientious about following the law?

Ultimately, the jury did assign some negligence to my client, but not more than 50%, and I believe that is mostly because they could see that he was fully compliant with the law. Meeting the legal requirements to ride a motorcycle is neither difficult nor

expensive, and it certainly paid off for my client in this case. So as always, I encourage all motorcyclists to "get endorsed, get insured, and spread the word". This brings me to my last lesson:

Lesson #3: Promoting Motorcycle Awareness is an important part of the lifestyle, and we all need to do our part. Let's face it, drivers just aren't getting the message, and I have proof: my team and I are busy every day taking calls from and helping injured motorcyclists who have been hit by drivers who "just didn't see them". Drivers are more distracted than ever: eating, applying make-up, shaving, fiddling with their phones, checking their GPS units, or just zoning out. They are not being extra careful at intersections, where most vehicle-motorcycle crashes occur. They are not checking their mirrors or blind spots before changing lanes (or using turn signals). They are rushing to turn left directly in front of motorcyclists, either because they think they have time, or because they think the motorcyclist can stop on a dime.

I don't believe that vehicle drivers are "out to get" motorcyclists. But I do think that drivers just are not getting the message that our safety depends, more than any other factor, on their actions. I think it's up to all of us to engage with our family and friends, colleagues, and anybody else we talk to, and really spread the word. Just about everyone is on Facebook these days (including me: Facebook.com/TheMotorcycleLawyer), so use social media to get the message out! I challenge every reader to remind one person --friend, coworker, or stranger-- to Watch for Motorcycles every day.

Here are 5 more ways you can help promote motorcycle awareness right now:

1. Get a bumper sticker for your vehicle, and display it proudly. Visit our booth at Michigan motorcycle events, or visit <http://www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com/20.html>.
2. Share a motorcycle awareness message on Facebook and tag #TheMotorcycleLawyer so we can find it
3. Send an email to writer@lawyerforlife.com to get a free printable Motorcycle Awareness poster you can post at work, school, or in your community
4. Share this article with your contacts
5. Subscribe to our monthly newsletter to learn about motorcycle awareness and the law

There are so many easy ways to help promote motorcycle awareness. Please, take a few minutes each day to spread the word; you could save a life--maybe even your own.

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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The JOKERS WILD

The IRS decides to audit Grandpa, and summons him to the IRS office. The IRS auditor was not surprised when Grandpa showed up with his attorney. The auditor said, 'Well, sir, you have an extravagant lifestyle and no full-time employment. Which you explain by saying that you win money gambling.. I'm not sure the IRS finds that believable.'

I'm a great gambler, and I can prove it,' says Grandpa. 'How about a demonstration?' The auditor thinks for a moment and said, 'Okay. Go ahead.' Grandpa says, 'I'll bet you a thousand dollars that I can bite my own eye.' The auditor thinks a moment and says, 'It's a bet.'

Grandpa removes his glass eye and bites it. The auditor's jaw drops. Grandpa says, 'Now, I'll bet you two thousand dollars that I can bite my other eye.' Now the auditor can tell Grandpa isn't blind, so he takes the bet. Grandpa removes his dentures and bites his good eye. The stunned auditor now realizes he has wagered and lost three grand, with Grandpa's attorney as a witness. He starts to get nervous.

'Want to go double or nothing?' Grandpa asks 'I'll bet you six thousand dollars that I can stand on one side of your desk, and pee into that wastebasket on the other side, and never get a drop anywhere in between.'

The auditor, twice burned, is cautious now, but he looks carefully and decides there's no way this old guy could possibly manage that stunt, so he agrees again.

Grandpa stands beside the desk and unzips his pants, but although he strains mightily, he can't make the stream reach the wastebasket on the other side, so he pretty much urinates all over the auditor's desk.

The auditor leaps with joy, realizing that he has just turned a major loss into a huge win.

But Grandpa's own attorney moans and puts his head in his hands.

'Are you okay?' the auditor asks.

'Not really,' says the attorney. 'This morning, when Grandpa told me he'd been summoned for an audit, he bet me twenty-five thousand dollars that he could come in here and piss all over your desk and that you'd literally be happy about it!'

Guts-Is arriving home late, after a night out with the lads, being met by your wife with a broom, & having the "Guts" to ask: "Are you still cleaning, or are you flying somewhere?" Balls-Is coming home late after a night out with the lads, reeking of perfume w/lipstick on your collar, slapping your wife on the bum and having the "Balls" to say: 'You're next, Chubby.' Both have same result. Sudden death.

One morning, before he goes out to the fields, the farmer says to his sweet, albeit ditzy blonde young wife, "The Artificial Insemination man is coming to impregnate one of our cows today. I drove a nail into the two-by-four above the cow's stall so you can show him where it is, okay?"

The Artificial Insemination man arrives. Suzy takes him down the long row of cows until she sees the nail, and tells him, "This is the one. This one right here!" "How did you know this is the cow to be bred?" the A.I. guys asks curiously to the ditzy cute blonde.

"By the nail over her stall," Suzy says proudly.

Then the man asks, "What's the nail for?"

Well, duh, I reckon' it's to hang your pants on.'

When little Tony Soprano returned home from elementary school, in his youth, he told his Dad he got an F in math.

"Why?" asks the father?

"The teacher asked 'How much is 2x3', I said "6", replies Tony. "But that's right!" says his dad. "Yeah, but then she asked me "How much is 3x2?" "What's the f***ing difference?" screams the father. "That's exactly what I said!", little Tony yells.

A few minutes before the church services started, the congregation was sitting in their pews talking.

Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church.

Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate.

Soon the church was empty except for William who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seemingly oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence..

So Satan walked up to William and said, 'Do you know who I am?'

William replied, 'Yep, sure do.'

'Aren't you afraid of me?' Satan asked.

'Nope, sure ain't.' said the calm as a clam William.

'Don't you realize I can kill you with one word?' asked Satan.

'Don't doubt it for a minute,' returned William, in an even tone.

'Did you know that I can cause you profound, horrifying AGONY for all eternity?' stated Satan.

'Yep,' was the calm reply. 'And you are still not afraid?' asked Satan.

'Nope,' said William.

More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, 'Why aren't you afraid of me?'

William calmly replied, "been married to your sister for over 40 years now".

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Chris 586-557-0892 or oldwiseass@yahoo.com

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HISTORY OF MOTORCYCLES:

Part 10

The 1960's brought us what was probably the flashiest, most forward customization movement in motorcycle history...a movement that continues to this day. It introduced us to some amazing names in the industry that will surely never cease to amaze,

be you a motorcycle fanatic or not. But while the 60's were all about flare, the 70's brought us some major changes, as well as some significant names out of Japan that would latch on to American motorcycle culture and ride on into the present as standard household names. By 1970 there are approximately 2.8 million motorcycles registered in the United States, so who wouldn't want to try and get a piece of the American pie?

First let's touch on what Harley-Davidson is doing during the decade at hand. H-D Motorcycles was still under the reign of AMF at the time, but that doesn't mean that they were stagnant. To kick off the 70's Harley introduced the XR-750 for Class C racing...a Sportster based motorcycle which they continued to update and improve upon throughout the duration of the decade. 1971 was the first year for the FX1200 SuperGlide – a combination of a Sporty front end and the frame and power train of the FL series. The SuperGlide opened the door for an entirely new class of motorcycle...the Cruiser. In 1977, H-D makes a very public debut of its FXS Low Rider in Daytona Beach, and later the same year releases Willie G. Davidson's dynamic version of the Sportster, the café racer. Willie's bike was only in production for two short years and was deemed "a sales flop" due to its lethargic performance, but eventually became a collector's item. The FXEF Fat Bob bounces onto the scene in '79... appropriately named for its dual gas tanks and bobbed fenders. So while



Harley was certainly not the motorcycle company making leaps and bounds at this time, they certainly didn't stop growing their ever blooming family tree.

Perhaps the biggest change in American motorcycle history in the United States that occurred was the addition of so many Japanese bikes to the mix. While many manufacturers both large and small took their shot at both the racing scene and general riding population, we will keep our focus on the four major Japanese manufacturers who jumped in to American culture with both feet...and managed to find and KEEP their place in American motorcycle history.

First and foremost to enter and succeed in the United States is Honda. Honda entered the US motorcycle world like a bat out of hell...and just kept on flying. As with many Japanese motorcycle companies, Honda offered models that were superior examples of well-crafted machines. They were very popular in the racing world, and for good reason. The Honda "70" was one of the world's first small 4 stroke, small capacity motorcycles with an engine displacement of only 72 cc. It sported a triangular speedometer and a maximum calibration of 60 mph...Honda constantly upgraded and modified this model. In addition to the "70", Honda introduced America to the CL100, and the XL250. When it appeared, the XL250 was the first modern 4 stroke enduro motorcycle, as well as the first mass produced 4 valve model. It was deemed an "enduro" because of its dual purpose... it shared many characteristics of a dirt bike, but at the same time was street legal, and intended for both on and off road use. An interesting aspect of the bike was its narrow streamlining...they were



only 12" at their widest point (excluding the handlebars). The CBX was released during the 70's as well, and was classified as a Superbike. The late 70's Honda brought its CX series to the table...a monumental accomplishment, considering these models boasted liquid cooling, electronic ignitions, and dual CV type carburetors. But of all the models Honda introduced us to (and yes, there are more) the last model I will mention is a very familiar name. Honda's touring motorcycle premiered in 1974...the Goldwing. It was introduced at the Cologne Motorcycle Show that October, and proceeded to make itself at home around the world. Over the course of its history, the Goldwing has had numerous changes and upgrades, with most of its sales being made in the United States.

