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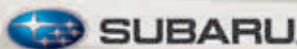
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# LETTER FROM THE OWNER

*Happy Independence Day!*

Summer is here, yippee!! I love Michigan summers. It is definitely my favorite time of the year. I hope everyone has dusted their Ride Cards off or made it out to a Registration Stop and signed up for one because it is also Winning Time! There is no catch here, folks--your Free Ride Card allows for you to win stuff! Read all about it in the Ride n' Win section of the magazine. Then remember to check next month's issue to see if your Ride Card is listed as a winner. We have a lot of great sponsors and prizes this year for you to possibly win! All for FREE! Plus, anyone can participate...drive your boat, golf cart, truck, hot rod... it's all good.

The events keep rolling in and we are thankful for that, because you cannot possibly be bored this riding season. Every weekend there is something going on. Be sure to email me your events to be listed in the free event calendar by the 10th of the month prior and we will get it in.

I want to remind everyone that Thunder Roads is supported by advertisers, so if you like reading it each month, please be sure to patronize our supporters. If you know someone that should advertise in the magazine, please share your copy and show them page three; they can reach out to their local sales representative or me. The rates are very affordable and we offer charity discounts as well.

Be sure to like Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan on Facebook to keep up-to-date with exciting updates and latest happenings. Thank you to all of our loyal advertisers—we appreciate you! Thank you, readers, for your support and making Thunder Roads Magazine #1!

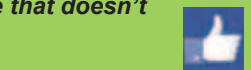
### Now for some "Mo" Advice:

*What is your worth? I don't mean how much you have in the bank or how much change you have in your pocket, but rather you as a person. If you don't think much of yourself, then others will not either. If you believe in yourself, then that is what you will attract back in your life. Like attracts like. Believe you are worth all the goodness that life has to offer and remove anyone from your life that doesn't support your worth.*

Jody Mohowitsch  
"Jody Mo"

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# The Positive Shift




## How You Handle Change

Change in your life can be quite challenging. Whether it's a positive or negative change...remember, it's all in how you handle it. William Pollard once said, and I quote: "Without change there is no innovation, creativity, or incentive for improvement. Those who initiate change will have a better opportunity to manage the change that is inevitable."

If we don't like something in our personal life, we are privileged to have many opportunities to change it. People who are ready to take their future in their hands can make a decision to better their lives. Most times all we need to get going is to hear the right word—at the right time. It gets you motivated and ready to go and be successful!

Making the right decision goes a long way in changing our lives for the better. As a reminder, you can achieve anything you want in life if you are determined and focused. At times, all you need do is to get out of your comfort zone.

Accept a change that will improve your personal life or business for the better. The truth is, you can't keep doing the same thing over and over again and expect a different result. You need to take the bull by the horns and face that challenge.

You have what it takes to attain your desired dream. You are your best motivation. Know what you want and go for it. Why settle for less? The importance of creativity can never be overemphasized. Always be conscious of the fact that not all ideas stick, but you won't know what works or doesn't work unless you try. Always strive to improve. What a great reason to embrace new ideas in business, yourself, or other things, and see how your determination and new thought process can improve your level of success.

Most successful businesses, chambers, rotaries, and charities of today at one point in time had challenges, but the determination to succeed always kept them going. You should always be conscious of the fact that nobody likes to fail; however, this is how we find out if it's successful or needs to change...most of the time great things come out of new ideas.

In your journey to success, always give respect to whom respect is due. We all need self-satisfaction, no matter what drives us. You never know when yours will strike, so keep on trying. The truth is, nothing can distract a determined mind. Because when you are determined, you are focused and a focused person has a vision which they can reach at a particular point in time.

On the other hand, you can continually make excuses for failure, or give reasons not to do well in whatever you find yourself doing. The truth is, successful people don't give excuses, they make things happen, even when the conditions seem unfavorable. They always ensure there is a good result, even from a bad situation. They could give excuses because the process seems difficult. Because there is a light at the end of the tunnel, they face the challenge and bring out something positive from it. You can achieve anything you want to. Nothing can limit you. The only limitation you have is yourself. Stand up and face whatever challenge it is. You were born strong and only weakened by your own negative self-talk.

Stand up, leave your comfort zone, get the job done and let change be a good thing!

Until then...Don't Coast in Neutral, Positive Shift Ahead

~ Stacie René


www.positiveshiftahead.com

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11401 17 Mile Rd, Marshall

Stops:  
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Featuring: Food & Music

Planet Power Sports  
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End: Sandhill  
Stay for music, auctions,  
overnight camping is available.

Registration Fees: \$20 individual or \$30 per bike: includes 1 entry per person for prize and patch

Registration: 10-10:30 a.m. at Sandhill – 11401 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI , KSU @ 11 a.m.

Mail checks to: Marshall Community Foundation/JFTC, 625 W. Green St., Marshall, MI 49068

Questions? Call Jarod at (269) 503-3588



Registration Fee includes:

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## MONDAY

- *Decker's Lounge ~ MIDLAND*

## TUESDAY

- *Track Side Food & Spirits ~ REESE*
- *Hi-Way Inn ~ MANISTEE*

## WEDNESDAY

- *Iron Horse Bar & Grill ~ AKRON*
- *River Rock Bar & Grill ~ St. LOUIS*
- *702 Bar & Grill ~ MIDLAND*
- *Sholty's Bar ~ LANSING*
- *Rum Runners ~ RAVENNA*
- *Zone 18 Bar & Grill ~ PRUDENVILLE*
- *The Rusty Nail ~ CARSON CITY*
- *Baldwin Bowling Center ~ BALDWIN*

## THURSDAY

- *Stingers Bar & Grill ~ WIXOM*
- *My Alibi Bar & Grill ~ MIDLAND*
- *Trail's End Pub ~ HARRISON*
- *Office Lounge & Grill ~ OSCODA*
- *Thee Office Pub & Cookery ~ ROMEO*
- *Dead Creek Saloon ~ FRANKENMUTH*
- *Ghost Town Saloon ~ ELWELL*
- *Artesian Wells Sports Tavern ~ CEMENT CITY*

## FRIDAY

- *Davison Eagles ~ DAVISON*  
(OPEN TO PUBLIC EVERY OTHER FRIDAY)  
7/7, 7/21, 8/4, 8/18, 9/1, 9/15, 9/29

## SATURDAY

- *Knoll View Golf ~ Au Gres (4-9 PM)*

## SUNDAY

- *Woody's Bancroft Tavern ~ BANCROFT*  
(STARTS AT NOON)



(These Bike Nights are supporters / advertisers of Thunder Roads Magazine of MI)

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# READERS RIDES



Josh M



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JULY 20, 21 & 22

FRI 7/20 – Short Track (4/6/8) • SAT 7/21 – TT Scrambles (8/10/12)  
SAT 7/21 – Short Track (4/6/8) • SUN 7/22 – TT Scrambles (8/10/12)

**AUGUST 11 & 12**  
SAT 8/11 – Short Track (3/5/7) • SUN 8/12 – TT Scrambles (8/10/12)

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
SEPTEMBER 15 & 16

SAT 9/15 – Short Track (3/5/7) • SUN 9/16 – TT Scrambles (8/10/12)  
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**SUNDAY AUGUST 5TH**  
**"Come Ride with Us"**  
Meet at Paw Paw Park N' Ride, Exit 60 and I-94  
Ride to K-Wings Event Center then ride to Great Lakes Burn Camp  
Registration 10 AM ~ Ride Leaves at 11 AM  
Donations Accepted  
Pancake Breakfast Available at 7:30AM at American Legion Post  
115 N. Niles St., Paw Paw, Michigan

**SUNDAY, SUNDAY, SUNDAY AUGUST 5TH**  
**Escort Kids to Camp**  
**Great Lakes Burn Camp**  
Meet at WINGS STADIUM  
3600 Vanrick Drive (Sprinkle Road), Kalamazoo MI  
Registration 10am-12:30pm ~ Ride Leaves 1pm  
**PRIZES ~ FOOD ~ 50/50**  
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# The Motorcycle Lawyer on THE LAW

## WOMEN'S MOTORCYCLE MONTH

### Michigan's Secretary of State Ruth Johnson Takes Charge

For several years, the number of women riders has been on the rise. A recent survey by the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) shows that female bike owners are at an all-time high, with the number more than doubling between 2003 and 2014. But women have been riding for a very long time. Back in 1915, Effie Hotchkiss, with her mother Avis in a sidecar, became the first woman to ride cross-country, leaving Brooklyn in May and arriving in San Francisco three months later. These days, it's far more common to see women riders, and helping to lead the charge in motorcycle awareness and safety is our very own Secretary of State, Ruth Johnson.

#### FIERCELY DETERMINED

Now in her second term, Ruth Johnson has made the rounds. She started as a public school teacher, then bought a print shop. Her passion for civil service was born when she found herself printing flyers to rally the community against an industrial site that could have contaminated local groundwater. From 1988 to 1998, she was a member of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. In 1999, she was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives, and served three terms. When term limits ended that run in 2004, she went on to become the first woman ever elected to serve as the Oakland County Clerk and proceeded to win 14 national awards for saving money and improving efficiency.

Johnson was just twelve years old when she bought her first motorbike—a Honda 50—for the bargain price of just \$50.00. She used that bike to deliver newspapers in Waterford, even finding her way around the publisher's no-girls hiring rule by using a neighbor's name to do so. Not so surprisingly, she later went on to become the first woman in Oakland County to get a motorcycle endorsement/license. These days, she rides a 1200cc Harley-Davidson Sportster Forty-Eight. In May 2018, Johnson (and her bike) joined with Michigan State Police and other local riders for a twenty-mile ride to promote Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

#### RIDER SAFETY AND THE LAW

The Michigan law requiring the use of a helmet by motorcyclists was repealed in 2012, but there are stipulations. According to state law, to legally skip the helmet, a motorcycle operator must be at least 21 years old, have at least \$20,000 in first-party medical benefits and have held a motorcycle endorsement for at least two years or passed an approved motorcycle safety course.

Despite the change in law, 70% of all Michigan bikers still wear helmets. In a recent interview, Johnson emphasized the importance of proper gear, as well as the motorcycle endorsement. "I always wear a helmet, and I'm always encouraging people to make sure they get their motorcycle operator's license. About 14 percent have not, and they're involved in almost half of our crashes. So, getting trained is so important. And then take in a refresher course, too, because motorcycles have changed, the rules have changed. It's just so important to do both."

Secretary Johnson also notes the role of other motorists, specifically the implementation of common sense. Looking twice, checking mirrors, and blind spots are actions that can truly save a life. Many motorcycle accidents occur at intersections when a car turns left, directly in front of a motorcyclist. "Give that motorcycle extra room," she says, "Our brain, for some reason, perceives bigger objects as closer, so when you see a motorcycle, give them an extra few seconds, because your brain needs that time to really evaluate it, and you will probably think it's further away than it is."

