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OCTOBER 2017 Volume 14 Issue 11

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IN THIS ISSUE

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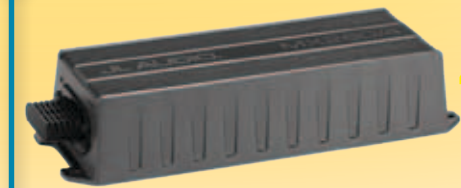


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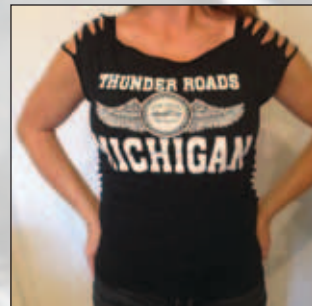
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Thunderwear.....2

Thunder Cam I.....3

Bike Nights.....5

Letter From The Owner.....7

Readers Rides.....8

Redneck Engineering.....11

Veterans Corner.....12

Jason the Lawyer.....14

Jokers Wild.....16

Easyrider ~ Fowlerville.....18

MI Ride n' Win Contest.....20

September Stops Winners.....21

TRMI Special Feature ~ Saving Abel.....22

Jody Mo's Thunder Fun.....25

Freedom Fest 2017.....26

Sudoku by Geneva.....29

Biker Preachers Corner.....31

Biker Friendly Directory.....32

In the Shop with Ron.....34

ABATE.....37

Bullet Points.....38

Events Calendar.....40

**ON THE COVER**

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## Fall?!... Say What?

Where the *bleep* did summer go? It is already time for fall color tour rides? I am amazed at how fast the summer flew by; as I am sure many of you are as well! But here it is, regardless of whether we're ready for it or not.

I—like some of you—am in panic mode, because I have not been able to get on my scooter and ride nearly as much as I would have liked to. So, I will be taking time this month to ride! I am all about "positive", "thoughts become things" and all of that jive; but please, as a precautionary thought, watch out for those four-legged critters—you know the ones I am talking about. Enjoy the beauty that Michigan has to offer this time of year, but be safe. There are still a few places hosting Bike Nights (see page 5). Some go until the snow flies, others will be ending mid-month, but regardless—they are great places to check out. These places also make great destination rides.

This fall and winter, I will be setting up for the first time ever at a few swap meets. Honestly, in the past I am so exhausted after the riding season from working on massive magazine issues each month, trying to hit as many events as possible, and setting up at a vast amount that I have declined setting up in the winter months to offer a little break. Still, there's a few this season that I have chosen to set up at.

Why? In the past, I would walk around at them for a couple of hours, take some photos, and then depart. I feel that the swap meets are a huge part of what defines the classic biker from the new-age biker. I grew up (as mentioned before) in a motorcycle shop. My dad used to set up at swap meets all over the state. It was hard work, packing up the chosen selections, then driving there and setting up in the hope of liquidating as much as possible, to put some coins in the pocket and hopefully not have that much left to pack back up. But this is the true biker tradition: "The Swap Meet." Whether setting up at one or just attending it is an important part of being a biker... so I look forward to getting back to my roots and setting up at a few this fall/winter.

I will see you at the Birch Run Swap Meet on October 15. I will be bringing some Thunder Wear, my camera, *Thunder Roads Michigan* #1 Biker Magazines and my smile—for I will be remembering my childhood days of being at the swap meets with my dad.

Let's talk about the Ride Cards. This is the LAST MONTH of winners, so be sure to check and see if your number is listed. REMEMBER: hold on to your Ride Card, because **it does not expire**. We will kick the Ride n' Win contest off again next year and you can use that same Ride Card year after year.

Be sure to like *Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan* on Facebook to keep up-to-date with any important updates or happenings. Please patronize our advertisers and let them know you saw them in *Thunder Roads*, because, thanks to them, we are the #1 Free Motorcycle Magazine in Michigan...

"WHERE THERE'S BIKES... THERE'S GOING TO BE THUNDER."



### Now for some "Mo" Advice

To know the road ahead, ask those coming back.



Jody Mohowitsch

"Jody Mo"

THUNDER ROADS



MICHIGAN

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# READERS RIDES

## Scary Larry Pudlo



If you're a lifelong biker, and you have the funds to support your desires, you eventually get the bike of your dreams. Most people start out with a manageable-sized bike and after mastering or honing their riding skills, look to obtain a larger, more powerful beast.

My transition was Triumph Bonneville, Honda Gold Wing, Harley-Davidson Heritage Softail, and presently a Bourget Fat Daddy 330 Custom Softail Chopper. I could not be more satisfied with my current ride. If you crave attention, a ten-foot-long, low-slung, ear-piercing, custom-painted, and chromed chopper is the only way to go. The S&S One-Hundred Forty Horse-power motor, without using the nitrous injection, is enough power for anyone.

Bourget Bike Works and The Toymaker, Inc. put together this "One-Off" Special Edition bike. (Both companies have closed and are out of business.) Custom CNC machined laughing skull front and rear chrome wheels and brake disks, along with accent cover plates and caps. Orange flames, tribal graphics and laughing skulls adorn the entire bike in flawless deep gloss paint. A black horny crocodile leather seat and passenger backrest add that special touch. (This bike has never had the privilege to thrill a passenger yet.) The bike has a 3-1/2" open primary belt drive, 6-speed transmission, springer front end, beach cruiser rear fender with laser-cut & LED brake light, 21" front tire and 330 rear. Diamond-cut and gloss black powder-coated heads and cylinders with magnum 2 into 1 header

exhaust. Frame is 47-degree rake, 7" backbone stretch with 4" up downtube stretch.

This bike endured its first water dousing while being shown in competition this summer. Of course, it won People's Choice and First Place cash prize. The beauty has 1300 bike-night miles, and it has been my pleasure owning it. It's now time for me to pass her on to someone who has the same desires and passion for this one-of-a-kind show bike. Contact Scary Larry at (586) 206-6374 for more information.