Next in line to try their hand in America was Kawasaki. These guys were hot on the tails of Honda, and all in when it came to competition. During the 1970's Kawasaki introduced Americans to several noteworthy models. The S1 Mach1 was a direct result of their previous model (the H1 MachIII 500 cc) and was in every aspect a 3 cylinder 2 stroke upgrade. They also produced the Mach1's big brother for a short two years...a larger version of the Mach1 with a displacement of 346 cc. Kawasaki also produced the Z1 in response to Honda's CB750...the Z1 helped to popularize the in-line, cross-frame four cylinder, which would become well known as the "Universal Japanese Motorcycle". This model was also noted for combining numerous elements previously available on other motorcycles into a single bike, and at the time was the most powerful Japanese 4 cylinder 4 stroke ever marketed...factory direct it had a maximum speed of 130 mph. Not too shabby if I say so myself. Kawasaki continued to upgrade models and added water cooling and shaft drives in the 70's, always maintaining advanced, and above all, FAST motorcycles.

Suzuki and Yamaha joined the Japanese quest for American domination in the 70's as well. While Yamaha models were somewhat scarcer than that of Honda and Kawasaki, they did have some pretty cool selling points of their own. The engines were air cooled, parallel twins that were even offered in a six speed version in some markets. Another interesting aspect of Yamaha bikes was that all models came equipped with "Autolube" automatic oil injection, relieving the user from the need to mix gasoline and two-stroke oil. One noteworthy point about these bikes...they were far different from Honda's approach with the dual purpose enduros...Yamaha models varied immensely between street bikes and racing motorcycles. In fact, the frames alone on street models like the RD350 were often upwards of



twice the weight of racing model frames. Suzuki brought us an initial lineup consisting of the GT380 (the Sebring), GT550 (the Indy), and the GT750 (the LeMans). These bikes offered piston-ported two stroke engines featuring Crankcase Cylinder Injection (PosiForce)...essentially a multi-point oil injection system. The 380 and 550 engines were air cooled and marketed as "Ram Air" by Suzuki. The 750 differed from the previous models in that it was liquid cooled and was nicknamed "the water buffalo" in the US, and also featured dual disc brakes up front (another big "first" for Suzuki).

So apparently the Japanese need to be thanked for more than Geishas and sushi...who knew they would create such a surge in competition in the motorcycle industry. Japanese manufacturers pushed the industry and encouraged American manufacturers to step up and polish their chrome if you will. So, I will be the first to say it...thank you Japan, for kicking our ass...We certainly needed someone to light a fire under our somewhat dormant carcasses and regroup. The 1980's brought us shoulder pads and highly flammable hair-dos...but it also brought us some pretty cool modernizations to our cherished two-wheeled cohorts. Next time we will check out what this decade brought to the table...besides the Rubiks cube.

Melanie Schwarte
~ Thunder Roads Magazine of Iowa

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2016 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST



The 3rd Annual

Michigan Thunder Run Ride n' Win Contest has Officially Started!

MAY 1ST



All you need to do to get started is

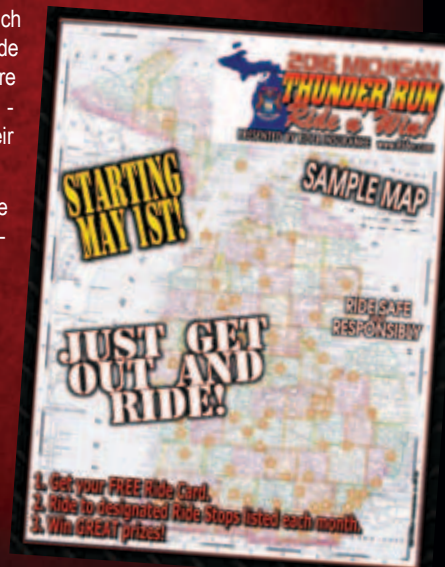
1. Go to any Registration stop listed on the map with a red star or on The Stops pages. If you already have your card from last year or the year before, you do not need to register again. The Ride Cards do not expire so hold on to it. The information that you provide when you sign-up for your FREE Ride Card only goes to me and will NOT be used for any other purpose than this contest. You will not have to provide any other personal information again after this. You will be handed your FREE Ride Card right then. It has a unique number on it- take note because that is YOURS and ONLY YOURS.
2. Once you have your Ride Card go to any or all of the stops listed this month and show them your card! Registration stops are also ride stops. There are also event stops each month. That stop will write your unique Ride Card number down. Let them know if you spend over \$10 there because your Ride Card number will get counted twice!
3. Check the following months issue to see if your Ride Card number is listed as a winner. You must check this each month as Thunder Roads staff will not contact you and let you know you won. If your Ride Card number is listed as a winner email MichiganThunderRun@gmail.com to claim your prize. In the email provide your name, address, phone number & Ride Card number. Again, the information only goes to us at Thunder Roads. Please note: You only have 45 days to claim your prize from the 1st the month it is listed in the magazine.

Make sure to pick-up your copy each month of Thunder Roads to see that month's Ride Stops and also to see if your Ride Card is listed as a winner!



FEW FACTS

- Winners are randomly picked from each Registration/Ride Stop, Ride Stop & Event Stop each month.
- The more places you check-in the greater your chances are of winning a prize from that stop or one of our sponsors prizes!
- If you spend \$10 or more at any of the Registration/Ride Stops or Ride Stops your Ride Card number gets counted twice! Please note: The reason why this contest is FREE to you the rider is because our sponsors and stops. So we want to encourage everyone to support them in return. That is why we count your Ride Card number twice if you spend \$10 or more.
- You can check-in 1 time each week at each Registration/Ride Stop & Ride Stops. Riders are able to win multiple prizes - based upon the drawing of their check-in.
- Riders are able to win multiple prizes - based upon the drawing of their check-in.
- Some prize drawings are specific to only check-ins for the particular month - while others prizes are drawn from check-in's season long.
- ALL CHECK-INS remain in the system for end of the season prizes!



2016 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST



It's really that simple!

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

Thunder Roads Michigan will also be registering riders for Ride Cards at specific events throughout the year as we distribute magazines. Key events; such as Harley Fest, Bikes on the Bricks or Bike Nights will have special booth for Ride Card registrations. We will list these events each month on the Event Stops page in the magazine. In most cases, we will be offering special incentives to those checking in with their previously issued Ride Card at these stops.

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

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

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

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

Just Get Out and RIDE!

We want to keep things exciting for you – the readers and riders on the run. We're bikers and it's all about the ride. We want to help create fun experiences for you and share some cool spots in our state. We have designed this run to entertain and challenge our readers – as well as promote our partners. If your business would like to be a stop or be a sponsor, please email us at MichiganThunderRunRide@gmail.com



RIDING OUT OF STATE? IF YOU RIDE TO PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO, INDIANA, DELAWARE, MARYLAND OR WASHINGTON DC MAKE SURE TO PICK UP A COPY OF THUNDER ROADS IN EACH STATE AND LOOK FOR A REGISTRATION STOP NEAR YOU TO REGISTER FOR THAT STATES RIDE CARD. THEN CHECK-IN AT ANY STOP LISTED IN THAT STATES ISSUE. YOU COULD WIN PRIZES IN EACH STATE!



LET'S RIDE!

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

You can email us at MichiganThunderRunRide@gmail.com

2016 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

MAY 2016 STOPS



EVENT STOPS



ALL STOPS



REG. FOR FREE RIDE CARD



RIDE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLY



2016 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

MAY EVENT STOPS

LOCATION INDICATED ON MAP WITH A BLUE STAR

MAY 1ST

17th Annual Blessing of the Bikers

Church of the Living Word 1100 N. Ovid Rd. Ovid, MI 989-834-5950
9:30 am, service 10:30 am, 11:30 am all you can eat Hog Roast \$5, 1:30 pm charity ride, ride in bike show (register by noon), 50/50 & prizes. Look for Kirk wearing Thunder Roads gear 11 am- 2 pm (See ad this issue).

MAY 12TH

CreekSide Bar & Grille Bike Night

9387 Gratiot Rd, Saginaw, MI. 6pm- 9pm, 2 or 3 Wheels/ \$2 Specials, hosted & music by DJ Mike, food specials / weekly buffet, special outdoor bike only area designated for all the fun. Look for Jody Mo to check-in with your Ride Card 6 pm- 8 pm (See ad this issue).