The increase in ridership among women is a good thing for all motorcyclists. The more motorcycles car and truck drivers encounter, the more likely they are to keep a careful lookout for us. With high-profile role models like Secretary Johnson, and manufacturers catering specifically to women who ride, I hope to see this trend continue over the next decade and beyond.

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.

Call Attorney Jason Waechter toll free at 1-877-BIKER LAW.  
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# The JOKERS WILD

Lil' Johnny was kicked out of Math class and when he sat down in the Principal's office she asked him what happened. Lil' Johnny said "The teacher asked the class what comes after 69? Well, apparently "Mouthwash" was the wrong answer".

"Pervo" was recently at the Fair and he just stood next to one of the displays and this gal comes up says "So what are you selling or able to do?"

Pervo thinks quick and says "I have the ability to guess how old you are just by feeling breasts."

The girl is kinda' intrigued. "Really. Well then, go on." After about 20 seconds of Pervo fondling she gets impatient and says, "Come on, how old am I, when was I born?" Pervo says "I reckon you to be in your mid 20's, but you was born yesterday."

A wife thinking she's being very modern thinking treats her hubby to a birthday night at the local expensive strip club. At The Club, the Doorman says, "Hey, Jimbo, how ya' been buddy?" The wife says "how does he know you?" and Jimbo replies, "I play football w/ him." Once inside the Bartender says "Hey, Jimbo, you want the usual?" Jimbo turns to his wife and says "before you say anything he's on the Darts Team." Next a hot stripper yells down from the stage Hey, Jimbo, you craving the Special tonight?" The wife storms out the door dragging Jimbo by the collar and hails a taxi. Jumping in the taxi the Taxi Driver says, "Hey, Jimbo, you sure picked up a fugly one this time....". Jimbo should be fine after his testicles return to their individual sacks.

Three bulls heard the Rancher was bringing in another bull onto the ranch.

First bull: "I've been here 5 years. I'm not giving this new bull any of my 100 cows."

Second bull: I've been here for 3 years and have earned my right to 50 cows. I'm keeping all my cows."

Third bull: I've only been here a year and so far you guys have only let me have 10 cows. I may not be as big as you two but I'm keeping all 10 of my cows."

Just then a shiny cattle hauler pulls up in the pasture carrying the biggest bull the 3 bulls had ever seen. At 4,700 pounds, each step this massive animal takes strains the steel ramp.

First Bull: "Well, I think I can spare a few cows for our new friend."

Second Bull: "I actually have too many cows to take care of properly. I can spare a few. Not looking for any trouble."

They both look over at the third bull and see him hoofing up the dirt, shaking his horns back and forth and snorting as loud as he can.

First Bull: "Son, don't be foolish --- let him have some of your cows and live to tell about it."

Third Bull: "Hell, he can have all 10 of my cows. I'm just making sure he knows I'm a damn bull."

A woman goes to the Doctor worried about her husband's temper. The woman says, "Doc, I don't know what to do. Every day my husband seems to lose his temper for no reason. It kinda' scares me."

The Doc says "I have a cure for that. When it seems that your husband is getting angry, just take a glass of water, take a big gulp and swish and swish but don't swallow it until he either leaves the room or calm down."

Two weeks later the woman comes back to the Doc looking fresh and relaxed.

"Doc, that was a brilliant idea! Every time my hubby started losing it I just swished and swished my mouthful of water but never swallowed and he just calmed right down. How does a glass of water do that?"

The Doctor says, "The water itself does nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick."

Please pray for my wife. A bee stung her on the forehead and she is in I.C.U. She almost died.

Luckily, I was close enough to her and was able to hit the bee as hard as I could with a shovel at the very second that the bee stung her.

Leroy slides off his trunks at the beach and places his hat over his privates. A woman walks by and says "if you were a gentleman you'd life your hat." Leroy says, "if you didn't look like somebody hit you in the face with a shovel it would lift itself."

Grumpy is at his girlfriend's Baby Shower and sees all these women patting and rubbing his gal's tummy saying "Congratulations!".

He pops another beer and grumbles to himself, "How come nobody is over here rubbing my balls and saying "Good Job!?"

# JULY 19-22, 2018



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# Alyssa's Adventures in the Mitten

by Alyssa Locke



## PURE MICHIGAN

Well summer is in full swing! Despite the amount of rain we have had, there have also been some very hot days so far. I actually like riding in the hot weather, feeling that warm breeze on your face and body and taking in the fresh greenery of summer. Seems like summer takes so long to get here and goes so fast.

I hope you're all out riding your scooters. I took my maiden voyage on my new Harley a few weeks ago. As a new rider, it was a bit nerve-racking but I did great! It is different than being a passenger for sure. That is still what I like most, being a passenger, but that may change someday.

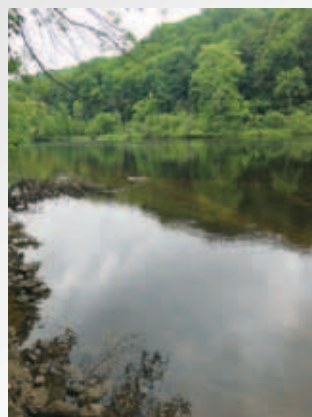
We braved the rain and attended the Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes. If you went, you know it was chilly and rainy but like I always say: "You gotta go." We always stop in Newaygo and look at the beautiful Muskegon River.

Although I have to say, one of my favorite areas is the western Michigan lakeshore. We spent a day riding by the beaches and stopped in Grand Haven at The Kirby Grill rooftop for lunch. You can see the boats in the channel and watch the people and cars go by. We saw a lot of cool bikes.

We are so lucky to have such a beautiful state. If you've never done the M-22 ride north, I highly suggest it. The lakeshore is so beautiful with sparkling blue water and there are many cool places to stop. I look forward to the Fourth of July. It's probably my favorite part of summer.

I plan to do a lot more riding. I want to explore more areas up north. If you have suggestions, let me know! There are a lot of bike events in July and I hope to see you all at some of them. Muskegon Bike Time is super fun and I look forward to it every year.

Get out and ride and enjoy Pure Michigan! Have a great July and remember to thank a Veteran for their service. Until next month...ride on readers!



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Visit [www.ridelikeapro-gl.com](http://www.ridelikeapro-gl.com) for our 2018 class dates and locations, or contact Gary at: 586-246-4344  
[gary@ridelikeapro-gl.com](mailto:gary@ridelikeapro-gl.com)



**2018 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST**



**NEW THIS YEAR...RIDE, DRIVE & WIN!**

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# 2018 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

The 5th Annual



## HERE'S THE DETAILS

1. Go to any stop listed on "The Stops" pages with a Ride Card image by it- they have Ride Cards, where other stops do not. If you already have your card from a previous year, 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! There are also event stops each month that you can check in at. Each Stop you hit will write your unique Ride Card number down. Let them know if you spent over \$10 there, because your Ride Card number will get counted twice!
3. Then pick up 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 then follow the simple instructions listed on the WINNERS page to claim your prize. 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 (July- October issues) of Thunder Roads or visit the website ThunderRoadsMichigan.com or check Facebook: Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan to see to see if your Ride Card # is listed as a winner from stops you made the previous month! (You will need to show them your Ride Card # along with the winning Ride Card # list to claim your prize).*

## FEW FACTS

- Winners are randomly picked from each Registration/Ride Stops, Ride Stops & Event Stops each month.
- The more places you check-in the greater your chances are of winning a prize from that stop, multiple prizes and/or one of our sponsors prizes!
- If you spend \$10 or more at any Stop your Ride Card number gets counted twice! Please note: *The reason why this contest is FREE to you is because of 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 Stop.
- 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 all summer Ride n' Win season long.

## It's really that simple!

1. Get Your Own Unique Michigan Ride Card (It Does Not Expire).
2. Get the list of stops each month from Thunder Roads Magazine or the website.
3. Ride out to these stops and show them your Ride Card.
4. And then you could win cool prizes, including COLD HARD CASH!



Just Get Out & RIDE!



# 2018 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

## JULY 2018 STOPS MAP



ALL STOPS



REG. FOR FREE RIDE CARD



RIDE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLY



MICHIGAN'S #1 MOTORCYCLE MAGAZINE

MAKE SURE TO CHECK NEXT MONTH TO SEE IF YOU WON AT ANY OF THE STOPS YOU CHECKED IN AT THIS MONTH

MAKE SURE TO CHECK NEXT MONTH TO SEE IF YOU WON AT ANY OF THE STOPS YOU CHECKED IN AT THIS MONTH

# 2018 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

## THE STOPS

For the month of July check-in at any of these stops (up to 1 time per week) 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 previous years 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 next months issue (or view the magazine online at [www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com](http://www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com)) or Facebook: Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan 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 the 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!**



### NORTH

#### Hi-Way Inn

715 Kosciusko St, Manistee, MI 49660. (231) 398-9188 Hours: M-Sat 11- Close, Sun Noon-Close. 1 person wins a \$15 Gift Card each month. *Bike Nights Tuesday 5-9 pm. It's 5:00 Somewhere, Ice Cold Beer.*

#### Irish Pub

4709 F-41 Oscoda, MI 48750. (989) 739-5611 Hours: M-Sat 11-2, Sun Noon-2. 1 person wins a t-shirt. Check-in here and get a spin on the "Spirit Wheel" for a drink special while there. *Family owned since 1980, Coldest Beer in Town, Sunday draft specials.*

#### Knoll View Golf

1020 E. Huron (US-23), Omer, MI 48749. (989) 876-4653 Hours: Daily 8 am-9 pm. 1 person wins \$20 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Saturday 4 pm- 9pm \$2 domestics, patio seating, drink & food specials, biker owned, draft beer, bikers welcome anytime.*

#### 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.*

#### Northern Trax Bar & Grill & Bakery

638 M68 Hwy, Afton, MI 49705. (231) 238-0484 Hours: Bakery Open 8 am- 4 pm, Bar Open 4 pm- Close. 1 person wins \$20 Gift Card each month. *Gas, Breakfast, Lunch, Party Store, Alcohol served from 8 am- Close, Fri night fish fry, Taco Tues, Karaoke Wedn & Fri, 50 cent wings Wed.*

#### Scooters Airport Bar

4520 N. Clare Ave, Harrison, MI 48625. (989) 539-2177 Hours: 11 am- 2 am Daily. 1 person wins \$20 gift card each month. *Your Party Destination, comfortable patio, best drinks, tastiest smoked BBQ, Sunday Fun Day 3 pm- 6 pm & best bartenders around! (See ad this issue)*

#### Silver Dollar Pub & Grill

9925 W. Higgins Lake Dr, Roscommon, MI 48653 Hours: 8 am- Midnight or later daily. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. Breakfast daily, Happy Hour M-F 2- 6 pm, specials daily, Th steak day, Sun Prime Rib.

