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## ON THE COVER

**Bikes on the Bricks  
Flint, MI**



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## LETTER FROM THE OWNER

*Until Next Year...*

It is hard to believe we have already come to the September issue! A friendly reminder that I only publish April thru September issues so I will be back at it next year so be sure to get a subscription so you don't miss a single issue or plan on picking up your copy at any advertiser. The easiest way to figure that out is to view the publication online at [www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com](http://www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com) and any advertiser will have a copy, but remember it is not a never ending supply so be sure to go that first week of each month to make sure you get yours. I want to mention as well that when I am taking photos you never know which issue they will show up in. I have been putting photos in April and May for next year already so be sure to check each month if you were somewhere that I was taking photos.

This issue I wanted to pay respects to those that lost their lives and the families of the 9/11 terrorists attacks. In this issue we have dedicated many articles to just that. I hope you will take time to honor those brave heroes that also were there during that tragic day. Please also remember that each time you see a veteran to tell them thank you for their service.

I hope everyone has ordered their copy of the **September 2021- December 2022 16-month Thunder Roads Michigan Wall Calendar**. I hope that you will purchase yours to help support this free publication that you love reading April thru September each year.

I appreciate my loyal advertisers and readers support, thanks to you, Thunder Roads Magazine is the #1 Free motorcycle magazine in the state. Please like *Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan* on Facebook and follow me on Instagram; [JodyMoThunderRoadsMI](https://www.instagram.com/JodyMoThunderRoadsMI)

Don't miss a single issue of *Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan*, subscribe today for only \$20 (6 issues) at [ThunderRoadsMichigan.com](http://ThunderRoadsMichigan.com) or mail check / money order to PO Box 1782 in Midland, MI 48641-1782.

Now for some "Mo" Advice:

Don't settle. Take the time to find your forever.  
Die with memories, not dreams.

*Jody Mohowitsch  
"Jody Mo"*

THUNDER ROADS



MICHIGAN







## 2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Times shown (i.e. 8-10-12) designate Sign Up, Practice, Racing

**JULY 31 & AUGUST 1**

Saturday 7/31 – Short Track 3-5-7

Sunday 8/1 – TT Scrambles 8-10-12

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
SEPTEMBER 11 & 12**

Saturday 9/11 – Short Track 3-5-7

Sunday 9/12 – TT Scrambles 8-10-12

9/18 & 9/19 – Rain Dates

### RACE FEES:

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- \$35 Cycle & Quad Combo

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- \$60 Cycle & Quad Combo

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#### • For State Championships:

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#### • 85cc classes & below

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# The Positive Shift



## Shifting Your Thoughts on Difficult Situations

This is a reality in life. Can you relate to situations like this that you've experienced? Think about how you handled it then and how you will handle it moving forward.

Let's dive in...

Once something bad happens that affects you, it feels like it's over and it can be awful and painful. It can't be taken back or changed.

1. How YOU choose to respond to what happened to you, is always well within your control. This can be easier said than done, but what's the alternative?
2. Do you really want to stay mad, be sick and angry about the situation?
3. If you refuse to change your mind set about something; it will mentally eat you up and controls your day's feelings and outcome.
4. Do you really want to look for the absolute worst in all situations?

- Take time and give yourself the space required to really think about the 'given situation' in your life.
- Without your wisdom, shifting thoughts and taking control of your outcome, you can and will improve your life.
- This is the foundational concept that can change it all.

May you learn to peacefully accept what you can't control, act courageously on what you can, and find the wisdom to know the difference.

Finding "good" is merely the best alternative to those things that have already happened.

Until then...you can't lead a life living in stressful situations but can have a positive influence on the outcome.

You can't lead a positive life with a negative mind.