MAY 21ST

8th Annual Biker Blessing ~ The Matthew Brotherton Memorial Cancer Ride

Merriman Road Baptist Church 2055 Merriman Rd. Garden City, MI 48135
Registration 9:30 am, blessing 1 pm, free food, music, bike show, vendors & prizes. Everyone welcome. Look for Renae wearing Thunder Roads hoodie/gear and holding a clipboard from 10 am- 11:30 am. (See ad this issue).

THE STOPS

For the month of May check-in at any of these stops and you could win the prize at that stop. Don't have a Ride card? You can sign-up for your FREE Ride Card at any of the stops listed with a Ride Card next to it (Ride Cards from last year are still good as they do not expire). Then check-in at any stop with your Ride Card to win that prize. Make sure to pick up the June issue (or view the magazine online at www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com) to see if your Ride Card number is listed as a winner from this month's stops. Sponsor prizes are randomly picked from event stops and stops listed below. **Special Inside Tip...** some stops get many check-in's and some stops only get a couple of people that check-in each month, which means you have an excellent chance of winning! Still go to your favorite Ride Stops as well regardless, but also...My secret hint is try some place new that you haven't been to, they will be biker friendly, just show your Ride Card and just get out and Ride!



NORTH

Maxwell Brothers Cycle Shop LLC

2469 US-31 North, Petoskey, MI 49770. (231) 347-2629 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 9-2, Sun closed.

1 person wins choice of hat, shirt, hoodie, vest or helmet each month.

A mom & pop shop, fast, friendly service.

Museum of Moses @ Vogel Store

9979 S. 8 mile Rd (Vogel center) McBain, MI 49657. (231) 825-2219 Hours: M-Sat 9:30 am-9 pm, Sun closed. 1 person wins 2 choices of hat, shirt, coozie, patch, misc. each month.

Awesome collection of vintage Harley's, hot food & drinks.



BS & Co Bar & Grill

12946 S. Straits Hwy, Wolverine, MI 49799. (231) 525-8737 12946 S. Straits Hwy, Wolverine, MI 49799.

(231) 525-8737 Hours: Open Every Day 7 am-10pm. 1 person wins gift certificate for a large pizza each month. Stop in anytime!

Bike Night Saturdays 6pm-9pm, fun, friends & foolishness.

Trail's End Pub

10141 N. Finley Lake Ave, Harrison, MI 48625. (989) 539-9644 Hours: 10am-Midnight Every day. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. Bike Nights Thursday with 20 oz. Steak specials, Tiki Bar, Special Bike Parking



continued on next page

2016 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

THE STOPS



SOUTH

ABC Harley-Davidson

4405 Highland Rd, Waterford, MI 48328. (248) 674-3175 Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 11-3. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *An inviting, fun, fair & honest place to visit.*

Capitol Harley-Davidson

9550 Woodlane Dr, Dimondale, MI 48821. (517) 646-2345 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 10-3, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Lots of events, great scenic ride in the local area.*

Cornwell's

18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068. (269) 781-4293 Hours: 11-8 Every Day. 1 person wins choice of t-shirt or \$10 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Wednesday*

Hunt's Hog Shop

3030 S. Cedar St, Lansing, MI 48910. (517) 394-7840 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 10-4, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *We have been here for 28 years, honest & dependable.*

Indian Motorcycle Motorcity

1765 S. Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. (248) 920-2000 Hours: M, T, W, F, Sat 9-6, Th 9-8. 1 person wins a t-shirt & hat each month. *Come see our large selection of Indian Motorcycles & Victory Motorcycles & accessories.*

McNastys Saloon

19300 Waltz Rd, New Boston, MI 48164. (734) 753-4900 Hours: M 10-10, T-Sat 10am-2am, Sun 11-11pm. 1 lucky person wins a delicious burger & fry meal each month. *Great food, people, family owned with a Cheers atmosphere, try their fried pickle spears!*

Motor City Harley-Davidson

34900 Grand River Ave, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. (248) 473-7433 Hours: M-F 10-7, Sat & Sun 10-5. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *A Detroit Original.*

Stingers Bar & Grill

49110 Grand River, Wixom, MI 48393. (248) 449-9667 Hours: M 11am-2am, T-Sun 9am-2am. 1 person wins a \$30 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Thursdays, hot girlz, cool beer, great food.*

Total Firearms

1380 N. Cedar St, Mason, MI 48854. (517) 699-0597 Hours: M-F 9-7, Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Indoor pistol range, largest gun inventory in Lansing, private lake out back, rental boats all summer.*

Wolverine Harley-Davidson

44660 N. Gratiot Ave, Clinton Twp., MI 48036. (586) 463-7700 Showroom Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 10-4, Sun 11-3. Service Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-4, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *Bikes, friends & good times- Michigan must see.*



EAST

Bay Cycle

3800 S. Huron Rd, Bay City, MI 48706. (989) 684-0754 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 9-3, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *A friendly place to shop, great prices on helmets, chaps, jackets & more. We cater to every biker!*

C & K Corner Store LLC

8892 Van Cleve Rd, Vassar, MI 48768. (989) 871-3120 Hours: Sun-Th 5am-10pm, Fri & Sat 5am-11pm. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Great food, cold beer, biker friendly, gift shop & Hersey hand-dip ice cream.*

Caro Motorsports

1660 E. Caro Rd, Caro, MI 48723. (989) 673-8500 Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-4, Sun closed. 1 person wins a Caro MS hoodie & Wizards Mist-n-Shine each month. *A one stop speed shop with service, machining, accessories, parts, apparel & more.*

Castaways

3940 Boy Scout, Bay City, MI 48706. (989) 686-3558 Hours: M-Th 11am-12am, Fri & Sat 11am-2am, Sun 12pm-12am. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *Bike night Tuesdays, great food on the water with outside deck.*

CreekSide Bar & Grill

9387 Gratiot Rd, Saginaw, MI 48609. (989) 781-0050 Hours: M-W 3-11, Th 11-11, Fri & Sat 11-1, Sun Noon-10. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Thursday with special biker outdoor area, weekly buffet special, music & drinks outside.*

2016 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

THE STOPS

Great Lakes Harley-Davidson

3850 S. Huron Rd (M-13), Bay City, MI 48706. (989) 686-0400 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 10-3, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Great selection of new/used bikes & accessories- located in the heart of the tri-cities.*

Holeshot Harley-Davidson

4741 E. Pickard, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. (989) 772-5513 Hours: M-W & F 9-6, Th 9-7, Sat 9-4, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Central Michigan's newest H-D dealer, under new ownership. New & Used bikes, parts, accessories, dyno & H-D certified techs.*

Iron Horse Bar & Grill

3592 Main St, Akron, MI 48701. (989) 691-5761 Hours: Everyday 11am-2am. 1 person wins all you can eat wings each month. *Bike Night Wednesdays- specials, happy hour, thumbs largest biker bar.*

My Alibi Bar & Grill

2185 S. Meridian Rd, Midland, MI 48640. (989) 835-3573 Hours: Mon-Sat 11am-2am, Sun 12pm-12am. 1 lucky person wins a t-shirt. *Bike Night Thursdays, burnout pit, biker specials, live music.*

Ray C's Harley-Davidson

1491 S. Lapeer Rd (M24-I69), Lapeer, MI 48446. (810) 664-9261 Hours: M-Th 10-6, F 10-7, Sat 10-4, Sun 11-4 (store). 1 person wins a \$100 gift card each month. *29,000 sq. ft. new location with easy on/off exit, great selection & award winning service.*

River Rock Bar & Grill

210 N. Mill St, St. Louis, MI 48880. (989) 681-2851 Hours: M-W 7am-10pm, Th-Sat 7am-2am, Sun 7am-9pm. 1 lucky person wins a \$25 gift card. *Bike Night Wednesdays.*

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(*Special Daily Check-In Option) 2690 Worth Rd, Standish, MI 48658. (989) 775-5912 Hours: 24 hours/7 days a week. EVERY RIDER (WITH RIDE CARD) MAY COME IN DAILY & FOR EVERY 300 POINTS EARNED THEY WILL RECEIVE \$10 IN PREMIUM PLAY (1 TIME EACH DAY MAXIMUM, GO TO THE PLAYERS CLUB TO RECEIVE PREMIUM PLAY). *Fun, exciting, great people.*

Shiawassee Harley-Davidson

11901 N. Beyer Rd, Birch Run, MI 48415. (989) 624-4400 Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-4, Sun 10-3. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Bike Nights 2nd Friday of each month, easy on/off I-75 Birch Run exit.*



WEST

Boondox Motorsports

99952 Cherry Valley Ave SE, Caledonia, MI 49316. (616) 891-9900 Hours: M & W 9-8, T, Th & F 9-6, Sat 10-4, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *Wide variety of pre-owned motorcycles, cars, trucks, suv's, apparel & accessories, friendly people & free root beer.*

Duck Inn Waddle Out

3214 Brookfield Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49048. (269) 342-4447 Hours: M-Sat 11am-2am, Sun noon-2 am. 1 lucky person wins a t-shirt or sweat-shirt each month. *Bike Nights Thursday, full bar & menu. Plus, where else can you Duck Inn & Waddle Out?!*

Hot Rod Harley-Davidson

149 Shoreline Dr, Muskegon, MI 49440. (231) 722-0000 Hours: M- W & F 9-6, Th 9-7, Sat 9-4, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$50 gift card each month. *40,000 sq. ft. facility along the lakeshore, new & used bikes, parts & accessories, service dept. with dyno & H-D certified techs.*

Remus Tavern

118 W. Wheatland Ave, Remus, MI 49340. (989) 967-8304 Hours: Every Day 9 am-10 pm. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. Full menu with great food; burritos, burgers, lake perch, daily drink specials, & breakfast.