#### Trail's End Pub

10141 N. Finley Lake Ave, Harrison, MI 48625. (989) 539-9644 Hours: 10-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, Breakfast Sat & Sun.*

#### Zone 18 Bar & Grill

700 East Houghton Lake Dr, Prudenville, MI 48651. (989) 366-7750 Hours: M-Th 11 am- Midnight, Fri & Sat 11 am- 1 am, Sun Noon- Midnight. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Wednesday, 75 cent wings, Long Island Ice Tea specials.*



### SOUTH

#### Hell Saloon

4095 Patterson Lake Rd, Pinckney (Hell), MI 48169. 734-648-0669 Hours: Open daily at 11 am, T, W, Th until midnight, Fri & Sat until 2 am, Sun & Mon until 10 pm. 1 person wins a awesome Hell Saloon T-shirt. *Great atmosphere, Hell themed fun, bike, horse, kayak & "whip" friendly! Sun live music 2-6, Fri & Sat bands 9pm- 1 am. Just down the road from La Vita Bistro... delicious food!!! (See ad this issue)*

#### 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. *Service & trust for 30 years, lowest prices on tires, stop in and see Bullet the wonder dog, who will accept any treats! (See ad this issue)*

#### La Vita Bistro

102 S. Howell St, Pinckney, MI 48169. (734) 878-1111 Hours: Closed Mon, T, W, Th 4-9 pm, Fri & Sat 11:30 am- 10 pm, Sun Noon- 8 pm. 1 person wins \$20 gift card each month. *Come as you are, everyone welcome! Housemade from scratch delicious food! Come relax on the patio or by the fire pit with a beautiful glass of wine or cocktail, Cheers! Just down the road from Hell Saloon (See ad this issue)*

#### McNastys Saloon

19300 Waltz Rd, New Boston, MI 48164. (734) 753-4900 Hours: M 10am-10pm, T 10am-1 am, W-Sat 10am-2am, Sun 11-10pm. 1 person wins a \$20 Gift Card each month. *Great food, Great People, Great Times! Family owned with a Cheers atmosphere, try their fried pickle spears!*

#### Old Hickory Bar & Grill

7071 Bennet Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430. (810) 735-7630 Hours: M-Sat 11 am- 2 am, Sun Noon- Midnight. 1 person wins choice of a gift card, shirt or hat each mth. *Great Food, Great Prices, Awesome Scenic Ride (See ad this issue)*

#### Sholty's Bar

1819 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48910. (517) 372-3559 Hours: Sun-Th 11 am- Midnight, Fri & Sat 11 am- 2 am. 50 cents off drinks if you ride in. *Bike Nights Wednesday. Karaoke Tues 8 pm-midnight. Awesome Patio, cheapest drinks in town, ice cold beer.*

# 2018 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

## THE STOPS

#### 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.*

#### Thee Office Pub & Cookery

128 S. Main St, Romeo, MI 48065. (586) 752-6680 Hours: M-Th 10 am- Midnight, Fri & Sat 10 am-1:30 am, Sun Noon- 10 pm. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Thursday 6 pm-midnight (Bike Parking only on Main St), 3 patios, new menu, beer specials, amazing burgers!*

#### 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 \$25 gift card each month to use in store. *Lansing areas ONLY Indoor gun range, largest gun, fishing tackle & archery supplier in Lansing, private lake out back, rental boats all summer. (See ad this issue)*

#### Wolverine Harley-Davidson

44660 N. Gratiot Ave, Clinton Twp., MI 48036. (586) 463-7700 Showroom Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4. Service Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-5, Sun closed. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *50,000 sq. ft. of everything H-D, a Michigan Must See & the ONLY Platinum Award Winning H-D Dealership in Michigan!*

#### Woody's Bancroft Tavern

119 Warren St, Bancroft, MI 48414. (989) 634-5455 Hours: M-Sat 11 am-close, Sun Noon- 10 pm. 1 person wins a \$25 gift card each month. *Bike Day Sundays Noon- ½ Lb Burger & Fries with Domestic Draft \$10*



### EAST

#### 702 Bar & Grill

702 S. Jefferson Ave, Midland, MI 48640. (989) 835-2851 Hours: M-F 10:30 am- 2:30 am, Sat & Sun Noon-2:30 am. 1 person wins a \$25 Gift Card each month. *Bike Nights Wednesday 6 pm- 9 pm \$3 burgers, \$6.50 pitchers, Th Karaoke, Fri/Sat live bands.*

#### Bad River Bar & Grill

103 N. Saginaw St, Saint Charles, MI 48655. (989) 865-6500 Hours: M-Sat 11 am- 2 am, Sun Noon-Midnight. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Great food, daily drink specials, great service & a great ride from anywhere in Michigan!*

#### Bay Shore Bar

9432 Bay City Forestville Rd, Fairgrove, MI 48733. (989) 895-9503 Hours: M-Th 10 am- 10 pm, Fri & Sat 10 am- 11 pm, Sun Noon- 9 pm. 1 person wins a \$10 gift card each month. *Great new atmosphere & first waterfront patio in the thumb, new owners, corn hole, Ride Card drink specials. (See ad this issue)*

#### Dead Creek Saloon

8030 Gera Rd, Frankenmuth, MI 48734. (989) 652-8382 Hours: M-Th 11 am- Midnight, Fri & Sat 11 am- 1 am, Sun 11 am- 11 pm. 1 person wins a \$20 Gift Card each month. *Home of Shiawassee HD Thursday Bike Nights 6pm- 9 pm – Food & Drink Specials, great food, outdoor patio.*

#### Decker's Lounge

402 E. Ellsworth, Midland, MI 48640. (989) 835-7592 Hours: M-Sat 11 am- 2 am, Sun Noon-Midnight. 1 person wins \$20 Gift Card each month. *Bike Night Wednesday 6 pm- 8 pm & steak night only \$6.50, Great Burgers, outdoor patio.*

#### Ghost Town Saloon

6422 Pingree Rd, Elwell, MI 48832. (989) 463-4693 Hours: M-Th 11 am- 10 pm, Fri & Sat 11 am- 1 am, Sun Noon- 8 pm. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Bike Nights Thursday 6 pm-10 pm with DJ Mike. Outdoor patio, great food, corn hole, horseshoe pits.*

#### 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 \$25 gift card each month. *Great selection of new/used bikes & accessories- located in the heart of the tri-cities. (See ad this issue)*

#### 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. (See ad this issue).*

#### 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. (See ad this issue).*

#### 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 \$20 gift card & t-shirt each month. *Bike Night Wednesdays with DJ Mike- Food & Drink Specials, Bike Parking front or back patio area.*

#### 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 \$25 gift card each month. *We are Michigan's All Amercian dealer, easy on/off I-75 Birch Run exit. (See ad this issue).*

#### Silver Palace

1500 Woodside, Essexville, MI 48732. (989) 892-1072 Hours: 10 am- 2 am Daily. 1 person wins a \$10 gift card each month. *Great Service, Great Burgers & Cold Beer!*

#### The Rusty Nail

10002 Carson City Rd (M57), Carson City, MI 48811. (989) 584-3313 Hours: Daily 6 am-9 pm or later. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Bike Night Wednesday \$2 domestic beer all day & night, outdoor patio, great food.*



### WEST

#### Baldwin Bowling Center

708 Michigan Ave, Baldwin, MI 49304. (231) 745-4403 Hours: 11 am- 11 pm daily. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Bike night Wednesday, great food, biker owned, outdoor patio.*

#### Crockery Creek Saloon

17040 Main St, Nunica, MI 49448. (616) 384-3701 Hours: Sun Noon- 10 pm, Mon Closed, T-Sat 11 am- Midnight. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card each month. *Full menu, cold beer, new owners, a great ride from anywhere.*

#### Rum Runners

12058 E. Apple Ave, Ravenna, MI 49451. (231) 853-2223 Hours: Wed-Sun open at 11 am. 1 person wins a \$15 gift card or t-shirt each month. *Bike Nights Wednesday with live band, Sunday Jam session 3-7, full service kitchen, outdoor bar, special bike parking, horseshoes, & 5600 sq. ft. of tropical fun!*

#### Sportsman's Bar & Restaurant

30 State St, Newaygo, MI 49337. (231) 652-7074 Hours: 11 am-11 pm weekdays, Fri & Sat 11 am-midnight. 1 person wins a \$20 gift card & t-shirt each month. *Best food in town, cold beer & drinks*

MAKE SURE TO CHECK NEXT MONTH TO SEE IF YOU WON AT ANY OF THE STOPS YOU CHECKED IN AT THIS MONTH

MAKE SURE TO CHECK NEXT MONTH TO SEE IF YOU WON AT ANY OF THE STOPS YOU CHECKED IN AT THIS MONTH

# 2018 MICHIGAN THUNDER RUN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

## CLAIM YOUR PRIZE

BELOW IF YOU SEE YOUR RIDE CARD NUMBER LISTED  
NEXT TO A LOCATION THEN  
GO TO THAT LOCATION WITH THIS THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE  
& YOUR RIDE CARD  
AND CLAIM YOUR PRIZE THERE!  
YOU HAVE ONLY 45 DAYS FROM THE 1ST OF THIS MONTH

IF YOU SEE YOUR RIDE CARD LISTED BELOW AND THERE IS NOT  
A LOCATION BY IT THEN  
YOU NEED TO CALL 989-486-8464

YOU MUST PROVIDE YOUR RIDE CARD NUMBER, NAME, ADDRESS AND  
PHONE NUMBER SO I CAN LET YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WON AND I MAY  
HAVE TO SEND YOU YOUR PRIZE!