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# REDNECK

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# VETERANS CORNER



## The President, as expected, signed the Forever GI bill.

This bill is formally known as the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act. It is named after the American Legion national commander who wrote the original GI Bill language in 1944, and it will allow more veterans to use the GI Bill and more time to use it. Some of the changes will go into effect immediately, and some are written to go into effect shortly after.

Some new provisions that go into effect immediately include:

- The fifteen-year time limitation for using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits is eliminated for veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013, and qualifying dependents (Fry children who became eligible on or after January 1, 2013 and all Fry spouses).
- Reservists who had eligibility under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) and lost it, due to the program sunset provision, will have that service credited toward the Post-9/11 GI Bill program.
- Certain work-study is permanently authorized; previously it had to be re-approved by Congress every few years.
- The VetSuccess on Campus program will be available to students across the country
- VA will help veterans to more clearly identify schools that offer them priority enrollment

The majority of the changes enhance or expand education benefits for veterans, servicemembers, families and survivors. Simple breakdowns to a portion of the provisions can be found at

[www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/FGIBSummaries.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/FGIBSummaries.asp)

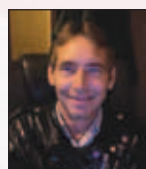
**Please take time to thank a veteran for their service! Approximately twenty veterans a day commit suicide.**

If you, or someone you know, may need help, please share this information. Pass it on - it could save a life.

**Immediate help is available at [www.VeteransCrisisLine.net](http://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net) or by calling the Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or texting 838255.**

**THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE OF MICHIGAN would like to say THANK YOU to our Veterans and our Active Military Men and Women. You are our Heroes! Freedom is Not Free! We Thank You for Your Service, for Your Sacrifices, and for YOU!**

**David McCallister "Possum"**  
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If you want to support something, ask yourself if saving a vet is worth the value of your time? Losing a single vet is 1 too many.

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*People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf.*  
George Orwell



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### What We're Doing About It

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We provide bikes to veterans working hard in their communities but still lack the resources - they have earned this.

Fundraising & Community Partnerships

Raising awareness and funding along side other community leaders so support veterans and veteran programs that align with our mission.

14



# The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

## HOW TO PREPARE YOUR BIKE FOR WINTER

With fall and winter on the horizon, bike riding season is drawing to a close. It's now time to start thinking about how you'll prepare your motorcycle for winter. Follow the tips below to keep your bike safe and in tip-top shape for your first spring ride.

### DON'T DITCH INSURANCE

Many motorcycle owners cancel their bike's insurance during the off-season in a bid to save money. However, this move isn't as smart as it first appears to be, for several reasons.

First, many bike owners think their homeowner's insurance policy will cover damage to their bike if they store it in their garage. It won't. If a tree falls on your garage, if your garage catches fire, or if it floods, you'll be responsible for paying to fix your bike's damage.

If you're determined to go with the bare minimum coverage during the winter, then keep the comprehensive insurance. This insurance won't protect you on the road, but it will cover damage to your bike. So if your garage floods and your bike gets damaged, comprehensive motorcycle insurance will cover it.

The only drawback to comprehensive insurance is that you can't ride your bike with it. Your comprehensive insurance only protects the bike, not you. So if you decide to go with just comprehensive insurance, you'll likely miss out on the first lovely day of spring because you don't have the right insurance to ride.

### PROTECT YOUR MUFFLERS

If you're not running your motorcycle on a regular basis, your mufflers and exhaust can rust quickly. Some mechanics advise to prevent rusting; you can spray WD-40 or another light oil into the muffler ends and drain holes.

Once you've done that, gently stuff the muffler with a light plastic, like a grocery bag. Wrap the mufflers in more light plastic to help keep moisture out.

### MAINTAIN YOUR TIRES

Rubber doesn't do well when it freezes, so you need to be extra cautious about how you protect your tires for the winter. A great way to mitigate damage from the cold is to put a piece of cardboard, wood, or foam under each tire. This will keep the tires from resting on a frozen concrete floor.

You'll also want to inflate your tires to their maximum recommended pressure. Be sure to check your tires several times while your bike is in storage. It's not a good idea to use a cleaning or shining product on your tires before you winterize your bike. Using one of these products can cause your tires to be more prone to drying out and freezing.

### KEEP YOUR BIKE SAFE FOR SPRING

Protecting your bike over the winter is a good way to protect your investment, lower your costs, and ensure your bike is ready for spring. Before you put your bike away for the off-season, be sure to follow these tips to keep your bike safe for your first spring ride.

**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

A dog lover, whose female dog came "in heat," was concerned about keeping it and her male separated. But she had a large house and she believed that she could keep the two dogs apart. However, as she was drifting off to sleep, she heard awful howling and moaning sounds. She rushed downstairs and found the dogs locked together and unable to disengage, as frequently happens when dogs mate.

Unable to separate them, and perplexed as to what to do next, although it was very late at night, she called her Vet, who answered in a very grumpy voice.

After she explained the problem to him, the Vet said, "Hang up the phone and place it down alongside the dogs. I will then call you back and the noise of the ringing will make the male lose his erection and he will be able to withdraw."

"Do you think that will actually work?" she asked.

"Just worked on me." he dryly replied.

A husband and wife were shopping in their local supermarket. The husband picked up a case of beer and put it in their cart. "What do you think you're doing?" asked the wife. "They're on sale, only \$20 for 24 cans" he replies. "Put them back, we can't afford them," the wife demanded.

They carried on shopping. A few aisles further on, the wife picked up a \$40 jar of face cream and put it in the cart. "What do you think you're doing?" asked the husband. "It's my face cream. It makes me look and feel pretty" replied the wife. Her husband retorted: "So does 24 cans of beer, and it's half the price."