Rum Runners

12058 E. Apple Ave, Ravenna, MI 49451. (231) 853-2223 Hours: Wed-Sun open at 11 am. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card & t-shirt each month. *Bike Nights Wednesday with live band, full service kitchen, outdoor bar, special bike parking, horse-shoes, & 5600 sq. ft. of tropical fun!*

The Dock at Bayview

12504 E. D Ave, Richland, MI 49083. (269) 731-4911 Hours: M-Sat 11 am- 2am, Sun noon-midnight. 1 person wins either t-shirt or food voucher each month. *Bike Nights Thursday, entertainment, drink & food specials every day.*

Make sure to check the June issue to see if you won at any of the stops you checked in at this month!



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Jody "Mo's"
THUNDER FUN

Inspiration

(From Forbes- Top 100 Inspirational Quotes)

Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck. ~ Dalai Lama

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have. ~ Maya Angelou

Dream big and dare to fail. ~ Norman Vaughan

Biker Sayings

When life gets you down remember, it's only one down and the rest is up.

Myth: You only live once. Fact: You die only once, you live every day.

Race the rain, ride the wind & chase the sunset. Only a biker understands.

You know you are a biker when you recognize your friends by the sound of their exhaust.

The best memories begin with the most insane ideas.

Fun Facts

The starfish is one of the only animals who can turn its stomach inside-out.

The sound of E.T. walking was made by someone squishing her hands in Jell-O.

Windmills always turn counter-clockwise. Except for windmills in Ireland.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies room during a dance.

TOP RIDES IN ARIZONA

Tom & Lynell Radewahn

A couple nice days in February and we all start thinking about riding our bikes. But March in Michigan can be an awfully long month. So off we went to Tucson where winters are sunny and warm.

Our home base was the Voyager RV Park, which has garnered national recognition for their facility, services and activities. Michigan friends, Ron and Candy, Harsh, have their own unit here and our monthly rental established the Voyager as our home base for travels throughout the State.

The first week, we hit all the local sights including Saguaro National Parks East and West, Pima Aerospace Museum, Kitt Peak National Observatory and Old Tucson Studios, which is the sight that many Westerns have been filmed including Gunfight at OK Corral, Gunsmoke, Cimarron, Rio Bravo, Have Gun Will Travel, Little House on the Prairie and many other. These are all the best places we recommend checking out. These shorter trips allowed us to get our wheels back under us after the winter hiatus.



We then teamed up with some other riders to take a few multiple day trips to Tombstone, Douglas, Chiricahua National Park, Bisbee and Patagonia. Tombstone is a favorite of ours and lunch at Big Nose Kate's Saloon really takes you back in time. You can just imagine Wyatt and Doc walking through the door and belling up to the bar. There's a lot to see here including a shootout at the OK Corral. We even think we recognized the spot where Wyatt finished off Curly Bill.

By the time we got to Douglas, it was late in the day and Candy had reserved four rooms at the Gadsden Hotel. Located right on the border of Mexico, we didn't expect much and from the exterior, didn't appear to be much. But the hotel, built in the 1920's, was absolutely gorgeous with marble pillars, an ornate double staircase with marble steps winding upwards to both left and right, and a very good restaurant where we enjoyed a great meal.



The next morning we headed to Chiricahua National Park, which was actually the last stronghold of Geronimo. The mountains there are so rugged with such a small pass to enter into, Geronimo held off troops for close to 10 years before his surrender. Then off we rode to Bisbee, another town on the border that was built right in the hills with beautiful views. Ron took us to a little off the beaten path restaurant where they served Michigan's Koegel Viennas, ala Mexican style.

Another trip took us North through Globe, Roosevelt Lake, Payson and then to our evening destination of Sedona. Now, for those of you that have not had the pleasure of visiting Sedona, let me tell you that this is a destination for your "Bucket List". The red rock formations with outstanding hiking opportunities are well worth a longer visit to this town! Leaving Sedona was tough, but our next destination was the Grand Canyon. You can just never see enough of this marvel and if you are able, we highly recommend the helicopter ride that takes you into the canyon for unbelievable views. It was the highlight of our trip.



Our last destination just happened to be directed back to our short term home in Tucson. We had heard of the road 191 through the Apache National Forest also known as the Apache Trail. We drove through Alpine to the town of Eager and gassed up, for you will not find gas for another 120 miles. Just South of Eager, the mountain roads began winding with elevations going up and down and we spent the next 50 miles rocking our bikes back and forth as if you were riding to a waltz.

Then, at an elevation close to 9,000, you will find Hannagon Meadow Lodge. Now we just stopped here for a coffee and hot chocolate, but I highly recommend that if you plan on taking this trip, call ahead and stay at the lodge. It is a beautiful log facility with a lot of history to take in. We were greeted by Max and Lucy, the two resident malamutes. They were as glad to see us as we were them.

The next leg of the trip took us South on 191 to Morenci. 69 Miles of curves, switchbacks and hairpin turns that makes the dragon look like child's play. I'll tell you that this stretch of road is possibly the most beautiful and challenging road in the lower 48. At the end, you won't get a patch or t-shirt that says, "I rode the Apache Trail", or a picture showing you going around one of the curves. You won't even find a little store at either end of the trail to buy Apache Trail memorabilia. But, you will have the satisfaction of riding one of the most exciting roads in the country with your bike between your knees and knowing that no one will ever be able to take that away from you! You will want to check your side walls for wear.

Coming out of the Trails last mountain range will open up to one of the largest copper/gold mining operations in the world. It's worth the time to stop and gawk at one of the turnoffs available. The monster trucks and excavators look like tinkler toys. We rode along this mine for close to 10 miles before we hit the town of Morenci.



So another bucket list trip is in the books. Now, back to work so we can go on the next one. Keep the wheel side down, friends.

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1 RIDE N' WIN KICKS-OFF TODAY!   BLESSING Church of the Living Word 	2	3	4	5	6	7 DERBY PARTY ABC HD HARLEY FAT BOY WEEKENDS Soaring Eagle Casino BIB BASH Museum of "Moses" MEMORIAL RIDE Retail Warehouse
8 Mothers Day	9 BLESSING Church of the Living Word	10	11	12 CREEKSIDE BIKE NIGHT 	13 OPEN HOUSE Dick Scott's Freedom PS	14 OPEN HOUSE Dick Scott's Freedom PS OPEN HOUSE ~ ABC HD HARLEY FAT BOY WEEKENDS Soaring Eagle Casino WORKSHOP ~ Shiawassee HD OPEN HOUSE & FLAG CEREMONY ~ Sandy's HD TTBAD CUSTOMS (IN THE SHOP WITH RON) GRAND OPENING
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 BENEFIT ~ Perry HD HOOS & HOTCAKES ~ ABC HD HARLEY FAT BOY WEEKENDS Soaring Eagle Casino ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATION Indian Motorcycle Motorcity  BLESSING & RIDE Merriman Rd Baptist Church TENT EVENT & BIKER BASH Holeshot HD MOTORCYCLE RIDE Cabela's, Dundee
22 BOOBIES RUN ABC HD	23	24	25	26	27 OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND RALLY Hwy 15, Pioneer, OH	28 OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND RALLY Hwy 15, Pioneer, OH HARLEY FAT BOY WEEKENDS Soaring Eagle Casino
29 OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND RALLY Hwy 15, Pioneer, OH VETERANS RIDE South Haven	30 MEMORIAL DAY  OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND RALLY Hwy 15, Pioneer, OH	31	1	2	3	4