# JUNE WINNERS



WINNING RIDE CARD #	JUNE STOPS	WINNING RIDE CARD #	JUNE STOPS
14500	Hi-Way Inn	05186	702 Bar & Grill
NO CHECK-IN BY 10TH	Irish Pub	09172	Bad River Bar & Grill
NO CHECK-IN BY 10TH	Knoll View Golf	05518	Bay Shore Bar
17751	Museum of Moses @ Vogel Store	12733	Dead Creek Saloon
15529	Northern Trax Bar & Grill & Bakery	09168	Decker's Lounge
05166	Scooters Airport Bar	15197	Ghost Town Saloon
05166	Silver Dollar Pub & Grill	06542	Great Lakes Harley-Davidson
05166	Trail's End Pub	12649	Iron Horse Bar & Grill
12227	Zone 18 Bar & Grill	05528	My Alibi Bar & Grill
15666	Hell Saloon	14402	River Rock Bar & Grill
08740	Hunt's Hog Shop	11102	Shiawassee Harley-Davidson
15602	La Vita Bistro	NO CHECK-IN BY 10TH	Silver Palace
05903	McNastys Saloon	15054	The Rusty Nail
05109	Old Hickory Bar & Grill	07060	Baldwin Bowling Center
10731	Sholty's Bar	08714	Crockery Creek Saloon
05297	Stingers Bar & Grill	07080	Rum Runners
NO CHECK-IN BY 10TH	Thee Office Pub & Cookery	15344	Sportsman's Bar & Restaurant
NO CHECK-IN BY 10TH	Total Firearms	14633	CALL TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!
05297	Wolverine Harley-Davidson	14999	CALL TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!
05109	Woody's Bancroft Tavern	06493	CALL TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!

MAKE SURE TO CHECK NEXT MONTH TO SEE IF YOU WON AT ANY OF THE STOPS YOU CHECKED IN AT THIS MONTH

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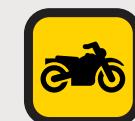
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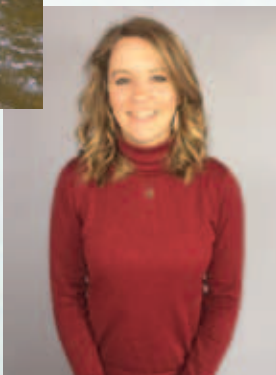
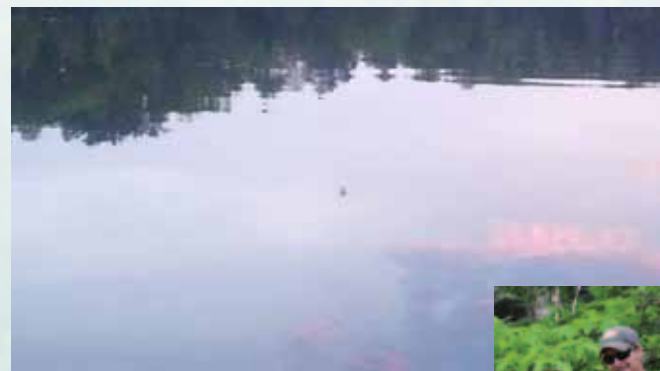
# MY FIASCO

## Summertime Fly-Tying

As the temperature and humidity rises, living in a house with no air conditioning has me longing for a stream fed by cold ground water. There are many reasons we learn to love certain hobbies, activities, and even the out-of-doors. For most of us, the reason has to do with a certain person or with an experience that gave us the opportunity to learn to love these things. From young to old, if given the chance to experience what nature has to offer, very few people will find a way to ignore the beauty that is the great outdoors. So, my goal this summer is to spread my love of the outdoors and although I enjoy all types of fly fishing (occasionally you may even catch me with a spin rod in hand), my first love is dry fly fishing. This means that when I choose to exhort my passionate explanations of bugs, their life cycles, and how the trout feed, my listeners are often a captive audience. My family are sometimes unwilling students to my exuberant and delighted explanation of a new piece of information I learned about a mayfly. Once in a while, I find a willing ear and am happy to express my love of fly fishing.

The problem with teaching someone fly fishing, as I should have realized from my own experience, is that it is dangerous! When I'm suddenly faced with a twelve-year-old swinging a hook around my head I'm too shocked to yell or duck when the hook hits me in the head. It is like watching a train wreck—you know what's gonna happen, you want to do something or at least look away—but your body refuses to obey and you're stuck watching a hook fly at your head at speeds you didn't know were possible. This is when I learned to use barbless hooks because it's amazing how much easier it is to take out of cloth and skin (if the worst happens).

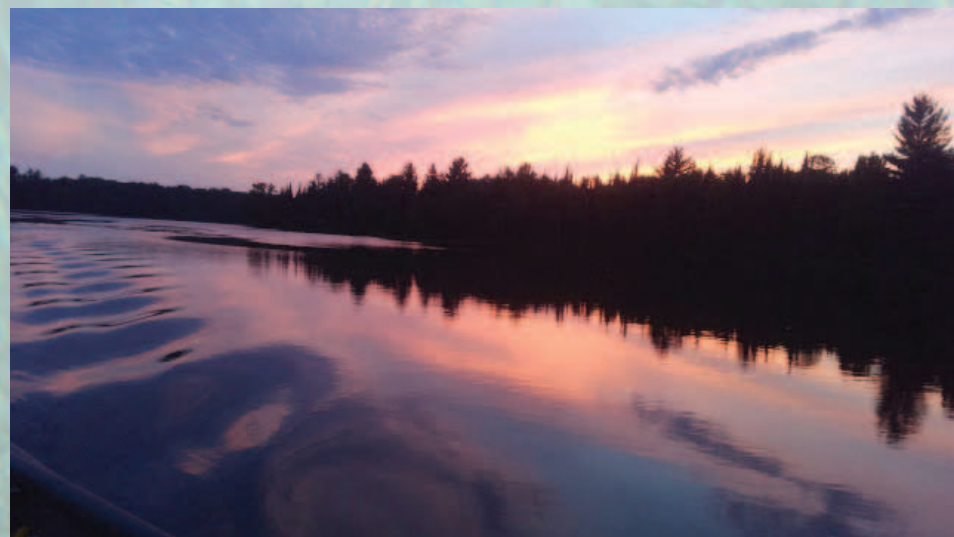
Teaching someone to fly fish might be dangerous but learning on your own can be another problem entirely. It can be difficult, frustrating, and most "fly anglers" take themselves, and the sport, too seriously to make it look like anything but a lot of work. If you're interested in trying something, that will give you an excuse to take a walk, get your feet wet, or (for me) act like a child splashing around in the water, fishing in the summer is an awesome way to enjoy being outside. However, after losing multiple flies in the trees and untangling countless knots in your line, you may feel like giving up entirely. Taking a break with a good book or beverage and maybe some good music is usually enough to curb the temptation to throw all your fishing gear in the river. If it's not—do what you gotta do. Just remember that fly fishing is about enjoying the moment and not about the size or number of the fish caught but the lessons learned on the river. Lessons as simple as how to tie a knot or as



by Mary Ostahowski

deep as learning to enjoy the simple side of life, are what make a day on the river.

Loving nature was ingrained in me from a young age, mostly due to my mother telling us to "turn off that boob tube and go outside" as she tore her hair out trying to deal with all of us kids. The excitement of watching a huge fish come up to the top of the water and gulp my fly into its mouth and then fighting this amazingly beautiful creature is a natural extension of my passion for the outdoors. As I try to spend the summer sharing my passion with those around me (some of whom find me really annoying), I am reminded of why I love what I do. Water is essential to life, but it can also be essential to peace of mind, a happy marriage, stress relief, spiritual health, and the well-being of those around us. My challenge to myself and you this summer is to get outside, try something new, and share your passion with someone else. Who knows, with so many opportunities to experience different sides of nature and the opportunity of finding a new hobby, you might fall in love with fly fishing. Get out there and enjoy your passion this summer whatever it may be.



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### new install

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Family owned since 1963

## Full Menu

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Burgers

Steaks

RemusTavern.com



# July 2018

MODEL: Katie Floyd / BIKE OWNERS: Harold Wolf, Thomas Johnson / PHOTO: Dusty Austin ~ www.DustyAustin.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			<b>4TH OF JULY</b> 			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
				MUSKEGON BIKE TIME Downtown Muskegon	MUSKEGON BIKE TIME Downtown Muskegon BURN RUN - GLBC Riverfront Park LUCKY THUMB M/C RACES Deford	MUSKEGON BIKE TIME Downtown Muskegon BURN RUN - GLBC Riverfront Park LUCKY THUMB M/C RACES Deford RIDE FOR FREEDOM Trails End Pub
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
MUSKEGON BIKE TIME Downtown Muskegon BURN RUN - GLBC Riverfront Park LUCKY THUMB M/C RACES Deford				SANDY CORLEY Double JJ Resort	RIDE & MUSIC FESTIVAL Downtown Cheboygan	SANDY CORLEY Double JJ Resort RIDE & MUSIC FESTIVAL Downtown Cheboygan HOG ROUND UP Shiawassee HD
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
						<b>INK OUT ABUSE MOTORCYCLE RALLY</b> Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort 

THUNDER  
ROADS



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**BIKE NIGHT SPECIALS**  
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# Jody "Mo's" THUNDER FUN

**Inspiration**

*Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration. ~ Thomas Edison*

*Everyone has talent. What is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the dark place where it leads. ~ Erica Jong*

*Waste no more time arguing what a good man should be. Be one. ~ Marcus Aurelius*

*No sadder proof can be given by a man of his own littleness than disbelief in great men. ~ Thomas Carlyle*

*The great man is he who does not lose his child's heart. ~ Mencius*

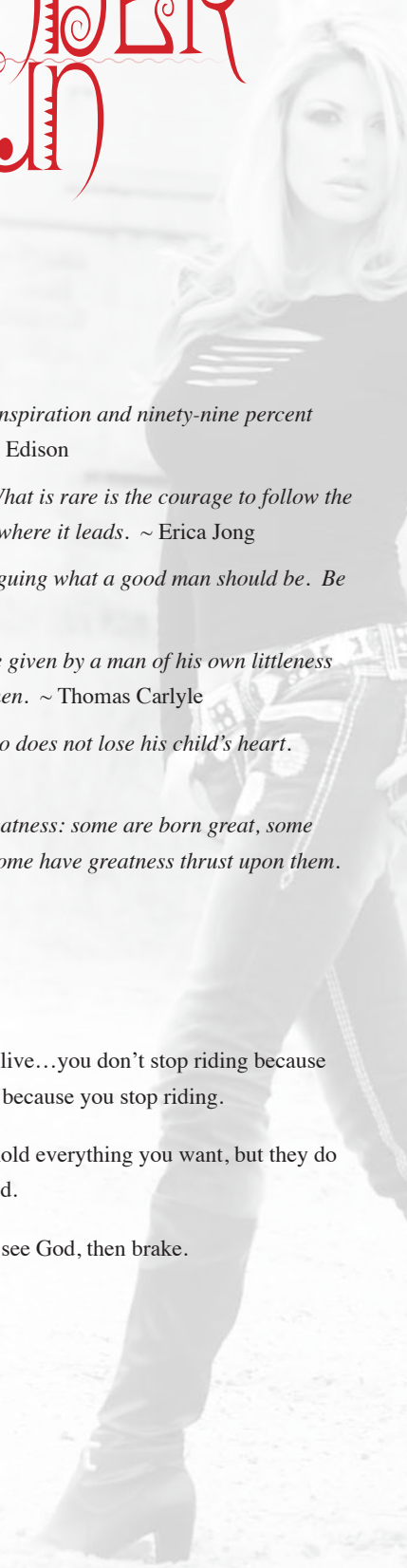
*But be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them. ~ Shakespeare*

**Biker Sayings**

*Five to ride and ride to live...you don't stop riding because you get old; you get old because you stop riding.*

*Saddlebags can never hold everything you want, but they do hold everything you need.*

*Hold it WFO until you see God, then brake.*



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**EVERY THURSDAY 6:00 PM - 8 PM**

Every bike will be entered in **BIKE OF THE WEEK** contest!!