~ Stacie René

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# THUNDERCAM





# READERS RIDES

Doug Berger

Photos by Dave Casperson

I spent 31 years as a career firefighter. Some might have considered me a hero, but not me. I was just a guy who did his job to the best of his ability. Upon retiring in 2012 I purchased a new Firefighters Special Edition Ultra Classic. October 12th, 2002 was Fire Department, City of New York Memorial Day, that honored the 343 FDNY members who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the Performance of Duty at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. The ceremony was held at Madison Square Garden. I submitted my name to the International Association of Fire Fighters and was selected to be one of the 343 flag bearers to participate in the service. We gathered in the early morning hours at a downtown street corner. It was a dark, cold, rain filled, dreary day which was eerily appropriate for the day's event. By the start of the ceremony our Class A uniforms were soaked. I literally shivered thru the entire ceremony from being cold and wet not to mention

the solemn atmosphere inside the Garden. To this day I still get chills when the National Anthem is played. This eventually led me to get a custom paint piece dedicated to the FDNY on my bike. Working with Pamela Shanteau of Airbrushing by Pamela a design was finalized. Tragically prior to beginning that painting a friend and brother firefighter, Nathan Fought was killed in a motorcycle versus tractor accident. Nate was a great young man with a wife and 4 little boys. This tragedy led to an additional memorial portrait for the bike. Finally, the pieces were finished and the bike became a show piece thanks to the amazing work of Pamela. A few years later a fellow MC member passed. His club name was "Slingblade". Slingblade had a patch with a sword on it that he gave to as many club member as he could. The sword on that patch now adorns my front fender. To say I'm proud of my memorialized bike would certainly be a gross understatement. Thank you, Pamela, you're the best. It's amazing when I participate in bike shows. I stand behind my bike watching everyone steadily walk down the row of bikes and without a doubt the majority of them stop, point and thoroughly look at my bike. This normally leads to conversation about Nate, the FDNY and all the great firefighters across this country.



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# NOT POLITICALLY CORRECT



My Fellow Patriots and Riders

20 years ago this month we were reminded what the cost of complacency is by the loss of 2977 victim's souls. Mothers, Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, Friends and Neighbors all because we are allies with Israel. Over 3 trillion dollars was spent on that disaster alone. Only 60% of the victims from the WTC were never identified. We seem to have a lot of unknown when it comes to situations like this. Tomb of the Unknown Soldier comes to mind but what this shows is; the World is what Americans stand for. We are the ONLY FREE Country left (at least for now) and no matter what the odds we will improvise, Adapt and Overcome. We have been doing this for 245 years and at our core is The United States Constitution and it is what sustains us. We can NOT, must NOT and Will NOT let such actions like 9-11, Antifi, BLM, Socialism and Communism (Bernie Sanders, Gretchen Whitmer) become the norm. You can NOT sit by and let it happen "The only thing Evil needs to succeed is for Good men to do Nothing". When 9-11 happened the good men and women of this Country stood up to help those who needed it not even knowing who they are and at a cost, for some the Ultimate Price was paid but as Americans those are the kinds of checks we write. "If we do not Remember our history, We are Doomed to repeat it". On a personal note: I recently met a young man who enlisted in the Army and I had a chance to talk with him. On June 23rd he graduated high school and on June 28th he left for boot camp. I applaud this young man and it was an honor to shake his hand and say Thank You. This is the type of young man (and women) this Country needs and I applaud his Mother for the excellent job she did raising him. To G. and K. (mother and son) I say Thank You, it's Americans like you who keep this Country Free for Americans like me to be able to write articles like this. "America Home of The Free Because of The Brave". See you next year in Thunder Roads.

As always Be Safe and God Bless  
Earl Lackie



**EarlLackieforcongress.com**

# BIKE NIGHTS

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## Tuesday

- Track Side Food & Spirits- Reese
- Beer & Brats- Midland

## Wednesday

- River Rock Bar & Grill- St. Louis
- 702 Bar & Grill- Midland
- Baldwin Bowling Center- Baldwin
- Riverdale Tavern- Riverdale
- Iron Horse- Akron
- 2 Wheel Tavern-Wolverine, MI

## Thursday

- Stingers Bar & Grill- Wixom
- Ghost Town Saloon- Elwell
- Merritt Auction House Bar & Grill- Merritt
- Ryder's Bar & Grill- Midland