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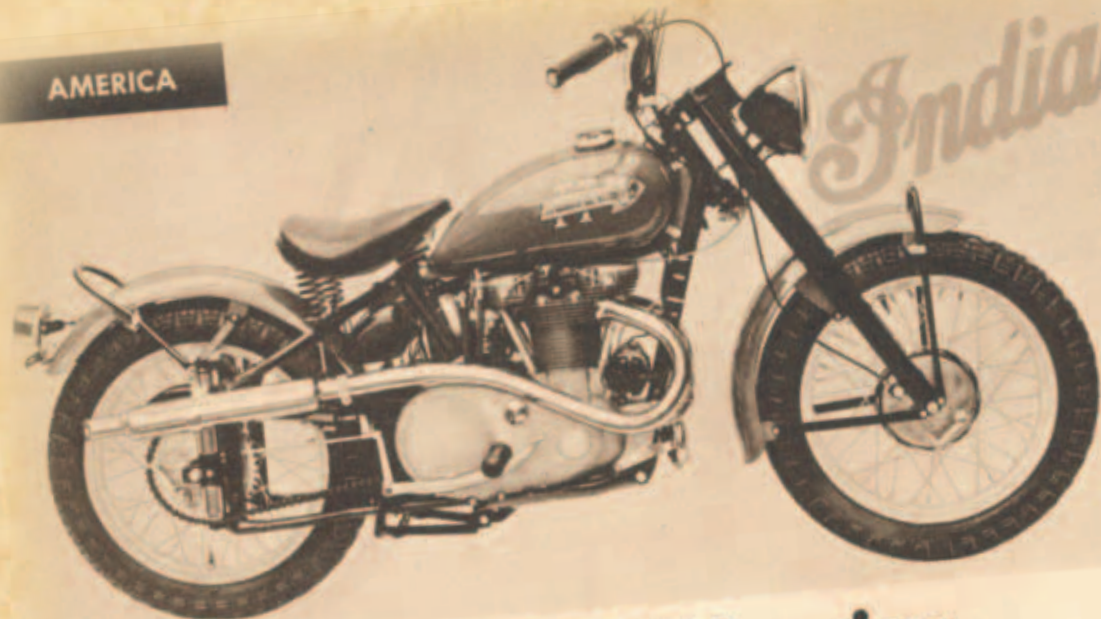
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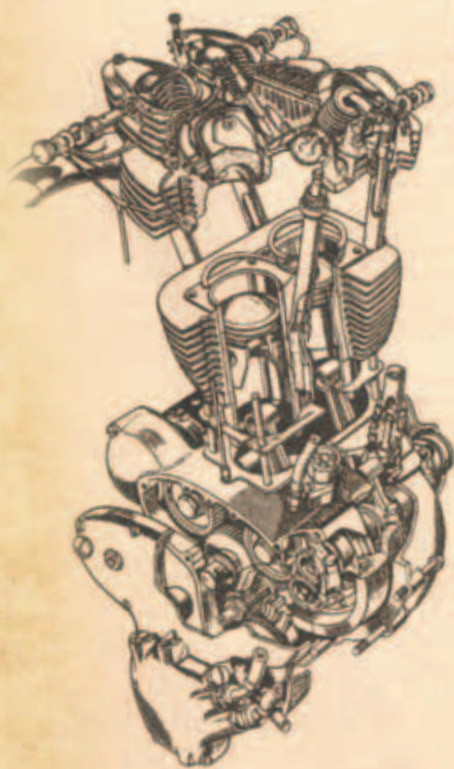
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Indian TT Warrior

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Overhead valve engine on "Warrior" has a 7.5 to 1 compression ratio. 3" stroke, 1 3/4" intake valves.

SPECIFICATIONS

Indian Warrior

ENGINE: Air-cooled, overhead valve, twin cylinder engine. Bore 2.54" x 3" stroke 3". displacement 500 cc. Compression ratio 7 to 1. Hemispherical combustion chamber. Short pushrod design with high camshaft mounted in large, precision-type cam bearings. Alloy valves with 45° seats. Double non-surge valve springs. Cylinder heads of high strength aluminum-alloy with aviation-bronze valve guides, spark plug inserts and venturi-type valve seats. Aluminum cylinder block, with centrifugally cast iron liners extending deep into crankcase.

CLUTCH: Controlled by lever on handlebar.

DRIVE: Primary and final drive by roller chain: double-row, 3/4" pitch, driving from cam and spring type cushion main shaft sprocket in oil bath. Rear chain is 1/2" pitch, single row.

MAXIMUM SPEED: 85-90 mph.

TRANSMISSION: Four speed constant mesh transmission. Gear change lever operated with left toe. Gears are wide faced and precision machined of high-alloy steel. Transmission shaft supported on anti-friction ball and roller bearings.

IGNITION SYSTEM: High tension magnets with automatic spark advance. Spark plug carefully selected to suit engine.

INSTRUMENTS: Front fork mounted, illuminated speedometer with transmission drive. Ignition and light switch recessed in gas tank.

FORK: Telescopic, hydraulically controlled "Aerodynamic" plunger fork of heat-treated alloy steel tubing. Mounted to radial thrust ball bearings at frame head. Adjustable friction type steering damper.

FRAME: Two-section cradle frame of chrome-molybdenum steel. Fittings are high strength and precision machined. Entire frame unitized by electric induction brazing with silver bracing alloy. Independently sprung rear wheel mounted to enclosed spring units.

BRAKES: Oversize 8 1/2 inch brakes with 23.9 square inches of lining surface. Shoes of die cast aluminum with steel cam facings. Linings bonded to shoes and finish-ground to close tolerance. Brake drums ribbed for cooling and rigidity.

FEATURES: Western bars.

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Each Puzzle has 9 boxes. Each box has 9 squares. Write numbers 1-9 in the squares without repeating the same number from side to side, top to bottom or within the same box.

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IN THE SHOP WITH RON

SHOCK THERAPY

I would like to take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Ron Johnson. I am opening a motorcycle repair shop in Charlotte, MI. Our grand opening is going to be May 14, 2016. It is a full service shop specializing in Body – Metal Work & Fabrication – Custom Painting. We will also do service and upgrades and accessories installation. Our business is by appointment only but that is only to avoid people stopping by and no one is here. Being by myself, sometimes I have to leave to get parts, materials, pick-up and delivery, etc. By all means, if you come by and the lights are on, stop in and check us out. I have been a technician for over 40 years. I am ASE Certified Master; I-Car trained Structural Technician, certified by the State of Michigan. Our moto is; Do It Right The First Time In A Timely Manner. Look forward to seeing you at the shop, or on the road. WE SHARE YOUR PASSION



For this month's project, we are going to lower the rear suspension on a 2004 Dyna Super Glide. It is my wife's bike and she struggles slightly to get both feet flat on the ground. The situation is worse on rough or uneven pavement. There are more ways to go about lowering the rear suspension than space will allow us to discuss. Therefore, for this application we chose to use Progressive 444 Series rear shocks. They are 1" shorter than stock and pre-load is fully adjustable.

When lowering rear suspension be aware that ground clearance will decrease and the normal riding and handling characteristics of the motorcycle will change. Use extreme caution when riding after a change. Lowering the motorcycle could cause it to bottom out, especially over rough terrain or in turns. It is an absolute must that after the shocks are mounted to check for clearance issues. Be sure to check for adequate clearance at: tire to fender, shock to belt or chain, shock to belt or chain guard, shock to brake caliper or linkage.

With the bike securely on the lift, (always use safety strap) put a jack under rear of bike and raise rear wheel until it just starts to come off surface of lift. This will allow removal of rear shocks without a lot of effort. Save all attaching hardware, as it will be used for installing new shocks.

The new shocks come with a couple of different bushing sets for different applications. Follow manufacturer's instructions and use the correct bushing for the specific model. When installing new bushings in shocks, use a small amount of anti-seize where the bushing goes into shock and where bolt or stud goes through the bushing. The shock basically moves up and down within them-

selves but they also pivot ever so slightly on the mounting bolts.



Since the new shocks are 1" shorter than stock, slowly lower jack until mounting locations line up. Re-assemble using original hardware. Make sure to use any washers or spacers exactly as they were used on the original shocks. Install both shocks making sure to use Loctite on mounting bolts and just snug up. Before final tightening, check for proper clearance in areas mentioned earlier. If all looks good, torque mounting bolts to manufacturer specifications.



All that is left to do is set pre-load and test ride. Pre-load is basically the amount of pressure or tension applied to the shock spring when the shock is in its unloaded (no rider on bike) position. To adjust the pre-load, find a spot on swing arm and a spot on frame to measure between. Use same spot on both sides. On this bike, we used the lower shock bolt and the rear fender strut bolt. Measure between the two points with no rider on the bike. Have the person that will be riding, set on the bike and it should compress about 1".

If it compresses or squats more than 1", you need to increase pre-load by tightening adjusting ring on shock. If it does not compress approximately 1", you need to decrease pre-load by loosening adjusting ring. It is extremely important and I cannot stress the point enough to adjust both shocks exactly the same. If pre-load is not exactly the same, serious even dangerous handling issues result. If unsure about this process, seek the help of a qualified professional. Once pre-load is set, it is time for

a test ride. I want to mention again, riding and handling characteristics may be different. Before your test ride, check all areas mentioned earlier for clearance issues and start out slow. Get the feel of things. If the bike bottoms out over bumps, increase pre-load. If it is too stiff, back off pre-load. Use slight adjustments, and remember to Always Adjust Both Sides the Same.



The test ride on this project will have to wait as it just started snowing. Surely warmer days are on their way. If you think this might work for you and have any questions feel free to call me. I will be glad to help anyway I can.