Games • Prizes • Giveaways




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\$3.50 Burger & Fries  
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\$2 Domestic Pints  
\$3 Well Drinks

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# THUNDER ROADS

## JOIN US ALL IN TEAM THUNDER!

### LOOKING FOR PUBLISHERS FOR THESE CHOICE STATES ...

#### THUNDER ROADS INDIANA

The former Publisher did a Voluntary Release but this state's biker community is majorly missing their state edition. Primed and ready for all previous advertisers to jump back in NOW!!

#### THUNDER ROADS KENTUCKY

This state is in the heart of our Thunder Roads Network therefore you'd not only have all the state revenue but be included in all major Multi-State Ad Campaigns. SO much potential here!

#### THUNDER ROADS OKLAHOMA/ARKANSAS

The former Publisher had to step up to medical family responsibilities but this magazine published non-stop for 16 straight years. It deserves a strong of heart and mind leader to bring it back to the Bikers and advertisers who have always been steadfast and loyal.

#### THUNDER ROADS NEW YORK

We know it's going to be a very unique individual to take on Thunder Roads New York and the time has come for them to reveal themselves!

#### THUNDER ROADS NEVADA

Thunder Roads No. California has been publishing for (8) years strong so established allegiance for cross advertising campaigns established.

#### THUNDER ROADS SO. CALIFORNIA

This state edition would be massive due to ALL that goes on in this state and the biker industry within. Strong leadership a must.

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Here's your chance to WIN a pair of tickets to the  
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## Sandy Corley Memorial Run

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Rothbury Michigan

### PRIMITIVE CAMPING

Opens Wednesday at 12noon • \$10 per person, per day  
(Wednesday only). Must have event ticket for early camping  
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### VENDOR INFO

Gary Bredeweg: 616.437.6972 or garyb1584@gmail.com



### FOR EVENT TICKETS

www.eventbrite.com/e/  
sandy-corley-memorial-run-  
2018-tickets-44368348926

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MERCY HEALTH  
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CANCER CENTER



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**FRIDAY, JULY 27**  
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Wayland  
Blue Oyster Cult

**SATURDAY, JULY 28**  
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Cinderella's Tom Kiefer

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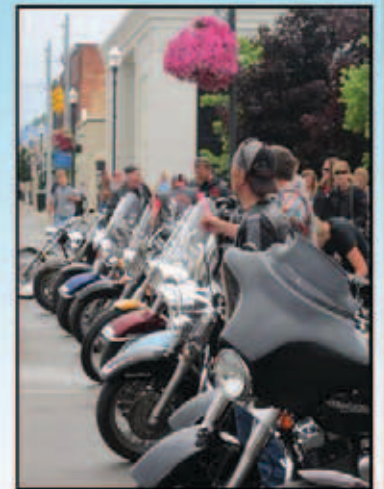
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# Sport Touring Corner

By Norm Kern



# WHAT MAKES A SPORT-TOURING BIKE?

COURTESY OF TRO

As we said last month, sport-touring riders view motorcycling as a skill-based sport. They look forward to a challenge and enjoy developing their riding skill, which is directed toward riding twisty roads at a brisk pace. This is best done with a bike that combines performance and comfort, with agility being an important factor. While there are many things that make a good sport-touring bike, here are some fundamentals:



**FOOT PEG LOCATION** The foot pegs of a sport-touring bike are located directly below the front of the rider's seat, usually as low as possible while still allowing plenty of cornering clearance. This makes it easier to shift body position for leaning into corners, raising one's body from the seat to avoid jarring bumps etc. They are definitely lower and further forward than the typical sport bike's pegs in order to reduce the bend at the rider's knees for all-day comfort.

**SEAT HEIGHT** Many riders assume the lower the seat height the better, but that's only an advantage for putting your feet down while stopped. Once moving, a taller seat height gives the rider greater leverage, reducing the lean of the bike needed for cornering. 30-32 inches for seat height is the sweet spot on sport-touring bikes.

## HANDLEBARS



On a sport bike, handlebars are narrow in width, low and far forward to provide a leaned over, tucked in riding position. At the other end of the spectrum, touring bike handlebars are wide and swept back for a full upright riding position. Sport-touring handlebars fall in between those extremes—height usually allows the forearms to be near horizontal, with enough pullback to allow elbows to be bent. This allows a more upright riding position than a sport bike, but encourages more forward body lean than a touring bike.



## WINDSHIELD



Since the sport-touring windshield and fairing are smaller than a touring bike, the rider gets more air and the typical faster sport-touring pace provides some wind force against the body that reduces pressure on hands and arms. Forward body lean, combined with foot peg position, enables the rider to easily shift their body position for cornering and rise off the seat to avoid painful spinal compression when encountering potholes or bumps in the road.

## TRAIL (also known as castor)



The diagram shows a line through the steering head axis to a point where it intersects the ground. Trail is the distance from that point to where the front tire contacts the ground and is a critical dimension for quick and responsive steering. Most sport bikes and sport-touring bikes have 3.9-4.3 inches of trail.

**WHEELBASE** Not as critical as trail, but a typical sport-touring bike's wheelbase is 59-62 inches, falling in the middle between the 54-57 inches of sport bikes and 64-68 inches typical of cruisers and pure touring bikes.

## TIRES



Sport-touring bikes use sport bike style tires—tubeless radials with high speed ratings and low profiles for maximum stability. To enable seamless cornering, they have a rounded cross-section and shallow tread designs. Although I have sport-touring friends who claim to get 12-14,000 miles out of a set of tires; those of us who like to twist the throttle are lucky to get half that. If you want to play you've got to pay!

**SUSPENSION** Sport-touring bikes have suspension similar to their sport bike cousins, but typically with somewhat softer springing. Since control in corners is one of the desired features of sport-touring bikes, many of them have tunable suspensions. Some even offer electronic adjustability on the fly. Suspension travel is important as well and five inches of travel front and rear is typical.

**CURB WEIGHT** Varies over a wide range but 500-700 pounds is common for full size sport-touring bikes.

In the course of writing this article, several readers asked about particular makes and models and whether they can be considered sport-touring bikes, so let's look at a few of them.

## Harley-Davidson Road Glide ~



It may look sporty next to a Road Glide Ultra, but forward controls put the rider's feet at the front of the bike and the seat height of only 27 inches further reduces the rider's leverage, so shifting body position and weight to control the bike is more difficult. Curb weight is 855 pounds. Then there's 6.8 inches of trail, combined with a longish wheelbase of 64 inches, which makes the Road Glide want to go in a straight line rather than carve corners. A rider who prefers Harley-Davidson will still enjoy this bike on a twisty road, but it's simply not configured for the sport-touring riding style.

## 2017 Honda Goldwing ~



Lots of people ask about the Goldwing and I wanted to include it in the discussion because most true sport-touring bikes are not roomy/comfortable for two large adults. Many would reject a 920-pound bike out of hand, but I have two friends who regularly sport-tour on Goldwings, so what's the deal?

First, the Goldwing has conventional footpegs in a pretty good position. Second, although the wheelbase is long at 66.5 inches (essential for two-person seating comfort), the wing's trail is 4.3 inches—right in sport-touring territory. Third, it has tunable suspension with 4.8 inches travel in the front and 4.1 at the rear. Seat height is 29 inches.

Much less obvious is the Goldwing's "mass centralization" places most of the bike's weight close to the center of gravity, giving it a lighter feel and better ability to turn. It's NOT a sport-touring bike, but is easier to ride at speed in the twists than one would think.

## BMW K1600GT Sport ~



Lighter than the Goldwing and Harley, it still weighs in at over 700 pounds. The wheelbase is long at 66 inches, but all the other specs are right in the sweet spot for sport-touring. With a very sophisticated suspension and six-cylinder, 160-horsepower engine, the K1600 GT Sport is a very exciting bike for two-up sport-touring and a great solo mount too.

## 2018 Honda Goldwing ~



Who would have expected the new Goldwing to be downsized with a smaller fairing and luggage plus a weight cut to 787 pounds? Will it carve out a new space in the high end, two-up sport-touring class? This will be exciting to see in 2018!

# SWEET RIDES

## ANDREW HOFERT

This car is my youngest son Andrew's

### 1968 Mustang

At the time of purchase, it was a hot mess of rust. I couldn't believe that he bought it.

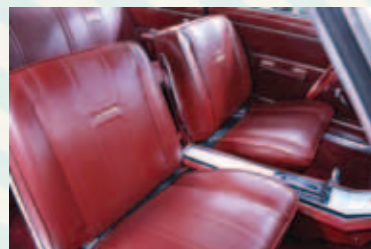
If I would have looked closer, I wouldn't have let him drive it home.

We went to work and did a total rotisserie restoration and rebuilt, reworked and replaced everything on the car. One hundred percent resto.

He elected to leave the 200 cid 6 cylinder in it for power and it runs awesome.

The car looks and drives good and is painted the factory Royal Maroon. The C-stripes are painted on and then buried in clear coat. You can see 'em, but you can't feel 'em.

My son did all of the work, with the exception of the paint job—he helped me with that.



## MIKE HOFERT

My car is a

### 1965 Chevy II Nova SS

This car is my first restoration and was completed in 2010.

At the time of purchase, it had 77,000 miles on it and was 100% original, numbers matching with the exception of the transmission.

I began the restoration; and 2185 man-hours later, the deuce was done.

Engine: Pretty much stock 327 cid small block Chevrolet. 385HP at the rear wheels @ 5200 rpm

Trans: TCI 350 turbo-hydromatic with a 2800-rpm stall converter.

The new white color is called Diamond White and it's a custom paint that I mixed myself.

The interior is complete from GM with all of the original upholstery and carpet. The dash is all original as well. I'm a member of the Ridgerunners Car Club and we drive the heck out of our stuff.

The car is pretty quick, turns a lot of heads, and is just fun to drive.