## Saturday

- Stingers Bar & Grill- Wixom (2 Wheel Weekends)

## Sunday

- Decker's Lounge- Midland (All Day)
- Woody's Bancroft Tavern- Bancroft (starts at Noon)
- Stingers Bar & Grill- Wixom (2 Wheel Weekends)



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



# VETERANS CORNER



## The 20th Anniversary of 9-11

Where were you on September 11, 2001? This question is one that every American should ask themselves and reflect on. I was stationed at Selfridge ANGB, in a C-130 unit reported at 0630 that morning like any other morning, till it wasn't at 0846 that morning Flight 11 crashes into the North Tower. We are all in shock and thought it was an accident. The unit was working their normal day till 0903 when Flight 175 crashes in the South Tower. We all watched it happened on the television and at that point we looked at each other with awe and knew we were under attack and at war. At that point we went to work and got all our aircraft up and ready. At 0937 Flight 77 crashes into the Pentagon. The F-16 unit was doing training in Grayling when they received a call to intercept Flight 93 but it was not able to accommodate that request due to not having the necessary load (training) to help take down the plane if necessary. Instead, the people on that flight were able to take it into their own hands by storming the cockpit and becoming hero's by crashing the aircraft down in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. This is just the beginning of a long drawn-out war in Afghanistan and soon Iraq. We then had everyone on high alert and wanting to join. The aftermath of this tragic incident actually brought this country together like we should be. We worked together to help in New York, Arlington, VA and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. It made the military proud that we had the American peoples support behind us. We weren't out of the clear even after 10 years of fight, we still had to constantly oversee the possibility of another attack on U.S. soil and we foiled them till September 11, 2012 when the American Diplomatic Compound was attacked and four Americans were killed.

We have over 2.8 million veterans that served since 9/11. We have had 7,057 who was KIA on post 9/11 operations. Suicide for post 9/11 is 5,116 active duty as far as National Guard and Reserves figures are not available prior 2010, but from 2011-2020 there has been approximately 2800 that we have lost. So, when you hear 22 it means we lose 22 Veterans a Day. This needs to be addressed and stopped! This is not the only issue for Post 9/11 veterans; another issue is homelessness, PTSD, depression, anxiety, problems with alcohol and drugs, along with all their injuries. The Burn Pit Registry is a very important thing that most post 9/11 veterans need to ensure they are register on. The easiest way to see if you are on that registry is to complete the questionnaire online at the secure registry portal. <https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/#page/home> All though it's been 20 years ago it seems like it was yesterday, and for some veterans it's every day. The American people need to reach out and help all the veterans who gave their life to protect this great nation. You wonder how? Well let me give you some organizations and groups that you can get involved with here in Michigan and help out our Veterans.

**The American Infidels** <https://americaninfidelsvmc.com/>

As a National Organization, American Infidels VMC can be found promoting the American Way and Veteran's organizations across the country. We host our own fundraisers, motorcycle rides, and parties as well as attend pro-veteran, pro-military, and pro-American functions.

**Michigan American Legion Riders** <https://michiganlegion.org/riders>

American Legion Riders chapters are well known for their charitable work, which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for local children's hospitals, schools, veterans' homes, severely wounded service members and scholarships. Since 2006, Riders nationwide have participated in The American Legion Legacy Run to annually raise money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund, established to provide scholarships to children of U.S. military personnel killed since Sept. 11, 2001.

**Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association** <https://www.combatvet.us/>

Our mission follows: To promote interest in various forms of motorcycle activity associated with Veterans. To create and maintain camaraderie among Combat Veterans from all U.S. Branches of Service and its allies. To support Veteran Organizations. To raise awareness for the plight of POWs, MIAs and their families. To conduct Association functions and activities in a manner befitting the members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and as well as the association's Auxiliary Members. To encourage a better understanding of motorcycle riders as a constructive sport among members of the public, press, and law enforcement agencies. The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association of Michigan is comprised of four Chapters based on geographical region:

**Chapter 35-1 encompasses the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the northern region of the Lower Peninsula.**