Norman, an old retired Navy sailor, puts on his old uniform and heads for the docks once more, for old times' sake and hopefully, some hot sex.

He engages a lovely prostitute and takes her up to a "by the hour" room.

He's soon going at it as well as he can for a guy his age, but needing some reassurance, he asks, 'How am I doing?'

The prostitute replies, 'Well Norman, ya' old salty dawg, you're doing about three knots.'

'Three knots?' he questions.

She says, 'You're knot hard, you're knot in, and you're knot getting your money back.'

If things come to those who wait, maybe the things left were by those who got there first.

Why isn't there an abbreviation for such a long-ass word as: abbreviated or abbreviation?

A man walks into a bar looking sullen and depressed. "Bartender!" he shouts, "Give me three shots of tequila!"

The bartender replies, "Sure thing pal. You look like shit. What's the matter, buddy?"

"It's my brother," the man answered. "He came out of the closet today. I just found out he's gay and I'm havin' a rough time dealin' with it."

"Wow, man, that's rough. Consider these drinks on the house."

A week later, the same man walks into the bar.

"Bartender!" he shouts, "Give me six shots of tequila!"

"Damn!" replied the bartender, "You look even worse now than you did last week!"

What's the matter with you this time?!"

"It's my son," the man answered. "This time he came out of the closet, now I'm dealin' with him bein' gay!"

"Oh man. These drinks are on me pal, here ya' go."

Another week goes by, and the man returns to the bar a third time.

"Bartender, give me nine shots of tequila!"

"Dang buddy, doesn't anybody in that family of yours eat poontang?!"

"Yeah," replied the man, "Apparently my wife does!"

An Irish man has a good memory.

While reading an article last night about fathers and sons, memories came flooding back to the time I took me son out for his first pint. Off we went to our local pub only two blocks from the cottage.

I got him a Guinness. He didn't like it, so I drank it. Then I got him a Kilkeny's, he didn't like that either, so I drank it.

Finally, I thought he might like some Harp Lager?

He didn't. I drank it.

I thought maybe he'd like whisky better than beer so we tried a Jameson's; nope!

In desperation, I had him try that rare Redbreast, Ireland's finest whisky. He wouldn't even smell it.

What could I do but drink it!

By the time I realized he just didn't like to drink, I was so chitfaced I could barely push his stroller back home.

Bubba was sitting at home, enjoying a triple layer sammich and an ice-cold brew he just made to watch a highly anticipated boxing match when the phone rang. He recognized the number as being a bill collector, but he always answered anyway. As soon as he said "Yeah?", the bill collector said, "Sir, are you aware your bill is a year old today?" Bubba said, "Really! Tell it Happy Birthday", and hung up.

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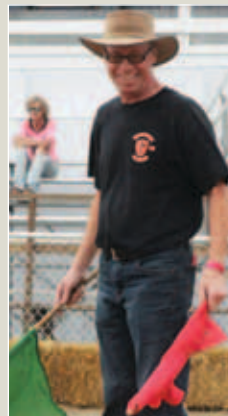
# Easyriders® RODEO TOUR 2017



FOWLerville



BY Debra Wright PHOTOS BY Debra Wright & Brisco



Even after all that, there's a lot more to see and do. During the weekend, if you go to the pit area, you can participate in bar-stool races and drift trikes using the Rodeo's equipment. Do the weenie bite, slow roll, potato in the haystack, and even a tire race. All this is fun—and if you're a winner, you get cash!

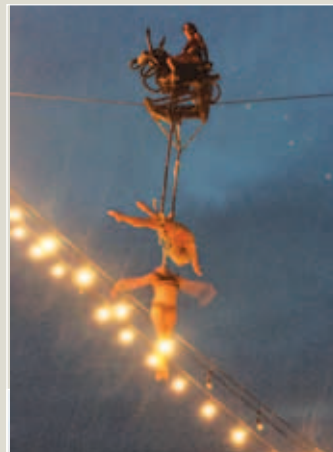


This year's event was jam-packed with entertainment, featuring performances by Puddle of Mudd, Drowning Pool, The Fried Brothers, and Circus Una Motorcycle Highway Act. Easyrider puts on some incredibly fun, entertaining, and action-packed events all over the US, and this year was nothing short of just that!

After the weekend at Fowlerville Fairgrounds for the Easyriders Rodeo in August, it took me a good two weeks to clean up all the dust particles from my RV and the clothes I wore. As always, it was so worth getting a little dirty for. What an amusing weekend, full of eye-opening, jaw-dropping, crazy fun for all ages of adulthood. Events included many people parading around in adult costumes on display with beads around their necks as trophies they earned. Golf carts and campsites in tent city were decorated creatively—from top to bottom—using themes for all to

see and enjoy. Remember (or fyi): Fowlerville Fairgrounds is privately owned, so walking around wearing little to nothing is okay.

That's not all the rodeo has to offer; nope, there's more. Check out the midway's many vendors to catch some good deals, eat, see bike shows, a walking poker run, big-name bands playing all day and night, plus a high-wire act with two lovely ladies and a motorcycle!