# SWEET RIDES

## MIKE RICKETTS

This is a factory race car, one of only fifty-five built in

**1967 for factory-backed Chrysler drag-racers.**

It started life with Jack Thomas, out of the north Chicago area. Many years and owners later, I bought what was left of the car [used-up shell] and rebuilt it over a six-year period to its current state. Mr. Thomas passed-away this year, and the car will carry-on his drag-racing legacy.

Here's some stats:

1967 WO23J Dodge Coronet. The "O" designates "super-stock", and the "J" Hemi.

496 cid Hemi. Runs on 93 octane, and makes 886 hp. Competition Components/Scott Brown

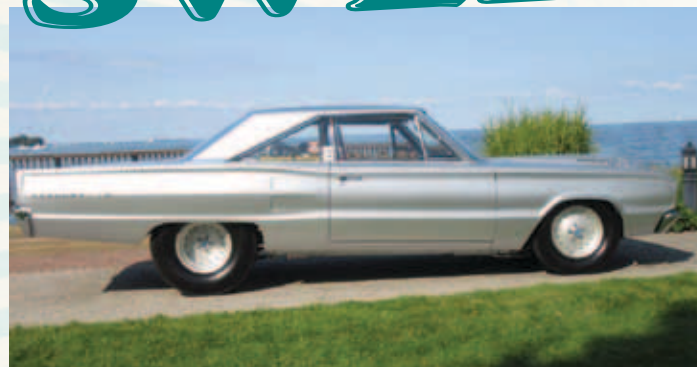
ProTrans 727 Torqueflite transmission and PTC converter.

CCI moly drive-shaft

Four-link rear, with AW Racecars built Dana-60 rear axle.

Full chrome-moly NHRA legal, super-stock chassis by AW Racecars

Acid-dipped front end



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- \$250,000 (Policy Limit) for Fractured Ankle
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- \$100,000 (Policy Limit) for Fractured Foot

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**ABATE of MICHIGAN**

*American Bikers Moving Toward Education*



Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

Established in 1970



June 10th — Just got my yard work done after a long three days at our Field Meet and my gosh, what a well-organized fun time it was. With all the bikers together, all the events that went on, the vendors, the rides we went on and especially all the planning Region 3 did with Wally and his crew from the Westside RV Campground—WOW! I can't say enough about all the hard work Pam Fischer did putting all this together. Pam, without all of your planning and hard work, none of us would even have had a chance to take vacation time to be together and enjoy all the friendships we have all across the state from Region to Region. Thank you, thank you, thank you! I hope you are feeling better and God Bless.

On June 5th we had our Freedom Rally in Lansing. With the awesome turnout, we got a lot of exposure and our legislators really enjoyed speaking in front of all the bikers there. Hopefully, we can help get some of them back.

When traveling across the state, you get a chance to see if all your hard work is paying off. I got to say that there were many "Look Twice Save a Life Motorcycles are Everywhere" signs in yards and businesses. All I can say is that every time I noticed one, I'm very happy and satisfied with all the Regions who are working so hard spreading the word about motorcycle awareness.

George Bennett and I had the chance to see a demonstration about motorcycle safety and what is required to get a cycle endorsement. The demo was put on by Vince Consiglio, our President of ABATE and two of his coaches, and they are darn good riders. The event was put on by the Motorcycle Action Committee spearheaded by Debbie Parinello and Vince and attended by Eric Line from MDOT and Chad Teachout from the Secretary of State Office.

We have been teaching a lot of classes lately. I had the chance to speak at the Memorial Day Parade in Milan and devoted part of the speech to the young Americans who will someday be our leaders and military personnel. I can tell you that we will be in good hands with the next generation of our young people because I get to meet a lot of them when we teach classes about Motorcycle Awareness in high schools.

May the road rise to meet you and the wind always be at your back!

**Hot Rod**  
State Awareness Director



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Visit our State website then click on: Membership / Join [www.abateofmichigan.org](http://www.abateofmichigan.org)



**ABATE**  
State Awareness Director  
Hot Rod Beaton  
419-349-8075



# TRMI EVENTS CALENDAR 2018

Don't forget to email your events to [editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com](mailto:editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com)

Bike Nights are listed in their ads. and on Bike Nights Page.

Bold events indicate Advertiser/Supporter of Thunder Roads MI-please patronize our advertisers.

## JULY

July 7  
American Legion Riders Post 182  
Annual Charity Ride  
Post Home 165 Lincoln Avenue,  
Hubbardston, MI 48845. \$20 dona-  
tion per rider, \$10 per passenger.  
Registration begins at 11:00 a.m.,  
KSU at 12:00 noon. 50/50 drawing.  
Food served at end of ride. Contact  
info: Deb 989-763-6482 or Ken  
989-289-8436.

July 14  
**1st Annual BKMC 37 Burn Run  
Richland Twp Fire Station,  
Vestaburg, MI. Regis 10 am,  
kickstands up 11 am, food,  
drinks, music. For more info go  
to [brotherskeepermc.com](http://brotherskeepermc.com) (See  
GLBC full page ad this issue).**

July 14  
**2nd Annual Nozzlemen M/C  
Chapter 4 Poker Run  
Choice of 2 Registration Stops:  
Monroe MS or Town & Country  
Sports Ctr, regis 11 am, rain or  
shine, all welcome, \$25 driver,  
\$10 passenger. For more info  
call Pappy 734-735-7831 (See  
GLBC full page ad this issue).**

July 14  
**Hotter than Hell (Axemen M/C-  
GLBC)  
2644 Harrison St, Detroit, MI. 3  
pm, \$15 cover, free food, live  
band. For more info call Tiny  
313-410-0904 (See GLBC full  
page ad this issue).**

July 14  
**12th Annual Injured Soldiers  
Lyon Ride & Classic Car Show  
James Atchison Memorial Park,  
New Hudson, MI. Ride-regis 11  
am- noon, ride leaves 12:15 pm,  
\$20 entrance fee per rider/pass-  
incl t-shirt, food. Car show 11  
am- 4pm. For more info or to  
pre-regis go to [www.injuredsoldiers.org](http://www.injuredsoldiers.org)**

July 14  
**Bike Show  
Scooters Airport Bar, Harrison,  
MI. Hot dogs, bounce house &  
more. For more info call 989-  
539-2177**

July 14  
**2018 Strength in Numbers Veter-  
ans Ride  
New Back Door Lounge 4515 N.  
Lake Rd., Columbiaville, MI 48421  
Regis 9-11 am, Ride 11 or on your  
own, \$15 pp/\$20 per couple, break-  
fast from 9 -11 am for donation**

w/all \$\$ going to help Veterans,  
prizes, dinner. For more info call  
Renee 810-653-5928

July 14  
**Freedom Run  
Hot Rod HD, Muskegon, MI. Regis  
11 am, ends at Pat's Roadhouse.  
For more info go to [Hotrodhd.com](http://Hotrodhd.com)**

July 19-22  
**Muskegon Bike Time  
Hot Rod HD/ Downtown Muske-  
gon, MI. Vendors, live music,  
patriot ride, beverage tent, bless-  
ing & more. For more info go  
to [muskegonbiketime.com](http://muskegonbiketime.com) (See  
cover & full page this issue).**

July 20-22  
**17th Annual Niles Burn Run  
Riverfront Park, fri professional  
wrestling 6 pm, Sat car & bike  
show, music, food, vendors, Sun  
Ride- police, fire, ems escorted  
regis 9 am, \$20 bike, \$30 rider.  
For more info go to [nilesburn-  
run.com](http://nilesburn-<br/>run.com) (See GLBC full page ad  
this issue).**

July 20-22  
**Lucky Thumb M/C Races  
7394 Bevens Rd, Deford, MI  
48729, 20th- short track (4/6/8),  
21st TT Scrambles (8/10/12),  
21st short track (4/6/8), 22nd TT  
Scrambles (8/10/12). For more  
info go to [luckythumbmotorcy-  
cle.com](http://luckythumbmotorcy-<br/>cle.com) (See ad this issue).**

July 21  
**Ride For Freedom  
Trails End Pub, 10141 N Finley  
Lk. Ave., Harrison, MI 48625  
Leaves: 11:00 a.m. Cost \$20  
includes T-shirt if registered by  
July 6th. Money raised will pur-  
chase Vietnam War Statue. For  
more information contact Dan or  
Becky at 989-539-9644 (See ad  
this issue)**

July 26-28  
**30th Annual Sandy Corley Me-  
morial Run  
Double JJ Resort, Rothbury,  
MI. 3 Nights of Live Entertain-  
ment, win a new HD Low Rider,  
Wayland, Blue Oyster Cult &  
many more, primitive camping,  
games, fireworks, bike show, &  
much more. For more info go to  
[www.sandycorley.com](http://www.sandycorley.com) (See ad  
this issue)**

July 27-28  
**Rockin' Rivertown Ride & Music  
Festival  
Downtown Cheboygan, music,  
poker run, Rolling Thunder**

**parade, bike show & more. For  
more info go to [cheboyganmu-  
sicfest.com](http://cheboyganmu-<br/>sicfest.com) (See ad this issue).**

July 28  
**2nd Annual Hog Round Up  
Shiawassee HD, Birch Run, MI.  
11 am- 5 pm, bike show regis 10  
am- noon, music, food, vendors,  
games, free dyno pulls, burn out  
contest & more. For more info  
or to be a vendor call Annette  
989-624-4400 (See ad this issue).**

July 28  
**Talons Out Honor Flight  
Whiskey Creek Old Style Grill,  
Springfield, MI. 4:30 pm, Help  
fly veterans from Southwest MI  
to Washington DC. pledge of  
allegiance, bike night/cruise in,  
silent auction. For more info call  
269-965-4511**

July 29  
**Shiawassee MI H.O.G. Chapter  
#3271 18th Annual Mystery Ride  
Shiawassee Sports Center, Birch  
Run, MI. Regis 10 am- Noon, \$15  
pp incl scenic 100 mile self-guided  
ride, coffee & donuts, excellent  
dinner, lots of door prizes, awards,  
a " big pot" 50/50 drawing, & event  
pins first 400 regist riders. All riders  
& bikes welcome.  
For more info please call Dale at  
810-577-1367**

## AUGUST

August 4  
**Ink Out Abuse Motorcycle Rally  
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort,  
Mt. Pleasant, MI. Charity Poker  
Run- Meet in parking lot at resort  
(tented area outside) regis 10  
am, 11:30 am kickstands up,  
\$15 rider, \$25 double, bless-  
ing, escorted ride to Wil-Lew  
Lounge in Bay City for lunch  
\$10 & back to resort for prizes,  
silent auction, flash tattoos avail,  
appetizers, cash bar, live music  
by Honesty & the Liars. Thunder  
Roads Magazine will be there for  
Ride Card Event Sign up  
& Check in. For more info call  
Brad 989-317-8791 (See full page  
ad this issue).**