**Chapter 35-2 encompasses the central area of the Lower Peninsula.**

**Chapter 35-3 is based in the SE part of Michigan from the Thumb Area south & east of I-75.**

**Chapter 35-4 encompasses the western area of the Lower Peninsula**

**Chapter 35-5 located in Peck, MI**

**Chapter 35-6 located in Grayling, MI**

**Patriot Guard Riders** <https://www.patriotguard.org/>

Our Mission: The Patriot Guard Riders is a 100% Volunteer, federally registered

501(c)(3) non-profit organization which ensures dignity and respect at memorial services honoring Fallen Military Heroes, First Responders and honorably discharged Veterans. Our Vision: The Patriot Guard Riders is a diverse amalgamation of riders from across the nation. We have one thing in common besides motorcycles. We have an unwavering respect for those who risk their very lives for America's freedom and security including Fallen Military Heroes, First Responders and honorably discharged Veterans. If you share this respect, please join us.

We don't care what you ride or if you ride, what your political views are, or whether you're a hawk or a dove. It is not a requirement that you be a veteran. It doesn't matter where you're from or what your income is; you don't even have to ride. The only prerequisite is Respect. **Other Resources for Veterans**

**Forgotten Eagles of Michigan** <http://forgotteneagles.org/>

Forgotten Eagles®, Inc. a non-profit organization formed in 2002 by a group of concerned veterans that have come together in a common desire to ensure our nation does not set aside the needs of veterans and their families.

With holidays coming up in the fall, let's look at how we as vets can help each other every day. With us losing 22 veterans a day we need to help end this. Did you know that in Michigan had an estimated 8,351 experiencing homelessness on any given day? Between 560 to 646 are women veterans. The help is there it's getting the veterans the help. The problem is most vets don't trust the government, or VA, so how can we change that? That is a good question? How do we get our veterans the help they need? Well first off if you know a vet that in trouble and needs help talk to them and give them this info; use this link <http://vafvets.org/resources-vetera/links/> it will give you a list of help for veterans.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs <https://www.va.gov/>

Veterans Benefits Administration Home Page <https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/>

Disabled American Veterans <https://www.dav.org/veterans/>

Veterans of Foreign Wars <https://www.vfw.org/home/>

Veterans Administration Aid & Attendance

Benefit Program <https://www.veteranaid.org/>

AMVETS of Michigan <http://www.amvetsmichigan.org/>

American Legion <https://michiganlegion.org/>

Vietnam Veterans of America <https://vva.org/>



**SHARON K. HARVEY**

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# THE MOTORCYCLE LAWYER ON THE LAW

## SB 28 IS NOW LAW— IS IT A NO-FAULT FIX?

Victims injured in “motor vehicle” accidents (accidents that involve a car truck or van) enjoyed unlimited medical bill payment for decades. That changed in 2020 with some additional changes going into effect July 1, 2021.

The insurance folks promised that moving to a system where we choose the amount of PIP Medical coverage on our “motor vehicle” policies would save money on our premiums. I warned that bad things would happen, and they have. The insurance industry sneaked in changes that hurt consumers and increased company profits.

The worst change is that motorcyclists who are entitled to no-fault benefits are now at the mercy of what the owner of the motor vehicle involved in the crash chose for his or her own PIP Medical. If the negligent driver who hit you on your motorcycle chose \$50,000 of PIP Medical-- that's all you will have to pay your medical bills.

A second horrible change reduces payment for family-provided attendant care from 168 potential hours per week to 56 hours per week-- a two thirds or 66% reduction. Attendant care is nursing- like care provided to a patient who is seriously injured. It includes such things as bathing, dressing, taking to doctors' appointments, helping to the bathroom, helping ambulate, wound care, administering medications, and the like.

A third horrible change that took effect July 1, 2021, deals with the amount of money payable for medical services which also affects attendant care. For over 45 years an insurance company had to pay “the reasonable and customary rate in the community” for a medical service provided. Under the new law there is a fee schedule for medical services that is based on the amount Medicare pays. No-Fault coverage will now pay about double the amount Medicare pays. This may sound reasonable, but it is actually less than half as much as what a private health insurance company (such as Blue Cross) would pay and about 66% less than No-Fault used to pay.