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Ron

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Used-Bike Buying Checklist

The American Motorcycle Association

How do you make sure you don't overlook something when you're checking out a used motorcycle? Print this checklist and take it with you.

Do your research

Before you put any motorcycle through its paces, read magazine articles, website reviews and visit online enthusiast discussion forums to glean information about that model's idiosyncrasies. For example, a BMW boxer drains the lifters when it's shut off, so it may make quite a racket when it starts up. If you didn't know that beforehand, you could walk away from a perfectly fine motorcycle.

Match the VINs

The VIN on the frame should match the VIN on the engine, and both should match the VIN on the title. If there's a discrepancy, there should be a very good reason. If not, walk away.

Check the VIN

Call it into your insurance company for a real rate quote. Call it into the manufacturer for any recall info. And, if possible, call it into state authorities, to see if it has been reported stolen.

Check the maintenance records

Sure, these can be fudged, but when you buy a used motorcycle, you have to accept that you must rely on some level of trust. If these don't exist, ask for a verbal account of maintenance history.

Examine tire wear



Look for cupping and make sure there's at least 1/16 of an inch of tread. Check the tire pressure while you're down there. Improperly inflated tires may hint at lazy maintenance habits elsewhere.

Test for excessive bearing play

Ask the seller to put the bike up on the centerstand (when applies). Gently tug on the fork tubes front to back, feeling for play in the steering head. Also, feel for movement in the front and rear wheels and side-to-side action in the swingarm. Basically, any play is bad and a safety hazard.

Check the steering head lock

Does it work? Use the key and find out for yourself, but just as important, look for any signs of damage or excessive wear. Has it been replaced or repaired? If so, the bike may have been stolen at one time.

Examine the air filter

It should be clean and properly installed. Consider a zero-tolerance policy. Dirt in the engine is a very bad thing. Also, is the airbox intact? Extra holes (punchouts) could be fine (as long as they are outside the filter), but ask the seller why they were performed.

Check all fluid levels

Discolored brake fluid, low coolant levels and dirty (or gray) oil are all bad signs. Don't forget that some bikes have separate crankcase and transmission oil—and two dipsticks.

Perform a visual once-over



Look for any obvious mechanical issues—loose or missing fasteners, fluid leaks, pitting in fork tubes, rust in the fuel tank, cable continuity, chain play, sprocket condition, cracked wiring insulation, etc.

Perform another visual once-over

This time, focus on cosmetics with an eye toward identifying crash signs. Look for inconsistencies in paint shade or texture. Cracks in plastic or fiberglass may be invisible from the outside, but obvious from the inside. Use a flashlight and check all the cracks and crevices. Examine footpegs and sidecases for scrapes. Do the control levers appear extra shiny? Ask why and when they were replaced.

Operate all controls

Test the brakes, operate the clutch and take note of sufficient play, shift gears, flip the turn signals, beep the horn, etc. If a test ride is not allowed, then put the bike on the centerstand (if applies) and do a "dry run."

Start it



If the seller isn't hip to a test ride, don't get too discouraged. Many motorcycles have gone out for test rides and have not come back. But, by all means, start the bike. Put at least four of your

senses to work: listen for odd noises, look for smoke, smell for burnt oil or coolant, and feel for heavy vibrations. Throttle response should be crisp off idle and significantly more smoke should not accompany more throttle.

Get out the toolbox

At the least, check air pressures (tires, and forks and shocks, if applicable). If you're so equipped and mechanically able, test the resistance of the electrics with a multimeter; brake disc thickness with a micrometer and cylinder compression with a compression tester.

Are extras included?

Extras you want can make the deal sweeter. If the bike has aftermarket parts you don't want, see if the

owner will take them off and lower the price. Ask for any stock equipment that was replaced with aftermarket parts. And don't forget the tool kit.

"Is this the bike I want?"



Often, what looks great in photographs and sounds great in website reviews falls flat in person. Even if the bike itself is sound, if the model didn't stand up to its lofty rep, go back to the drawing board. This is your last chance.

Negotiate



Don't just meet the asking price without trying to get a better deal. Every item you found wrong is a negotiating point. You may get nowhere, but you might save a few hundred bucks, too. And never forget the power of these seven words: "Is that the best you can do?"

Good luck and happy shopping!



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TRMI EVENTS CALENDAR 2016

**Don't forget to email your events to editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com
Bike Nights listed ONLY on ads and Bike Nights page in this issue.
Please patronize our TR Michigan advertisers indicated in Bold**

MAY

May 1
3rd Annual Michigan Thunder Run Ride n' Win Summer Long Contest Kicks-off. More sponsors, more prizes, more chances to win- all free! Dust off your Ride Cards or sign up for a free Ride Card if you don't have one. Read all about it starting on page 25 in this issue.

May 1
32nd Annual Peotone (IL) Motorcycle Swap Meet. Will Co. Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. 10 am- 4pm, \$7 pp, early bird 7 am- 10 am \$10 pp, Bikes, parts, leather, food & beer. For more info go to paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

May 1
17th Annual Blessing of the Bikers Church of the Living Word, Ovid, MI. Ride in Bike Show regis by noon, hog roast all you can eat \$5, 50/50, prizes, charity ride. For more info go to cotlw.org (See ad this issue).

May 6-7
16th Annual Bikin' for Burns Friday- Shrine Circus Park, Clio, MI. 6 pm- 12 am, music, food, vendors, beer tent. Saturday-Dort Federal Event Center, Flint, MI. Police escorted ride & after party with live music, food, beer tent, vendors auction & more. \$10 pp, 12 & under free, all proceeds to Genesee Fire Dept. Featuring Anjill or Not. For more info call 810-471-5588 or mmcwminc@yahoo.com

May 7
Derby Party ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 11am-3pm. For more info go to abcharleydavidson.com (See full page inside front cover this issue).

May 7
Harley Fat Boy Weekends Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI. Hourly drawings 7pm-10pm for 2016 Harley Fat Boy, Cash & Premium Play. Grand Prize drawing at 11 pm. For more info go to soaringeaglecasino.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 7
4th Annual Allegan Blessing of the Bikes & Classic Cars Blessed Sacrament Church, 110 N. Cedar St, Allegan, MI. 8am- 2pm, \$5 pp, food, vendors on site, Featuring Marge's Custom Sewing & Big Moe's BBQ, Proceeds go to Operation Injured Soldier, Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center. Music, games, silent Auction with Blessing at 12:00

May 7
"Moses" Bib Bash & JoAn's 80th & Stu's 83rd Birthdays Museum of "Moses", McBain (Vogel Center), MI. 10 am- 2 pm, hot dogs, cotton candy, vendors, short ride (weather permitting to follow), wear your bib overalls, 50/50, prizes & more. For more info call 231-825-2219

May 7
Blessing of the Bikes/Poker Run/MI Traveling Vietnam Wall. American Legion Riders Post 510, Stockbridge, MI. Regis 10 am \$15 Rider/\$10 passenger (includes patch), last bike out at 12 pm and last bike in at 4 pm, concessions & vendors available. The MI Traveling Vietnam Wall will be on display from 11am-3pm. POC: wild_bill_1sgt@yahoo.com

May 7
Operation Guardian Angels Ride For Warriors Casa de Montecristo in Countryside, IL ride ends Notre Dame, IN. Starts at 12 pm est, Dinner, raffles, and more. \$30 per rider, \$100 per non-rider (banquet tkt only). For more info contact Tori@Bulliersq1@gmail.com

May 7
Operation Guardian Angels Ride For Warriors Hamilton HD, Sturgis, MI ends in Notre Dame, IN. Starts 3pm est, Dinner, raffles, and more. \$30 per rider, \$100 per non-rider (banquet tkt only). For more info contact Tori@Bulliersq1@gmail.com

May 7
10th Annual International Female Ride Day Fruit Ridge Citgo, Grand Rapids, MI. Free, 11am- 4pm, back road ride to Saugatuck. For more info FB Lady Fred.

May 7
3rd Annual Bob Wiles Memorial Ride Retail Warehouse, Sturgis, MI. Regis 10am, blessing noon, kickstands up 12:45, free, all bikes welcome. For more info call 269-689-9351

May 8
36th Annual Mother's Day Swap Meet & Bike Show Midland Fairgrounds, Midland, MI. Sunday, 10am-4pm. Admission is \$5. Children under 12 free. Ride and bike show 10am-3pm. Sign up 10am-1pm. For more info email bubba@bubbastricitycyle.com

May 13-14
Spring Open House Dick Scott's Freedom Powersports, Livonia, MI. Fri. 11am-6pm, Sat. 11am-4pm, Live Music, Food & Refreshments, WRIF onsite w/ games & prizes. For more info go to www.DickScottPowersports.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 13-15
44th Annual Blessing of Bikes festival Baldwin, MI. Vendors set up all over the town, giant food fest, camping is available. (No vendor set up at the airport). Blessing will be on Sunday May 15th at the airport sponsored by Para Dice Motorcycle Club. Gates will open at 9 AM and donation in \$5 per bike (not per person). More than 40 thousands bikers come every year from all over the country. For more info go to paragonspromotion.com

May 14
Spring Open House ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 10am-4pm, live music, chance to win \$10k cash, free food, demo rides, free 42 pt safety inspection. For more info go to abcharleydavidson.com (See full page inside front cover this issue).