August 4  
**Durand Eagle Riders Cruisin for a  
Cure  
Durand Eagles, Durand, MI. Last  
bike 11 am, \$25 driver, \$15 pas-  
senger, silent auction, prizes, cars  
welcome, dinner 4-8 \$8 plate, rain  
or shine, for more info call Shan-  
non 989-494-3738**

August 4  
**Ride for Vets Poker Run  
American Legion Post 22, 2200 S.  
Niagara, Saginaw, MI. Sign up 10  
am, kickstands up 11 am, everyone  
welcome, \$15 single, \$25 couple,  
all vehicles welcome, chicken din-  
ner \$8, 50/50, auction & more. For  
more info call 989-792-9747**

August 5  
**Come Ride with Us  
Meet at Paw Paw Park n' Ride  
exit 60 & I-94, ride to K-Wings,  
regis 10 am, ride leaves at 11 am,  
donations accepted. Pancake  
breakfast avail 7:30 am American  
Legion Post, Paw Paw, MI. (See  
GLBC full page ad this issue).**

August 5  
**Escort Kids to Camp (GLBC)  
Wings Stadium, Kalamazoo,  
MI. Regis 10 am- 12:30 pm,  
kickstands up 1 pm, prizes,  
food, 50/50. For more info call  
Bill 517-206-1115 (See GLBC full  
page ad this issue).**

August 10-12  
**9th Annual Hog Daze Motorcycle  
Rally & Music Festival  
Marion, Indiana, an Indiana motor-  
cycle preservation society event,  
\$10 for entire weekend, bike show,  
pin up girl contest, burnout pin,  
swap meet, field events & more.  
For more info go to [hogdaze.com](http://hogdaze.com)**

August 10-12  
**5th Annual Thunder in Oscoda  
American Legion Post 274, Os-  
coda, MI. Bike Rally & fundraiser  
for veteran organizations.**

August 11  
**Pub Crawl  
Hiway Inn, Manistee, MI. Leave  
at 5 pm. For more info call 231-  
398-9188**

August 11  
**Bike Run  
Scooter's Airport Bar, Harrison,  
MI. For more info call 989-539-  
2177**

August 11  
**Jam for the Cure  
Start at Sandhill, Marshall, Regis  
10-10:30 am, \$20 pp, \$30 incl  
passenger, leave at 11 am. Mu-  
sic, auctions, overnight camping  
avail, food & more. Proceeds  
to help individuals fight against  
cancer. For more info call Jarod  
269-503-3588 (See ad this issue).**

# TRMI EVENTS CALENDAR 2018

August 11  
**Outriders 50th Annual Anniversary  
Party  
415 Reed St, Kalamazoo, MI.  
Grand Prize HD Sportster, \$20  
Donation - can be purchased at  
the clubhouse or from a member.  
Poker Run regis 10am-leaves at  
1pm, join us for the fun and enter-  
tainment**

August 11-12  
**Lucky Thumb M/C Races  
7394 Bevens Rd, Deford, MI  
48729, 11th- short track (3/5/7),  
12th TT Scrambles (8/10/12). For  
more info go to [luckythumbmo-  
torcycle.com](http://luckythumbmo-<br/>torcycle.com) (See ad this issue).**

August 17-19  
**Easyriders Rodeo Fowlerville  
Fowlerville Fairgrounds, MI.  
Saving Abel & The Lacs. Camp-  
ing, vendors, music, races, bike  
show & more. For more info go  
to [EasyridersEvents.com](http://EasyridersEvents.com) or call  
800-962-9857 (See full page ad  
this issue)**

August 18  
**11th Annual BFE Motorcycle Run  
Boondox MS, Caledonia, MI.  
Regis 9 am- 10:45 am, kickstands  
up 11 am sharp, \$30 bike, \$15 rider**

benefits Marin Corps Cord Council.  
For more info call Rob 261-3126

August 19  
**Pre-Milwaukee 115th Anniv Party  
Shiawassee HD, Birch Run, MI.  
For more info call 989-624-4400**

August 25  
**18th Annual Forbidden Wheels  
Hog Roast in Hell  
Hell Creek Campground, Pinckney,  
MI. 3 pm- ?, \$20 tkt donation, din-  
ner & camping included, live music,  
door prizes, first prize 2018 HD  
Road King, cash prizes, swimming  
pool & more. For more info call  
734-878-3632**

August 31-September 3  
**Easyriders Rodeo Chillicothe  
Ross County Fairgrounds, OH.  
Fuel, David Allan Coe, Wheeler  
Walker Jr. Camping, vendors,  
music, races, bike show & more.  
For more info go to [EasyridersE-  
vents.com](http://EasyridersE-<br/>vents.com) or call 800-962-9857  
(See full page ad this issue)**

## SAVE THE DATE

September 7-9  
**Bikes on the Bricks  
Saginaw St, Downtown Flint,  
MI. police skills competition,**

**food, vendors, music, beer tent,  
Rockabilly pinup girl contest  
& more. For more info go to  
[bikesonthebricks.com](http://bikesonthebricks.com) (See ad  
this issue).**

September 15-16  
**Lucky Thumb M/C Races  
7394 Bevens Rd, Deford, MI  
48729, 15th- short track (3/5/7),  
16th TT Scrambles (8/10/12). For  
more info go to [luckythumbmo-  
torcycle.com](http://luckythumbmo-<br/>torcycle.com) (See ad this issue).**

September 16  
**Michael J's 8th Annual Fun Run  
Registration begins at 9 am,  
kickstands up at 10:30 am. Dinner  
at 4 pm  
Live and silent auctions, raffles,  
50/50's, for more info call 989-387-  
0916.**

September 16  
**Cruisin 4 Critters  
Dick Scott's Freedom PS, Livonia,  
MI. Regis 9:30 am- 10:45 am,  
kickstands up 11 am, \$25 per  
rider, \$35 with passenger, includes  
picnic style after party. Rain or  
shine, police escorted, no stops.  
Pre-registration recommended call  
734-542-8000 or 734-855-4077.**

September 22  
**For You We Ride  
Shiawassee HD, Birch Run, MI.  
Guinness World Record Poker  
Run. For more info call 989-624-  
4400**

October 18-21  
**Biketoberfest  
Daytona Beach, FL. Concerts,  
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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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### SUDOKU

by Geneva

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	9					2	5	
4		5	2					
6			3					
2	8	3			1		9	
			8	1				
3	7			6		4	8	
			1			8		
				3	7		2	
6	3						9	

3	9			2				6
	5			8	6			
2								3
	3	7						
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					1		9	
4								7
			4	3			5	
8		6					3	2

7	9					3		
				6	9			
8			3			7	6	
				5			2	
	5	4	1	8	7			
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6	1		9				8	
	2	3						
	9					5	4	

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	7	9		4	3			
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8		4	6				7	
					4			
	1				6	5		
5	9	3		7	8			
		7						
4	8	2		1	3			
5	2						9	
	1							
3		9	2					5

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.

Winner will be announced in the next issue of Thunder Roads.



Proud to be an American!

Winner Last Month

*Misty Graves*  
of Alabama

Congratulations!

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# Celebrity

## RIDERS

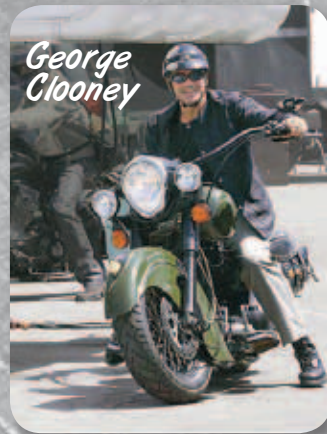
CONTRIBUTED BY TRTN



Clark Gable



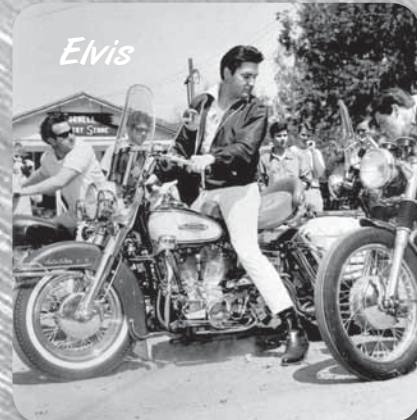
Steven Tyler



George Clooney



Cher



Elvis



Ryan Reynolds



Pink



John Travolta



Justin Timberlake



Keanu Reeves



Hulk Hogan



Taylor Lautner



Tom Cruise



Brad Pitt



Orlando Bloom

# IN THE SHOP WITH RON

BY Ron Johnson

## IT'S A WRAP

This month in the shop we're going over a couple of projects we've done installing vinyl graphics.

Before we go any further let me say in my opinion—all other considerations aside—I prefer custom paint. However, with the high cost of quality materials and labor cost being what they are, vinyl graphics sometimes can be a cost-effective/budget-friendly option. In some instances, it may be considered the best choice for the situation. You probably wouldn't want to put a \$3000 custom paint job on your ATV and then run it through the woods. On the other side of the coin, if you're building an authentic '60s-style bobber, you probably don't want to put vinyl flames or tape pinstripes on the tank.

There are two methods normally used to apply vinyl graphics: wet or dry. The wet method uses some form of a wetting solution on the adhesive side of the graphic and on the surface the graphic is being applied to. The dry method is just that: you apply the vinyl directly to the surface with no wetting solution. The surface the graphic is being applied to must be clean and free of any dirt, oil, or wax. Make sure there are no dirt specks or rough spots on the surface; also be careful not to get anything on the adhesive side of the graphic. Minor imperfections on the surface can be lightly sanded with 600-grit (or finer) sandpaper. Anything on the surface or the adhesive side of the graphic will be magnified once the graphic is applied. It could also cause air bubbles, poor adhesion, or tears in the vinyl.

In most cases (unless otherwise instructed by the manufacturer), I like to use the wet method. It allows you to reposition if necessary and offers a little more margin for error. There are several different wetting solutions available. Some manufacturers are quite specific about what to use. I normally use a product made by Auto-Tech called Decal and Graphic Solution.

I have had consistent success with this solution. I have also used one teaspoon of dish soap mixed with approximately one quart of water, anywhere from 10% to 50% isopropyl alcohol, also denatured alcohol mixed with water. I haven't tried it myself but some guys use straight window cleaner. A couple of other tools I use are a fairly stiff two-sided plastic squeegee and a heat gun.