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WINNING RIDE CARD #	SEPTEMBER STOPS
14483	Hi-Way Inn
06933	Irish Pub
05109	Knoll View Golf
11502	Museum of Moses @ Vogel Store
12130	Mr. Jack's Sports Bar & Grill
05684	Trail's End Pub
12235	Twisted Twinz Emporium
NO CHECK-INS	Wiltse's Brew Pub
14392	Zone 18 Bar & Grill
06862	Adair Bar
09189	Allenton Tavern
07628	Capitol Harley-Davidson
11121	Chaps Food & Spirits- Armada
11122	Chaps Food & Spirits- Richmond
06854	Chaps Food & Spirits-Wales
06493	Coach's Pub & Grill
05797	D & W Detroit Motorcycle
05958	Firehouse Pub
05109	Hunt's Hog Shop
06493	Jerry B's Cycle Works
12600	J.J. Knapp's Tavern
11818	McNastys Saloon
08994	Motor City Harley-Davidson
NO CHECK-INS	Old Hickory Bar & Grill
12697	Sassy's Norway Bar
06493	Scooters Bar & Grill
10731	Sholty's Bar
06861	Spartan Cycle
05297	Stingers Bar & Grill
06838	Thee Office Pub & Cookery
08994	Wolverine Harley-Davidson
12748	Woody's Bancroft Tavern
09181	Younger's Irish Tavern
12101	4 Corners Country Store

WINNING RIDE CARD #	SEPTEMBER STOPS
14967	Anschutz Café
06844	Bay Shore Bar
12069	Castaways
14023	Cheers Pub
14225	Ghost Town Saloon
08743	Great Lakes Harley-Davidson
14385	Holeshot Harley-Davidson
06445	Iron Horse Bar & Grill
NO CHECK-INS	Midland Arms & Defensive Solutions
06513	My Alibi Bar & Grill
06870	Ray C's Harley-Davidson
14368	River Rock Bar & Grill
12717	Scotty's Sandbar
09171	Shiawassee Harley-Davidson
14276	The Blue Bar & Restaurant
07060	10th Street Saloon
12990	Bud's Tap Room
06703	Boondox Motorsports
14850	Charlie's Bar
08524	Duck Inn Waddle Out
NO CHECK-INS	Grand Rapids Harley-Davidson
NO CHECK-INS	Leaders RPM
05069	Paw Paw Brewing Co
09262	Red's Sports Bar & Grill
05109	Remus Tavern
12992	Rum Runners
07060	Walldorff Brew Pub & Bistro
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# SAVING ABEL



I was watching Saving Abel perform from the Thunder Roads tent at Harleyfest 2017. After many songs, as the band started the opening riffs for "18 Days," lead singer Scott Austin spoke from his heart about honoring and appreciating our military, including his brothers and his daddy, who all are serving or have served. He spoke from his heart about OUR VETERANS! His words were inspiring, and they gave me chills; I had to fight the tears as they then performed the heart-smashing song, "18 Days."

As I listened to the guitar in the background, I thought of some of my connections with vets. My family and many of my friends are almost all military. My father was in the Navy Seabees, my brother and ex-sister-in-law were both Air Force, and my grandpa was in the Marine Corps. Currently, I also work with veterans with issues.

Saving Abel gave a killer performance and ended their show. Shortly after, they jumped in a side-by-side and were signing autographs in a tent behind a table. I walked straight up to Scott. He said, "Hey beautiful—to get an autograph, you have to go to the back."

I said "No." Scott looked at me like "WHAT?"

Holding the current issue of Thunder Roads Michigan in my hand, with my contact info circled, I told him how he touched my heart and that I wanted an interview with him. His demeanor changed, and he said, "Hey doll, meet me backstage after we are done with autographs." As my girl Heather photobombed us, I calmly walked away, went straight to Jody Mo and said "Guess who is getting an on-the-spot interview with the lead singer of Saving Abel! THIS GIRL!" I wanted to SCREAM!

I walked backstage, and the security guard in the tent informed Scott I was there. Minutes later, he walked up to me and escorted me onto the bus. And may I say—what a gentleman he is.

We had several interruptions while on the bus. Ozzy wanted a photo with the band. It was way laid-back and we shared a lot of laughs with sincerity as Scott answered my questions about what fueled his passions. As I asked him about his bracelets, he explained to me what each bracelet was and what it meant to him.

I learned his biggest passion is autism; it is a cause very close to his heart. He is raising a beautiful six-year-old son with autism; when he is not on the road, he is with him.

Scott told me he loved riding his Harley when he was home. When I told him I could get him any parts—1984 and up—he got a big smile on his face and said, "Now you are trying to sweeten me up!" LOL, I said yes! In fact, I am currently on a mission to find a sidecar so he can safely take his son on rides with him.

His passion for autism and veteran awareness is very impressive. So, there was a concert in a town that shall remain anonymous—he did his heartfelt intro for our veterans, and the sacrifices they make for all of us living in America. And as Scott does, he asked if there were any military or families of military in the house. There were many people at this venue, and not one veteran or military family member responded. What kind of town is that? I deeply relate to Scott's devotion for our military.

by Ray Peters



This tiny Irish motorcycle girl with tattoos is blessed to be able to walk up to anyone. When someone walks up behind me and catches me blind, I want to punch or freeze. That is when I hear random noises in the parts warehouse or shop, and I jump...like someone cracking a throttle or a part hitting the concrete. Or...maybe Bad Pig himself



David, slamming the bike lift right by me! I so wanted to punch you!

I know I am so safe there, but PTSD is a bitch. Do not surprise me, despite the fact I can walk up to a star or a common guy and talk about my role with Thunder Roads Michigan, being AJ's Vanna and my role as motorcycle shop pit bull at Bad Pig Customs. I am 5'7" and a buck-o-5, but look out; C4 comes in small packages—just saying. I am a veteran's daughter with a law enforcement attitude.



I was diagnosed with PTSD and believe me, it is an eternal battle. My passion is to work with these guys on their triggers; what catches them off guard; even night terrors. I am a freeze-or-fight kind of girl, and I am not a shrink or psychologist, just a common redneck country girl with an abusive past. I can talk one-on-one with these guys in a comfortable location, and try to help in any way I can. With that, I get to deal with my own issues—and Scott's accomplishments and drive speak volumes in the way he dealt with me demanding an interview on location.

He is an amazing American who loves two extremely and intensely important causes. His career with Saving Abel gives him an extra advantage to be an advocate for these causes; his soul and spirit touch my heart.

The whole point: ANY ONE of us can do this, one person at a time. Pay it forward. Show love and respect for our all of our veterans, people with autism, or any issue we all may have. Take time to be kind, show politeness and compassion.