These changes affect all cases, even cases that happened years ago. Before 2020 families of the injured accident victim were told payment for medical bills (which includes attendant care) was unlimited and that coverage was available for life.

Enter the new law capping family-based attendant care to 56 hours per week and reducing the amount payable for attendant care.

Many families of catastrophically brain and spinal cord injured victims receive care from attendant care agencies. These are companies that provide a professional caregiver. These companies will now receive 66% of what they used to be paid by No-Fault.

Many families received letters from these companies



telling them that they could no longer provide services given the new fee structure. These companies are going out of business.

Example: if the company used to receive \$30.00 per hour for their employee to go provide care to an auto victim.

The company paid their employee \$15.00 per hour and they used the difference for overhead and a little profit. With the new fee schedule, the company is paid \$19.80. The company can't pay their employee who did the care, pay overhead, and still make a profit.

Michigan Senate Bill 28 was an attempt to help these companies get paid more than what No-Fault paid under the new law so they could stay in business and keep people employed. SB 28 created a \$25,000,000 “post-acute auto injury provider relief fund” with the state. A care provider company can apply for additional payment from this fund if they can prove financial losses due to the change in the law.

Most non-insurance folks feel it is a narrow fix with many hurdles and will take months to receive any proceeds, if any. The twenty-five million will be eaten up quickly and we all will be back in the same situation in a short time.

So, Thunder Roads readers, this is not a motorcycle fix we were hoping for. It is a short-sighted effort to help care provider companies get a little more. We are still waiting to see if any of the proposed bills that are more likely to help will be passed. Presently, SB 314, HB 4486, HB 4992 and HB 5125 are all stuck in committee, just idling with no sign of going forward anytime soon.



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# The JOKERS WILD



A Teacher asks her students to give her a sentence with the word "fascinate" in it. Little Suzy says, "Walt Disney World is fascinating." The Teacher says, "Now class, I said fascinate." Next little Molly says, "There's so much fascination when it comes to sea life." The Teacher again says, "Class, you're not listening, the word I'm looking for you to use is fascinate." Little Joey is waving his hand frantically and the Teacher is looking all around hoping some other child wants to speak and finally points to Little Joey who proudly yells out, "My Aunt Pam has such big boobs that she can only fasten eight of the 12 buttons on her shirt."

A young girl is reaching puberty and realized that she had grown hair between her legs. She got worried and asked her mom about the hair. Her mom replied calmly, "that part where the hair has grown is called your monkey. Just be proud that your monkey has grown hair. It means you're on your way to being a mature young woman." At dinner that night she leaned over and whispered to her older sister who was a senior in high school, "My monkey has grown hair." The older sister smiled and said, "Don't tell mom but my monkey is actually eating bananas."

Two Mafia hit-men; Gweedo & Nicky, are walking deep into the forest in the middle of the night. Gweedo tells Nicky, "I gotta' say, I'm just a little bit edgy being out here." Nicky says to Gweedo, "You're on edge....I gotta' walk back alone!"

Boogie, a parrot who has free reign of the house, is walking all over his owner's bed and swallows a Viagra tablet. His owner, concerned he's going to spike a fever, puts him in the freezer to cool off. In just a little bit when he opens the freezer door, he finds Boogie sweating like crazy. "What's going on? Do you have a fever?" Boogie shivering replies, "Do you have any idea how hard it is to open the legs of a frozen chicken?"

Two little boys were at a wedding when one leaned over and asked, "How many wives can a man have?" The other little boy said, "Sixteen.....four better, four worse, four richer and four poorer."

Scooter's wife bought a pair of crotch-less panties in an attempt to spice up their sex life. She put them on with a short skirt and sat on the sofa opposite Scooter. Every so often she would cross and uncross her legs and look at Scooter and smile playfully, hoping that he noticed. Finally Scooter asked, "Are you wearing crotch-less panties?" She smiled seductively at Scooter and nodded yes. Scooter replied to her nod by saying, "Well, that's a dang good thing cause I thought the stuffing was coming out of the sofa!"