May 14
Harley Fat Boy Weekends Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI. Hourly drawings 7pm-10pm for 2016 Harley Fat Boy, Cash & Premium Play. Grand Prize drawing at 11 pm. For more info go to soaringeaglecasino.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 14
Blessing of the Bikes Swap Meet & Bike Show Cash 4 Motorcycles, Milan, MI. Blessings at 1pm-3pm by C.M.A. \$10 per bike to enter. Gates open at noon. Food, music, corn hole & more. Rain date on 15th. For more info go to Facebook.com/Cash4Motorcycles

May 14
Blessing of the Bikes Fun Run Redford Moose Riders, 5 mile rd, Redford, MI. Open at 11 am, blessing noon, last bike out 1 pm, back 5:30 pm, \$20 rider, \$10 passenger includes dinner, raffles band. For more info call 313-768-6350

May 14
Ask the Tech Workshop Shiawassee HD, Birch Run MI. 12pm-4pm A workshop where the HD technicians can answer your questions for free. Ride & receive a free safety inspection. For more info go to www.shiawassee-harley-davidson.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 14
Spring Open House & Flag Ceremony Sandy's HD, Fremont, MI. 9 am-3 pm, demo rides 9-noon/ 1pm-2pm (weather permitting, proper riding gear required), Noon Flag ceremony. For more info go to sandysharley-davidson.com (See ad this issue).

May 19
Fashion Show Freddy's Bar & Grill, Clinton Twp, MI. to kick-off their bike night, fashions by AnJill or Not. For more info call 586-416-7777

May 21
Cause For Paws 5th Annual Poker Run American Legion, AuSable Twp, MI. Regis. 10am-11am. Kickstands up at 11:30 am. \$10 operator, \$5 Rider. Food and prizes. For more info call Crazy at 989-820-5703

May 21
Hogs & Hotcakes ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 11am-3pm. For more info go to abcharleydavidson.com (See full page inside front cover this issue).

May 21
Harley Fat Boy Weekends Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI. Hourly drawings 7pm-10pm for 2016 Harley Fat Boy, Cash & Premium Play. Grand Prize drawing at 11 pm. For more info go to soaringeaglecasino.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 21
Armed Forces Day Celebration Indian Motorcycle Motorcity, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Celebration of current & former US military. For more info go to ridemotorcity.com

May 21
Benefit for KZoo victims of the 2/20/16 shooting Perry HD, Portage, MI. Pre-regis, Kickstands up 11 am, kickstands down 1 pm, \$10 rider, \$15 with passenger, helmets preferred, food, sales & more. For more info go to perryharley-davidson.com

May 21
8th Annual Biker Blessing—Matthew Brotherton Memorial Cancer Ride Merriman Road Baptist Church, Garden City, MI. Regis. 9:30am, blessing at 1pm, ride at 2pm. Free food, free bike wash, music, bike show, vendors. Door prizes and a chance to win a flat panel T.V. For more info go to mrbcfairriders.com (See ad this issue).

May 21
Tent Event & Biker Bash Holeshott HD, Mt. Pleasant, MI. For details go to facebook.com/holeshothd/

May 21
12th Annual Holiday Camp Benefit Motorcycle Ride Cabela's, Dundee, MI. \$25 solo, \$10 passenger, \$5 discount to first 50 registered (pre-regis by May 14th), regis 10am, blessing noon, kickstands up 12:30pm sharp, police escorted, ends at The Point Pub & Grill, meal at end, raffles, door prizes, cash prizes & more. For more info go to lawdogsmoeroc.com (See ad this issue).

May 21
Garage Bar hang out with The Dahlias The Garage Bar & Grill, Grand Rapids, MI. 3pm-7pm, The Dahlias first event to raise money for women's health while enjoying good food, drinks and music with some local biker babes! For more info contact thegrandrapidsdahlias@gmail.com

May 21
2nd Annual D-DAY Plus 72 USS LST 393 Muskegon, Lions Club Pancake Breakfast 8-11am, regis 9:30am -1pm, at your own pace \$10 per hand Drawing, the Mart Dock, 1949 & older-Car, Motorcycle, Military vehicle show, WW II Re-enactors, 1940's Pin-up contest, USO Show 7-10pm. For more info Facebook.com/muskegonDDay

May 21
Charity Golf Classic Green Hills Golf Course, Pinconning, MI. 8am shotgun start, 18 hole, 4p scramble, \$90 pp, \$360 team, incl refreshments, golf cart, prizes. Dinner after golf. For more info call Stevens' Cycles Sales 800-292-5017

May 22
Bikers for Boobies Run ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 11 am-3pm. For more info go to abcharleydavidson.com (See full page inside front cover this issue).

May 22
1st Annual Blessing of the Bikes sponsored by Messengers of the Sword 1580 N. Ortonville rd, Ortonville, MI. 12:30-4 pm, food, music, endors welcome. For more info call Ken G 248-245-3924

May 27-30
21st Annual Appreciation Open House/Weekend Rally Hwy 15, Pioneer, OH. Live bands, free event, hot dogs, lemonade, coffee, hill climb, bike show & more. For more info Facebook.com/HudsonLeather/ (See ad this issue).

May 28
Harley Fat Boy Weekends Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI. Hourly drawings 7pm-10pm for 2016 Harley Fat Boy, Cash & Premium Play. Grand Prize drawing at 11 pm. For more info go to soaringeaglecasino.com (See full page ad this issue).

May 28-29
Bubba's 16th Annual Memorial Weekend Classic Bubba's Tri-City Cycle, Linwood, MI. Sat-charity bike show, regis 10am-noon. Sun-charity poker run, regis 10am-noon. For more info go to bubbastricitycycle.com

May 29
Annual Memorial Weekend Veterans Ride South Haven American Legion Post #49, South Haven, MI. Regis 9:45am-11:45am, breakfast 8am-noon, kickstands up 12:45 sharp, \$10pp, incl food at end of ride, prizes & more. For more info call Susie 616-836-6478 (See ad this issue).

May 29
28th Valpo-Fest Motorcycle-Car Show & Swap Porter Co Expo Center, Valparaiso, IN. 9 am- 4 pm, \$8 pp, 12 & under free, free to ladies who ride their bikes. Bikes, parts, leather, live bands, celebrity appearance, bike rodeo, food & beer. For more info go to paragonspromotion.com (See ad this issue).

JUNE

June 4
Michigan Riders Memorial Wall Fundraiser Party 10520 Iosco Rd, Fowlerville, MI. \$10 donation, 4pm-?, music, food, free camping, clean showers/restrooms.

June 4
Open House Gildner's HD, West Branch, MI. Noon-4pm, live band-Moonshine Mavericks, doorprizes, food, games, sales & more. For more info go to gildnershd.com (See ad this issue).

June 4
2nd Annual Blessing of the Biker Northville Christian Church, Northville, MI. 11am-3pm, bike show, bike giveaway, blessing, free family event. For more info go to dw3c.org or call 248-387-9541 (See ad this issue).

June 4
Open House Capitol HD, Dimondale, MI. 10 am-3 pm, live music, free food, raffles, vendors, new products, vendors & more. For more info go to capitolhd.com

June 4
Open House Holeshott HD, Mt. Pleasant, MI. For details go to facebook.com/holeshothd/

June 5
Blessed in Hell Blessing of The Bikes Hell Creek Ranch, Pinckney, MI. Gates open at 10:30am Sharp! Show starts 11:30am-12:30pm & 1:30-2:30, \$10 per bike. Ride in bike show/over 20 vendors, food vendors & live music. For more info go to Hellcreekranch.com (See ad this issue).

June 5
Biker Blessing & Group Ride lead by Christian Motorcyclists Association First Reformed Church of Portage, Portage, MI. Regis 11am-12pm, blessing at noon, ride leaves 12:15pm, free coffee & donuts before the ride Free lunch after the ride back at First Reformed Church. all bikers welcome.

June 9
8th Annual Wheels & Heels Ride in Bike Show Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI. Regis 5pm-7pm, 8pm trophies, everyone welcome, ladies only in show, 50/50, \$10 donation. (See ad this issue).

June 9-11
28th Annual Sandy Corley Memorial Run The Double JJ Resort, Rothbury, MI. Pop Evil, Wayland, Jackyl, Candle Box, Great White & more. Primitive camping, vendors, bike raffle & more. For more info or vendor info go to sandysharley-davidson.com (See ad this issue).

June 11
Harley Fest Freedom Hill County Park. For more info go to harleyfest.net (See full page ad this issue).

June 11
2nd Annual Blessing of the Bikes & Poker Run Moose Bay City Lodge, Bay City, MI. \$15 rider, \$5 passenger, regis 9am, blessing 10am, kickstands up 10:30am, 100 mile ride, 3pm return, food, beer tent, live bands-special guest Larry McCray, 50/50. (See ad this issue).