Scott takes time during his crazy life to bring awareness to autism and our military. He is very proud of his military family and I understand that firsthand. Scott has an amazing edge on the miles he has walked, and because of his fame, he can reach a limitless amount of people.

Scott could have said "no" to this random stranger who walked up to him; but he did not. Instead, he opened his heart and home on the road to me. Scott can instill awareness in minds that are willing and maybe change a few along the way. I have mountains of respect for him. Anyone can get on stage and play. But Scott and Saving Abel take the time to let their audiences know freedom is based on our military; past, present, and future. Freedom is not free. It comes with an ultimate cost. We need to take time to give back, not just sending a gift box overseas. If you see someone who is serving, or a sign that they have served, give them the time they deserve and tell them "thank you."

Recently I was covering an event for "Welcome Home Vets" in Bancroft, Michigan, and my PTSD messed with me so bad, I threw up. AJ and Freddie P know my issues; I took off with Freddie on "Thumper," 230 HP 147 CI! Thank you! No glasses, no hair bands or bandannas; we rode to the elementary school purchased to house homeless veterans and help rehabilitate them as they reenter society. Then I told Freddy, "take the road less traveled," and we did—at beyond speed limits. Just what I needed.

There are over sixty homeless vets in Shiawassee County, Michigan alone, and that is only ONE county in one state. Now think about that nationwide.

Long story short: people like Scotty Austin are truly amazing in what they do for our veterans. Yes, we all have our roles in life to play; let us all learn from our mentors and do our best to be a positive influence, one person at a time. We can all make a difference.



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# Jody "Mo's" THUNDER FUN

### Inspiration

*Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward for this faith is to see what you believe. ~ Saint Augustine*


*Everyone believes very easily whatever he fears or desires. ~ Jean de La Fontaine*

### Biker Poem BY twowheelsfred

I remember fondly my first bike ride -  
The feeling was magical and hard to hide.  
My brothers were behind the bike pushing  
'Cause it would not run (we took turns)  
it was okay, but not a lot of fun -  
Then one day, Dad said, "turn on the key."  
I was the one on the seat -  
So he was talkin' to me  
Honda Step Through 50cc  
When the engine coughed and caught  
Braap braat braah vroom  
The pushers just stopped, but I did not.  
Away I went at about 5 to 10 knots  
That was a short ride, 'cause they  
Caught me and made me share.  
Dad was in the door of the garage,  
And that memory of him there  
He had charged the battery -  
Fresh gas and freshened up the tire air  
Without us knowing it.  
This gift he did give -  
I will remember and cherish,  
As long as I live.  
THANKS, DAD!  
I was blessed.  
The dreams that the first ride ignited -  
The thoughts that also excited me  
Were born on that day.  
As I was preparing to make Thunder  
And go to play in the road.  
'Cause we can imagine -  
Where There's Bikes.....There's Going To Be THUNDER!

# FreedomFEST 2017



BY "Mama Moe" 

There is something about that little town of Akron, MI that makes me look forward to coming back to each year. It feels like a family reunion (on the good side). The people are what make this small town so great! Plus, having the Iron Horse Bar & Grill nestled in the heart of it also plays a huge part in making this little town so fun.

The event kicked off Wednesday before Labor Day and kept a'rockin till late Sunday night. Every day was filled with live music, vendors, contests and the sound of motorcycles thundering through the streets. Hundreds of people came out for a charitable cause on Sunday to participate in the Cardinal Wishes Bike Run—benefiting their foundation, the Great Lakes Burn Cam, as well as local veteran groups. Many went on the ride, but some hung back at the Iron Horse, indulging in a cold beverage or two. Their front deck makes a great spot to people-watch!

What would a small town be without a good ol' fashioned Corn Hole tournament, right? It seems like Corn Hole is the outdoor game of choice these days and I can see why—it is a lot of fun! Especially when you throw a ringer, and get to win a free sweat-shirt...or five!



The bike show brought in some sweet entries. There were three winners. The winners each received a trophy as well as bragging rights.

Winners of the bike show: John Isaccs, Brennon Tiller, and Paul Triprett

Winners of the Corn Hole tournament: A. Morton and Tara Ozbit

Thank you, Rich, for another great year—all the staff, volunteers, vendors, and the Cardinal Wishes Foundation.

Mark your calendars for next year—Labor Day weekend—for the 14th Annual Freedom Fest event. See you there!



continued on next page...

# FreedomFEST 2017



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		9	2	8		7		
		8			7			
2		1				8	4	9
	4			9				3
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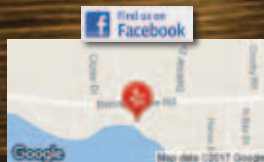
*As Always... Ride safe friends!*

*Winner Last Month*  
**Ron Lock**  
 of Michigan  
*Congratulations!*

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	4	3				8	5		7	1
		6	7		1			9		

Each puzzle has 9 boxes. Each box has 9 squares. Write #'s 1-9 in the squares without repeating the same # from side to side, top to bottom or within the same square.





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# Biker Preacher's Corner

I just got a message from a friend, asking me what I thought about all the weird stuff going on in our country. He said, "I'm getting scared. Within a month—a full solar eclipse, flooding in Texas, record-breaking hurricane wind speeds, another hurricane hitting Florida, fires in Washington, Oregon, Montana, and California and 116 earthquakes in Idaho."

His statement and question got me thinking and reminded me of Matthew 24:4-8, which says:

**Matthew 24:4-8:** 4Then Jesus replied to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and they will deceive many. 6 You are going to hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, because these things must take place, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these events are the beginning of birth pains."

We're seeing these things going on in our world right now, aren't we? There are a couple fruit loops that call themselves Jesus Christ and they're NOT... so don't fall for their lies, and all the natural disasters and rumors of war. But, you might be thinking...birth pains? Listen, Jesus is coming again and all these disasters are signs, harbingers, of His return. But, it's not yet time. **Ephesians 5:27 says:** "He did this to present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless." Frankly, the Body of Christ (the Church as a whole) is spotted and wrinkled and is not ready for His return.