A Scotsman goes into a brothel in Amsterdam one night and finds himself a really attractive prostitute. He asks her, "How much do yer charge then for an hour?" She replies firmly, "One hour is \$100." Next he asks, "Alright then, we've agreed on price, but do yer do it Scottish style?" She replies firmly, "No, I do not." He then offered her \$200. an hour but only if she agreed on the Scottish style. She responded with a firm "No way!" He then offers her \$300. an hour for Scottish style and she turns him down flat with a very firm "Not happening!" "Alright, this is the final offer, I'll give yer \$500. an hour to go Scottish style wi' me!" The prostitute is mulling this about in her head and thinking to herself how bad could it be? She'd been in the game 10 years now and had literally been there and done that and had all kinds of requests from weirdos from every corner of the world. Just how bad could Scottish style be? So they get it on for 4 hours straight! every position possible. Exhausted, the prostitute looks at him and admits, "I was expecting something totally disgusting but it was all quite good actually. Where did the Scottish style happen? The Scotsman looks at her sheepishly and replies, "I won't be paying yer till next month."

My neighbor next door in our apartment complex just banged on the wall at 4:20 a.m., can you believe that chit? Lucky I was still up playing my music. He banged and shouted, "Can we have a little respect please?" So I shouted back, "I typically save Aretha Franklin for Saturday nights but hey, this one's for you!"

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As the attorney for ABATE of Michigan, I represent injured motorcyclists who more often than not require attendant care assistance with things like dressing, bathing, changing bandages, monitoring medications, ambulating and in significant brain injury case can also include monitoring the injured person himself/herself.

Having said that, under new Michigan law, as of July 1, 2021 in home attendant care is limited to 56 hours per week if provided by an individual who is related to the injured person; by an individual who lives in the same household as the injured person; or by a friend or acquaintance with whom the injured person had a business or social relationship with before the injury.

Because it's usually cheaper for the auto insurer to continue to pay the family/friend than to pay an agency, many insurers are willing to sign contracts with family/friend care providers to provide care in excess of the 56 hour per week cap.



If anyone has any questions or if I can be of legal assistance to you or yours don't hesitate to call me at (248-569-4646) or e-mail at Dondi@buckfirelaw.com. Also, I give presentations to organizations state-wide and there is never a charge to have me out.



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# Biker Preacher's Corner

HOLY COW!!! It's already Labor Day!! I'm kinda bummin' yet as I still am suffering from Parked Motorcycle Syndrome... my stator still must be replaced. I've got all the parts; I guess I'll just have to try and do it myself. Anyway, fall is one of my favorite seasons of the year. Fall colors, cooler temps and twisty roads are great ingredients for an AWESOME ride!

Ya know, as I sit here and am thinking about yet another change in seasons, I'm reminded of what **Genesis 8:22** says "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease." When we think of spring and summer, we tend to get excited because the warming temperatures are upon us and even more so riding season is about to begin. But, when late fall comes around, I'm already in hunting mode, we start to prepare for the long dark cold of winter and in reality, most of us dread the cold. Ya know, the older I get, and just the thought of winter tends to hurt!

Yet there is some great news in all of this, as we think of the change in seasons. The good news is God never changes, **Hebrews 13:8** says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Since the Lord doesn't change, we know that His love always remains the same. God is love! **Romans 5:8** "But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!" This is gospel (Good News) – that no matter what you've done, no matter what you said, no matter... God loves you and paid the price to cover all of our sins.

Listen, we can come to Him even in our darkest hour and find everything that our hearts truly desire. What do our hearts truly desire? God – His love, peace, and joy. Drugs, booze and girls/guys didn't and can't fill this need... only Jesus can!

In the words of the first Christian rocker, Larry Norman, "Why don't you look into Jesus, He's got the answer".