Let's get started. Most graphics have a protective backing on the adhesive side. It's best to position the graphic on the surface for fit and alignment purposes before removing the backing. Once you're comfortable with the fit and alignment (using the wet method), carefully remove the backing and liberally apply the wetting solution to the adhesive side of the graphic and to the surface it is being applied to. Position the graphic on the surface and working from the center out to the edge with the squeegee, squeeze the wetting solution out past the edge of the graphic. Start gently at first—too much pressure can cause the graphic to move. If it does move and you need to reposition, carefully lift it away from the surface and apply a bit more wetting solution and repeat. Be careful not to stretch the vinyl, as it will cause fitment issues and may cause discoloration of the vinyl or distortion of any images or lettering. If you have to navigate compound curves or complex body lines or shapes, you can use a heat gun sparingly to help form the vinyl. Be extra careful when using heat, as it is very easy to discolor or distort the vinyl. Here is a before and after picture of a quad we did using the wet method.



When using the dry method, the main difference is that you start from the edge and not the center and you only expose a small area of adhesive at a time. Use the squeegee gently and the heat sparingly. If possible, I like to have a spare pair of hands or two; it really helps.

The last picture is a pair of doors we did for an ATV using the dry method (manufacturer's recommendations).



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Ron



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# Bullet Points

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## WHY WE RIDE BY RICK WYATT



Just prior to Memorial Day I replaced our flag pole that was lost a year ago to a severe storm. The new pole is equipped to display a second standard and I wanted fly the POW-MIA flag. I never imagined how difficult it would be to find such a meaningful symbol; everywhere I looked I was referred to their website because nobody stocked them on their shelves. Making my search even more frustrating was a callous attitude I encountered from one young woman at one of my stops. At one of the local big box stores I was asking a clerk how long it would take to get my flag if I ordered it when I heard a woman behind me smugly mutter, "The war has been over fifty years, why can't you just let it go." I don't know if she intended for me to hear her remark but uttering such ignorance to this ole jarhead will quickly get you a history lesson in colorfully-worded plain English.

The POW-MIA issue is not a construct of Vietnam veterans to garner attention or sympathy. Rather, it's a demand for accountability to the families of the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines listed as missing in action from all wars. MIAs have always been an ugly face of war and many warriors were declared missing because their bodies were disfigured beyond positive identification. The Civil War had nearly three-quarters-of-a-million MIAs total and the fear of ending up in an unmarked grave led many soldiers to scratch their names and home towns into the back of their belt buckles or sew the information inside their uniform blouse or field pack because dog tags wouldn't be part of uniform issue for another fifty years. But even the attempts by soldiers to preserve their identity was often for naught because too often the fallen laid where they fell until they were so badly decomposed that they were pushed into mass graves and covered over. Prisoners of war sometimes ended up listed as missing because war criminals—like the monsters who ran the Andersonville POW camp in Georgia—destroyed records and buried or burned the evidence of their crimes, much as has happened in wars since the beginning of time.

Both world wars left lists of POWs and MIAs that are both hard and hurtful to comprehend. Many of the MIAs from these conflicts were lost at sea in naval and air engagements and all evidence of their fates have been swallowed in the vastness of the oceans. But following the Civil War, the tools of combat took an expedient leap in ways to devastate the human body as a means of demoralizing the enemy. Machine guns, explosive devices, chemical agents and incendiary weaponry amassed unthinkable body counts in the trench warfare of WWI. The lands along the western French-Belgium frontier would be named Flanders Fields and was the epicenter of unspeakable carnage. Trench warfare consisted of headlong daylight charges across the "no-man's land" that separated the trenches, attempting to break a stalemate that had come to define the war. Then after dark, both sides observed an informal cease fire and ventured back into "no-man's land" to retrieve their wounded. Because there were no facilities or resources to properly care for the dead their bodies were covered with lime to control disease and stench and left where they fell. The combination of lime, blood, and putrefied flesh so polluted the ground that the only plant life it would support afterwards was the red poppies referenced by LtCol John McCrae in his poem "In Flanders Fields" and would become the worldwide symbol of Remembrance Day, what we now call Memorial Day. Troops sent to Europe were the first to be issued dog tags and still thousands were left unidentifiable which

led congress to authorize construction of the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" at Arlington. In 1921, it was dedicated to the memory of all whose fate is unknown.

Even though WWII wasn't fought in the trenches, much of the warfare was centered around massive frontal assaults into the teeth of machine gun and artillery fire against well-fortified bunkers. Just like in the first war, the meat grinder wreaked havoc with mere human flesh, leaving thousands unidentifiable. Prisoners of war, especially in the south Pacific, were often used as slave labor with many dying of disease and malnutrition or executed when they became unable to work. The remains of these souls were usually committed to mass graves or left to nature in the jungle. When the Civil War and both world wars ended, a full accounting of all American POWs was demanded and the captors were held accountable!

The circumstances surrounding the end of hostilities for both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts established a precedence where the fate of prisoners was not fully accounted for and they—as well as the MIAs—were little more than chattel to politicians. A capable military was restrained from finishing the job by a feckless political class that chose to string both conflicts out until body counts could be used to justify walking away. When the POW count did not match the numbers of prisoners reported by other returning prisoners and aid workers General MacArthur openly pressed Eisenhower to resume hostilities while the men and equipment were still in-country. Ike's response was that "the nation was war-weary," and removed MacArthur from command, thus abandoning hundreds of known prisoners out of political expediency.

Twenty-some years later, much the same scenario would play out in Vietnam. It was bad enough that hundreds of men disappeared during combat actions in the jungles, mountains and deltas of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia; but once again the fate of known POWs was sealed by the stroke of a pen in Washington. Eventually there was a push to normalize relations with Vietnam, but that could never happen while the POW-MIA issue remained open. Senator John Kerry chaired a committee whose sole purpose was to close the book on POWs and MIAs in favor of Washington special interests. Only one witness was called and testified there were no American prisoners being held, despite hundreds of reported sightings by credible witnesses. The hearing was closed, and a favorable report was submitted to President Clinton and Congress. Shortly thereafter official relations between Vietnam and the US were established and one of the first business permits issued by Vietnam was to John Kerry's ex-wife so she could build a five-star tourist hotel in Ho Chi Minh City.

No, I/we can't let it go. That is why I/we wear a POW-MIA patch on our vests, because we ride for our brothers and sister who can't. I am by no means alone in this; there are hundreds of POW-MIA rides across the nation every year—not the least of which is Rolling Thunder, drawing tens of thousands of bikers to DC Memorial Weekend.

Please take the time to honor the men and women our government forgot by participating in a remembrance event this summer.



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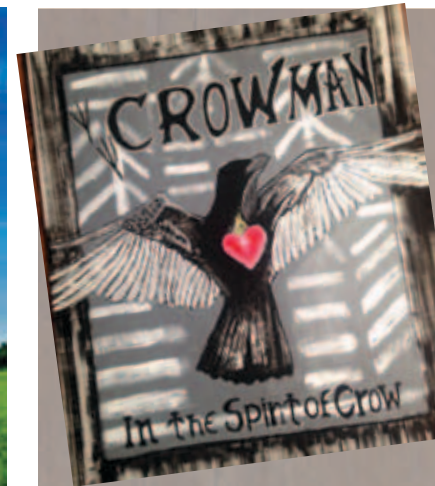
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## SWEET 11

Once again while out in the woods doing my scouting and looking for the deer that I wanted to shoot for the year, I came across a tall rack. He had (5) on the left and (6) on the right. On this particular one day when I was scouting, I was able to get within twenty yards from him and I took a picture from around a tree. Best part was, he didn't see me.

As bow season started, I saw a bunch of does in the morning. That's all right with me; I

just enjoyed being outdoors. That afternoon, I was hoping things would pick up. I sat in my stand for a while and a doe walked out slow, all by herself. As she made her way through a bunch of turkeys, three or four of them began chasing each other around her in circles.

I caught a glimpse of a deer coming through the woods. He was taking his time and kept watching the turkeys like I wasn't even there. He came closer to me and I could see he was my special "Sweet 11," the deer I had been watching for. I took my grunt caller out and blew it in a softer pitch and he responded to me.

Now I had him walking right up to me in my stand. As I pulled back my bow, he took a step forward. Then I realized my arrow went in a little further back than I liked it to be, but I still got him in his lungs. I waited for a while and got another friend to do some tracking. The buck wasn't losing a lot of blood to track, but we still could find some blood that he left behind while going through ditches and jumping over downed trees.



It was getting dark and it started to rain. I was to a point where I couldn't find blood. I was on a deer run in the woods and walking with my flashlight. Within fifteen yards, there laid my buck. At that point, I was so relieved—my experience sure paid off in this hunt.



The buck scored 126 2/8—a non-typical 11 point. I have it mounted and hanging in my house.

"Get outdoors if you can it's a great place to be. This is Michigan! It doesn't get any better than this."

Crow Man holds the Michigan Grand Slam title, as he finished fall/winter 2005 with an elk.



The Michigan Grand Slam is the title given for having the state record of the four Michigan animals that CBM recognizes as trophies by a single hunter. Those four animals are deer, bear, elk, and turkeys. The accomplishment has always been considered so rare. The added challenge of drawing a limited bear tag and particularly a bull elk tag, and to harvest animals that make the record book minimums seems insurmountable. However, it miraculously has been done by a select few. Crow Man is of that select few.

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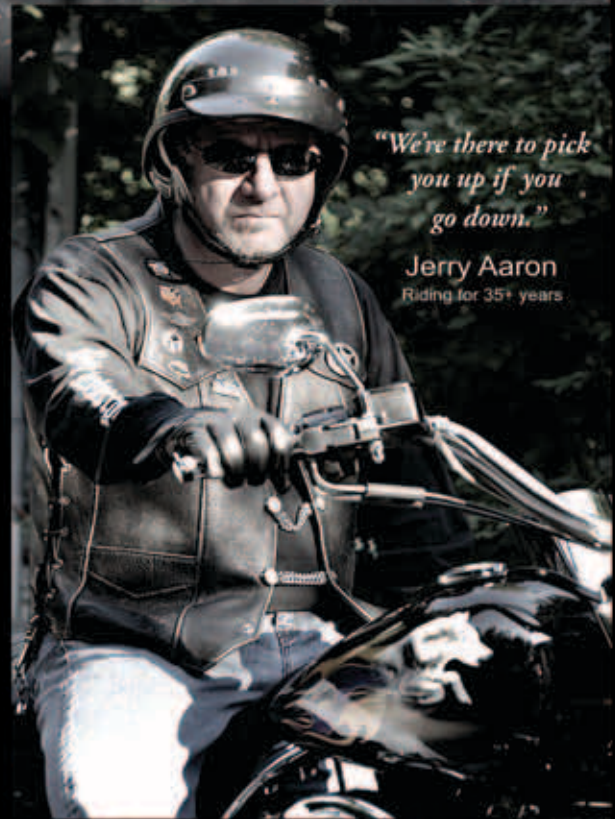
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