But, let me say this...these signs are God's merciful warnings to all of mankind that He is coming soon—consider them wake-up calls. You might be thinking...MERCIFUL? What about all the destruction in Houston and other places? The thing to remember is Hell is even worse than all the death and destruction that we've seen or survived. Listen, God loves all of us so much and doesn't want anyone to go down to eternal death and damnation. But, the choice is ours to make... God made the way (Christ Jesus), but it is our choice to accept Him or reject Him.

**Romans 10:9 says:** "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

It's not about going to a particular church, but, entering into a relationship (Father and child) with God Almighty and when we repent of our sins...GOD forgives.

**1 John 1:9 says:** "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

So, don't be alarmed about all the disastrous things going on. Turn to Jesus; He is the answer—He is coming!

Much love and respect,

**Apostle Brian "BMAN" McKay**  
Senior Pastor, National President & Founder  
Victory Biker Church International  
apostlebman@victorybikerchurch.org  
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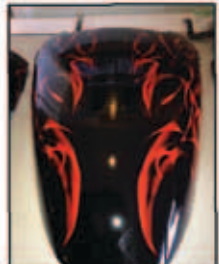
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# IN THE SHOP WITH RON

By Ron Johnson

## TUNE IN FOR BEST PERFORMANCE

This month in the shop, we will be installing an on-board fuel management system on a 2011 H-D Tri-Glide 103ci. There are far too many options to discuss in the space available. The one we will be installing this month is, in my opinion, a great DO-IT-YOURSELF option for a mildly modified motor. For this application, we chose a Vance & Hines Fuelpak FP3, specific to the year and model bike we're working on.



Remove the cap and plug the Fuelpak into this plug. On this bike, there was a convenient place to mount the Fuelpak on the fuse box support panel.



Make sure your phone's Bluetooth function is turned on; you have an active Wi-Fi signal, the bike's ignition is turned on, and the handlebar switch is in the Run position. A quick note here: you may want to hook a battery charger up to avoid having your battery go dead, as you will have the ignition on without the motor running for a while, and with the headlight on, if your battery is not 100%, it could cause problems.

Now it's as easy as following the steps outlined in the menu. Once you start the program with the bike's ignition turned on (not running), the green lights on the Fuelpak should start flashing, indicating it is communicating with your bike's ECM (Engine Control Module). See picture #4.

After several seconds, your bike's VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) should show up in the correct

window. Confirm the VIN, and choose select a map option. Fuel maps are chosen based on your bike's air intake and exhaust setup, to start with. Vance & Hines have developed fuel maps for virtually every exhaust combination they offer. If you have a different manufacturer's exhaust, you can choose generic under exhaust mfg., and pick one closest to your set-up. There is also the option to choose from fifty different cam upgrade options.

Input the most accurate information possible, and follow the prompts to download the fuel map and flash it to your ECM. Follow these steps closely.

If you have any questions, such as what exhaust to choose, or you don't see your particular cams listed, Vance & Hines has outstanding tech support. They can fine-tune a map for you over the phone even connect to your device and monitor what you are doing by remote.

Once you flash a fuel map to your ECM, the Fuelpak is "married" to that bike only. You can use some functions of the Fuelpak on other bikes: sensor data monitoring, check and clear trouble codes, and search maps without flashing. Vance & Hines recommends after you download your first map to run one full tank of gas before you do anything else to allow the new map to settle in, so to speak. After the first tank of gas, if you feel it still needs some fine-tuning, you can run an auto-tune session which allows you to tune while riding to further tailor the fuel map to your specific riding style and conditions.

If you think this might be for you, download the app and check it out. They have a detailed FAQ section. Again, if you don't find the answers you're looking for, don't hesitate to call tech support—they are very helpful. Take some time and enjoy the beautiful riding weather we've been having.

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Ron

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## ABATE

October makes you think of pumpkins, wet leaves on the road, and Halloween. Driving during the month of October means being AWARE of deer more than ever. Hunting season for bow hunters begins on October 1st and then what I like to call 'em "road rats" will be all over the place. I recently took a trip to the Mio area and did the AuSable tubing experience. On the way there at 9:00 p.m., traveling down Hwy 36, just out of Rose City, here was a buck waiting on the side of the road. It didn't even pay attention to my pickup hauling my machine to my destination and 100 yards down the road, there were two does on the side of the road, probably just waiting for him. So please be careful and AWARE of your surroundings, especially since the riding season is slowing down and it's getting darker earlier. Please leave your parties and favorite pubs earlier so you can get home safe.

I just read an article in my September Thunder Roads and I did not know that they had Electronic Data Recorders (EDRs) in some motorcycles, like the Kawasaki Ninja line and the Honda Gold Wing airbag model from 2006-2014. EDRs record the speed, throttle position, brake status, and severity of the crash, per Attorney Jason A. Waechter. I learn something new every day, thanks to Jason and Thunder Roads Michigan!

October means bonfires and, of course, Halloween. I really do get a kick out of some costumes. They can be so creative. It's always fun and don't be afraid to get dressed up. We are all kids at heart and we really don't care what someone thinks about us. Having fun is important and laughter is good medicine.

Awareness is everywhere and ABATE is working very hard to help save lives. Just like Region 10 did with their new sign on M46 and Luce Road in Saginaw and Gratiot. Great job, Kim and Region 10!