June 11
We Love Our Troops Annual Poker Ride Ithaca Fairgrounds, Ithaca, MI. Regis. 11 am-noon, \$30 day of, \$25 advanced, 125 mile ride, dinner avail, prizes, alcohol free ride. For more info go to weloveourtroops.net

June 12
Biker Sunday Midland Nazarene, Midland, MI. 10:45am service with guest speaker Glenn Smith, free, hog roast, music, biker games, blessing, bike show-cash prizes, all bikes welcome, everyone welcome. For more info go to midlandnaz.org (See full page ad this issue).

June 12
21st Annual Vintage Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI. 8am-4pm, rain or shine. Bikes 25 yrs old & older. Regis. at gilm-orecaremuseum.org (See ad this issue).

June 16
Special Bike Event Remus Tavern, Remus, MI. Special guest 98.5 UPS, discounts & prizes. For more info call 989-967-8304 (See ad this issue).

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To get your event listed in Thunder Roads Magazine and on our web site, send the information to:
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Event information must be received prior to the 10th of the month preceding the event month to be posted in the magazine.
Remember to call ahead before planning to attend any event as the information/dates may change.
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THE BASIC RIDER COURSE

One of my goals upon retirement was to become an MSF Rider Coach. Having begun a short attempt at retirement in November, I went about getting lined up for the classes involved in becoming one. Since then I have begun a new job, and taken the first of the classes required to become a Certified Coach Trainer. The first class being the basic beginner's rider's course.

The bitterly cold, but snow free weekend of March 18th found me up at 6AM to be in a Detroit area parking lot by 7AM in the company of 50 or so beginner riders. The Coaches were there long before us, and had been busy preparing the large vacant lot with orange cones, and enough running and warmed up 250cc motorcycles for all of us students.

Shortly after daylight the coaches had us divided into groups, assigned to a motorcycle, and doing rocking movements for a first familiarization with a clutch and its friction zone. For most it was the first time on a motorcycle. I've been endorsed since 1976 and been riding ever since. Needless to say I was thinking it was going to be a long day. But it progressed steadily and by degree, until by noon we were all riding and doing repeated maneuvers to develop a level of competency at using the clutch, and brakes while also learning where to look, what to see, and why to do it.

By training days end, we had lost a few. A few bikes had taken a tumble, none for the first time. The vast majority of riders had come a long way from the idea of riding to actually getting on, starting, and functioning one.

Day two. Same time, same place, and just as cold. We started with some quick review and before long were headlong into some serious drills involving braking, curves, shifting, turning, and all the mental and visual requirements to do them successfully and safely.

Finally, the test. It consisted of portions of all the drills combined into a couple of courses through cones while being observed, timed, and graded. Not everyone passed. Most did. None likely would have been able to pass it when they first arrived.

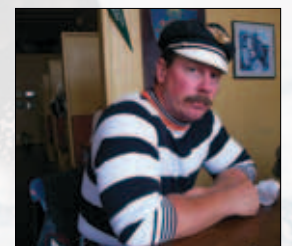
Everyone who passed the course was very happy and I think most were proud of themselves and they should have been as it was a challenge. It was also an extremely well organized, well planned, and excellently administered training program to help get beginning motorcyclists off to not only a good start but a safe start. In conjunction with their official entitlement to a cycle endorsement they were also advised to remember they had just graduated "parking lot riding" school. An important reminder that there is still a lot to learn, experience to be gained, and caution to be heeded.

I look forward to being part of this initiation into motorcycle riding. It's definitely the best first step anyone wanting to ride can take that I know of, and it's a blast to see the determination, growing confidence, and joy of success on their faces.

I want to add; the bikes are getting used hard. Some are really rough, and keeping them going is an effort for the trainers. The low training fee leaves little for covering the costs of the training and buying new bikes. If you or your loved ones are going through the training please consider donating towards the equipment. The trainers use every single dime of donations to keep the equipment up and running and to occasionally purchase some new machines to replace those that have been used up.

Education, not legislation. Look twice, and save a life.

~ Rusty



Rusty Bongard
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Anthony

is a lab mix at only around 20lbs. We don't know what he is mixed with, but what we do know is he is adorable and looking for a forever home.



Anthony



Bhodi

Bhodi

is an affectionate guy that gets along with cats and dogs. He will need a slow introduction and some patience, but the reward is years of love.

Brownie

is around 5 months old, thought to be a beagle mix puppy. Playful, and loving, this little girl will provide many years of love and companionship for any family.



Brownie



Cheddar

Cheddar

is a young 1-2 year old, shepherd mix. He is a good boy, and gets along with other dogs. Those beautiful blue eyes alone will capture any heart.

Cleo

sister to Anthony, this young girl is a doll. Still learning a few house manners, but she is ready for a home of her own.



Cleo



Kara

Kara

is the mom to the G16 litter. She is a young shepherd mix girl that is looking to strike out on her own so she can enjoy her own family.

Karson

This cute little guy is a young shepherd mix. His siblings look like they could have some golden in them. Whatever the mix, we know he will be a great family dog.



Karson



Lizzy

Lizzy

is a puggle girl that lost her family though no fault of hers. She does like to see what is out in the world so will need a fenced yard.

Peaches

is a senior girl around 12 years old. She never received proper vetting which has resulted in some medical issues. She has been a trooper and still has a lot of love and life to give.



Peaches



Pete

Pete

is believed to be a Catahoula hound mix. He is around 5-6 months old, playful though still learning some manners. He has gorgeous ice blue eyes, and will make a wonderful family dog.

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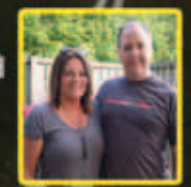
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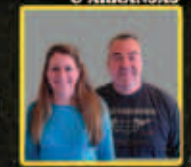
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BUILT TO CARRY

BY RICK WYATT



It won't be long and scooter season will be in full bloom and some of you, especially those who pay attention to the news, may be thinking about carrying a pistol when you ride. Riders who have had their CPLs for a while have probably already thought this subject through, but newer permit holders or people looking for a gun specifically for carry on their bike may benefit from this article.

The first step in buying a firearm should always be figuring out what your budget for a new gun will allow. Right up front I will tell you there's a lot of wisdom in the old saying "you get exactly what you pay for," especially if you are buying a firearm for personal protection. This doesn't mean you have to go top shelf with a Colt or Kimber (or other high end names), but at the same time I would never bet my life on anything off the 'turd' rack. You will be much better served by being patient and delaying your purchase (or using in-store layaway if available) to buy quality rather than impulsively jumping into a couple hundred dollar mistake you will ultimately hate. If you are new to handguns a reputable dealer with sales staff who are also shooters can be invaluable, and the last place you need to be shopping is the internet where you cannot handle (or possibly shoot) a firearm before you buy it.

After figuring out your budget, you have to consider how you are going to carry. There is nothing that says you can't "open carry" on your motorcycle in Michigan, but personally I don't want the added attention especially if I am riding through town. I also know that there are thousands of outstanding police officers across the country, but it would be my luck that some "Barney Fife" would hear my pipes and see my gun; and I don't want that attention either so conceal carry is the option of least resistance. Handguns come in different sizes; full size, compact, subcompact, and micro carry and each has a purpose and place. Full size handguns are easiest to shoot accurately (especially for new shooters) but hard to conceal. Conversely micro carries conceal quite easily but are more difficult to shoot, exaggerate recoil due to short barrel length, and frankly often lack stopping power because of their smaller caliber. Fortunately, there are a lot of good firearms that fall between the two extremes, and many of them will not break a reasonable budget.

Compact semi-autos are still easy to shoot, a little easier to conceal, and have fairly large magazine capacities, but the extra capacity also means more weight and overall weight can become an issue depending on how you carry. Subcompacts are much smaller and lighter, therefore easier to carry, but lack of mass also means more recoil. The biggest knock I hear against subcompacts is lack of magazine capacity (usually 6-10 rounds). Here is the simple truth; statistically most incidents happen at three yards or less, in less than three seconds, with three or less rounds fired! If you are envisioning self-defense as a long running, protracted gun battle you have either been watching too much television or need to enroll yourself in witness protection.



In the picture above you see a full size HK and a compact Glock on the left, and a subcompact S&W and a micro Sig on the right. In the middle is the Sig P938 and the Glock 43, and you will note that they are sized between subcompact and micro carry, making them easier to conceal. In addition, being chambered in 9mm they have the punch to get the job done. Price wise in this size, the Ruger LC9s starts at about \$450 and at the high end is the Kimber Solo at around \$800, with the others falling somewhere in between. And, unlike the guns on the "turd" shelf, these firearms are extremely reliable and accurate with an abundance of accessories such as holsters and sighting options available. If you are in the market to buy these firearms are well worth a good close look.

Next month I am going to talk about conceal carry on a road trip, which will be appropriate since I will be on the road participating in Run for the Wall 2016. At least you can look forward to more pictures and less verbiage. Till then...

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