### Events coming up in October to enjoy are:

- **Region 7** September 29 – October 1: Carved in Stone weekend. Call Tim 989-670-9976
- **Region 6** October 8: Chili Cook Off. Donations for coats for kids and Toys for Tots
- **Region 18** October 21: Color Run / Halloween Party
- **Region 14** October 22: Chili Cook Off and meeting. George 734-323-1827
- **Region 5** September 30 : Annual Toy Run
- **Region 20** September 30: Summer Party. Mike 810-423-8711
- **Region 17** October 7: The Great Pumpkin Parade. Mimi 906-359-4533
- **Region 20** October 21: Halloween Party. Sassy 810-919-5078
- **Region 20** October 28: Fall Color Tour. Sassy 810-919-5078
- **Region 7** October 29: Pumpkin Carving with Ammo. Call Marlene 810-712-1600

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# Bullet Points

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## JOHN 8:32

BY RICK WYATT



"Know the truth, and the truth shall set you free" is the very simple Biblical truth engraved in stone over the entrance to the Supreme Court of the United States. Truth is a constant in that you can hide it, lie about it, deny it, ignore it and attempt to write it out of history—but eventually it resurfaces and bites somebody in the ass. Slavery is an abomination and an affront to society as we know it, but forced bondage in one form or another has also been an institutional constant among civilizations from the beginning of time. And, like it or not, slavery, in many different forms, exists in our world today; it's just not politically correct to talk about it.

Four hundred years ago, involuntary servitude was socially accepted throughout most of the known world, viewed as a sign of affluence and refinement among the "polite society" of the day. Revisionist history tells us that slavery came to North America through Jamestown, Virginia in 1619; and even in the now-pious North, it was not uncommon for families of means to own the house staff that made the beds, swept the floors, did the laundry, cooked the meals, tended the grounds, and maintained the stables well into the mid-1800s. In both the North and South, it also was not uncommon for freed men (former slaves) and their descendants to own slaves who worked their farms, or served as contract labor. One of the largest slave markets in the South was actually owned by a former slave who was also a plantation owner. But slavery was not new to the Americas in 1619; it had been practiced by aboriginal people for centuries before Jamestown was established.

Through the ages, slaves have been among the most valuable "spoils of war." During the Dark Ages, Moorish invaders ventured deep into central Europe, pillaging cities and villages, leaving the men dead, and the women and children slaves; a practice repeated five centuries later by the Vikings. The vast majority of Africans brought to the Americas were the "spoils" of Moorish/Muslim raids, or prisoners of tribal warfare that were sold in slave markets along the Ivory Coast. Truthfully, men of color sold people of color to slave traders, mostly Dutch, for wealth and power.

Revisionists would have us believe that eleven states committed the ultimate act of treason when they seceded from the union over the issue of slavery; however, this is a slight prevarication. The South knew slavery was quickly coming to an end, but neither the North and South wanted to deal with hundreds of thousands of newly emancipated blacks. Both sides negotiated a transition plan in Washington, supported by Northern and Southern leaders, to relocate emancipated Southern blacks to Liberia, with the South bearing the brunt of the costs. Subsequently, cotton and tobacco producers in the slave states needed to sell their cash crops to the highest bidders, namely European and Mediterranean markets, to offset the relocation costs, as well as keep their plantations viable. Congress, which was controlled by the population- and industry-dense North, stepped in to protect northern textile industries—industries that relied on cheap domestic cotton—by imposing an export tariff on southern agricultural products to drive out foreign buyers and further depress cotton prices. This action was a violation of Article 1, Sect. 8 of the Constitution.

To seal the deal, a naval blockade began patrolling the waters and blockading southern ports, seizing ships and cargo that didn't have the proper tax paperwork. Southerners began to view themselves as being occupied rather than equal, and helpless under the boot of governmental oppression.

With the election of Lincoln in 1860, rumors of more severe economic measures being imposed on the South filled the halls of Congress, and the Southern delegations had no reason not to believe the gossip. Politics aside, the first shots of the Civil War were fired on April 12, 1861 at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor in an effort to drive the federal troops out of the South and break up the naval blockade that was crippling Southern commerce. The Emancipation Proclamation would not be enacted until January of 1863, and then only in the hope of starting a mass slave rebellion to bring the South to her knees. Many of the officers and enlisted men that filled the Confederate ranks had left the federal military to serve their states, which they considered their first duty. This was a common sentiment throughout the military at the time and they did not view themselves traitors, as did many of the Northerners they had previously served with.

Heroes or villains is a matter of perspective; but either way, slavery was an abomination and an undeniable stain on our history. Revisionists deal in half-truths to bolster weak narratives, twisting facts to the point of lies that only cast doubt on the original grievances.

In order to rewrite history, one must first destroy any artifacts that don't support the new narrative; the Nazis burned books, the Islamists destroyed ancient temples and shrines, and now ANTIFA and BLM (Black Lives Matter) are demanding the removal of statues and the razing of sites like Stone Mountain in Georgia because they are "offended" by their existence.

Offended—or threatened by the idea that young people might be inspired to set emotions aside and seek the truth, and maybe set their young minds free.

After all, they might find out that Gen. Robert E. Lee was actually apolitical, opposed secession, never owned slaves (like most men who served the Confederacy), and post-war, became a college president, working tirelessly for reconciliation.

Or that Arlington Plantation (now Arlington Cemetery) actually belonged to Lee's wife's family and after becoming executor of the estate, Lee realized it—along with most of the South—had been bankrupted by repressive Northern economic policy. That was why he resigned his West Point commission to join the Confederacy and lead men (both black and white) from all walks of life to stand against a tyrant.

We can't do anything about 244 years of bondage or the ensuing decades of hatred, except earnestly seek the truth and learn from it. Perhaps in so doing, we will heal this nation and set ourselves free.



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October 1  
Turkey Run @The Crump Fox Club  
Crump Fox Club, Linwood, MI. Regis 10 am- noon, \$10 pp, coffee, donuts, prizes for best hands, chili provided after. For more info call Mark 989-892-7866 or Bubba's Tri City Cycle

October 7  
2nd Annual Dundee Veterans Memorial Bike Show & Poker Run  
418 Dunham St, Dundee, MI. Bike show & poker run regis 9- 10:30 am, kickstands up 11 am, bike show judging 2 pm, music, food, cold drinks. For more info call Barry 517-914-7453

**October 8**  
43rd Annual Motorcycle Swap Meet & Bike Show  
Wings Event Center, Kalamazoo, MI. Bikes, parts, leather, food, beer & more. For more info call 800-800-6034 (See ad this issue).

October 14  
3rd Annual Spartan Cycle Chili Cook Off  
Spartan Cycle, Clinton Twp, MI. 10 am - 4 pm. Bring

your best tasting chili for a chance to win one of 3 top prizes and earn your bragging rights! For more info go to [www.spartancycle.com](http://www.spartancycle.com)

**October 14**  
Chili Cook Off  
ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 11 am- 3 pm. For more info go to [abcharleydavidson.com](http://abcharleydavidson.com) (See full page ad inside front cover).

**October 14**  
Victory Biker Church Bonfire  
Victory Biker Church, Lennon, MI. 6 pm- 9 pm, food, music, bike games & more. For more info call 810-247-6332

October 14 & 15  
1st Annual Chili, Chrome & Colors  
Chili Cook-Off & Indian Motorcycle Show  
Dick Scotts Power Sports, Livonia MI. First 50 show regis get event T shirt, chili samplings, entertainment, chili & bike voting, hourly drawings, 50/50 10am-6pm. Sunday the 15th, Color Ride, open to all makes. For more info contact: [rpb-saw@aol.com](mailto:rpb-saw@aol.com),

**October 15**  
Birch Run Motorcycle Swap Meet  
Birch Run Expo Center, Birch Run, MI. Admis only \$7, 10 am - 4pm. For more info or vendor spot call 989-893-5187

**October 19-22**  
25th Annual Biketoberfest  
Daytona Beach, FL. Week-end of bike shows, demos, concerts, festivals & more. For more info go to [Biketoberfest.org](http://Biketoberfest.org)

October 21  
4th Annual Bikers & Friends Comedy Night!  
PRCU Hall, Wyandotte, MI. Doors open at 5:30, Tickets \$25 pp includes Four comics, Dinner, 2 drinks. All proceeds fund our Veteran's Outreach program, American Legion Riders, Post 217. For more info go to [www.comedy4vets.com](http://www.comedy4vets.com)

**October 22**  
36th Annual Motorcycle Swap Meet & Custom Bike Show  
Delta Plex Arena, Grand Rapids, MI. Bikes, parts, leather, food, beer & more. For more info call 800-800-6034 (See ad this issue).

**October 25**  
Bells & Burgers  
Cheers Pub, Lapeer, MI. Starting at 6 pm pairing bell's beers with variety of sliders. For more info call 810-667-3170 (See ad this issue)

**October 28**  
Halloween Party  
ABC HD, Waterford, MI. 11 am- 3 pm. For more info go to [abcharleydavidson.com](http://abcharleydavidson.com) (See full page ad inside front cover).

**October 28**  
Customization Workshop  
ABC HD, Waterford, MI. Noon- 1 pm. For more info go to [abcharleydavidson.com](http://abcharleydavidson.com) (See full page ad inside front cover).

**October 29**  
Detroit Area Motorcycle Swap Meet  
Suburban Collection Show-place, Novi, MI. 10 am- 4 pm, \$8 pp, 12 & under free, vendor spots only \$50, bikes, parts, leather, jewelry, patches, accessories & more. For more info call 989-225-1244 (See full page ad this issue).

### EVENT LISTINGS ARE FREE!!!

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

All Advertised Events in our Magazine will have their event Posted on the Pull-Out Calendar (specific issues) and your Event will be Highlighted in the Thunder Roads Events Calendar of the Magazine.

Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan - Your Michigan Biker Connection (Call about our Special Discounts for Ads for Charity Based Events)

To get your event listed in Thunder Roads Magazine and on our web site, send the information to:

[Editor@ThunderRoadsMichigan.com](mailto:Editor@ThunderRoadsMichigan.com)  
Event information must be received prior to the 10th of the month preceding the event month to be posted in the magazine. Remember to call ahead before planning to attend any event as the information/dates may change.

Thunder Roads is NOT responsible for errors or omissions.

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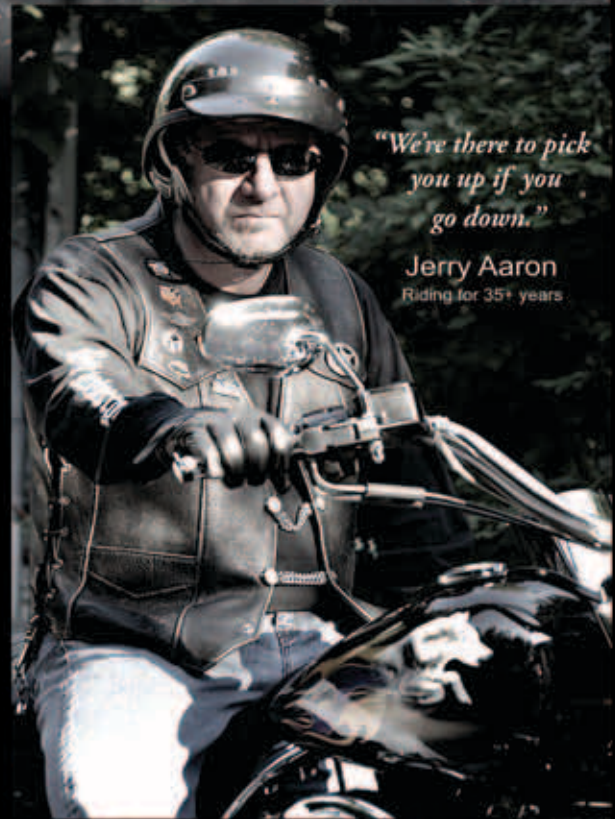
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