If there's something that I've said in this article or in previous articles that has spoken to your heart. Look to Jesus, He IS your answer! Say this... 'God, I believe you came to this earth, lived perfect and died for me and rose again just as your Word says. I ask you to forgive me and to be my Lord and Savior forever. In Jesus Name. Amen!'

If you've prayed this prayer... please contact me so I can encourage you in your new relationship with God.

Much Love, Honor & Respect,  
Apostle Brian "BMAN" McKay  
Senior Pastor, International  
President & Founder  
Victory Biker Church International  
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## September

**September 2-6**  
**Easyriders Rodeo Tour 2021**  
**Chillicothe**  
**Ross County Fairgrounds,**  
**OH. Live music, camping,**  
**barstool races, vendors, rodeo**  
**completion, food & beer, fire**  
**dancers & aerial performances**  
**& more. For more info go to**  
**EasyRiderEvents.com**

**September 3-6**  
**CMA Michigan State Rally 2021**  
**Bay Shore Campground,**  
**Sebewaing, MI. Everyone**  
**welcome, bike & non-bike games,**  
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**more info go to: [http://cmascr4.org/](http://cmascr4.org/mi/state-rally-form.aspx)**  
**[mi/state-rally-form.aspx](http://cmascr4.org/mi/state-rally-form.aspx)**

**September 6-10**  
**INOA Pure Norton**  
**Pure Michigan Rally**  
**Juniper Hills Campground,**  
**Brooklyn, MI. Self guided tours,**  
**tech sessions, concours, field**  
**events, bike night & more. For**  
**more info go to: [nortonrally.com](http://nortonrally.com)**

**September 10-12**  
**Bikes on the Bricks**  
**Saginaw St, Downtown**  
**Flint, MI. Police skills**  
**competition daily, beer tent,**  
**live entertainment, Tim Dyson**  
**FMX freestyle moto-x extreme**  
**entertainment, Rockabilly pinup**  
**girl contest. For more info go**  
**to [BikesontheBricks.com](http://BikesontheBricks.com) (See**  
**cover & full page ad this issue).**

**September 11 (Rain Date 18<sup>th</sup>)**  
**Hot Rods Motorcycle Awareness**  
**& Suicide Prevention Foundation**  
**Car & Bike Show**  
**Wilson Park, Milan, MI. Regis 10**  
**am- noon, cars \$15, bikes \$10,**  
**9/11 tribute, 50/50, prizes, dj. For**  
**more info email:**  
**[hotrodbeaton@gmail.com](mailto:hotrodbeaton@gmail.com)**

**September 11**  
**9/11 Memorial Poker Run**  
**Platinum Power Sports,**  
**Rockford, MI. 9 am Poker run**  
**in West Michigan, price incl**  
**dinner. For more info email:**  
**[Westmichroaddocs@gmail.com](mailto:Westmichroaddocs@gmail.com)**

**September 11 & 12**  
**(Rain Date 18 & 19)**  
**State Championships**  
**Lucky Thumb M/C**  
**Lucky Thumb Motorcycle Club,**  
**Deford, MI. Sat 9/11 Short track**  
**3-5-7, Sun 9/12 TT scrambles**  
**8-10-12 For more info go to:**  
**[LuckyThumbMotorcycleClub.](http://LuckyThumbMotorcycleClub.com)**  
**com (See ad this issue)**

**September 12**  
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**For more info go to**  
**[campdearborn.com](http://campdearborn.com)**

**September 12**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Shakin' Not Stirred Poker Run**  
**Clamdiggers, Monroe, MI. Regis**  
**10 am, last bike out 11 am, live**  
**music, 50/50. For more info call**  
**Jennifer at 734-497-5683**

**September 16**  
**Tecumseh Classic**  
**Car & Bike Show**  
**Old National Bank parking lot,**  
**Tecumseh, MI. 6 pm- 8 pm, regis**  
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**September 25**  
**Guilty Girlz 10<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**3230 N. East St, Lansing, MI. 6**  
**pm- 10 pm. For more info go to:**  
**[guiltygirlzrc.org](http://guiltygirlzrc.org)**

**September 19**  
**Michael J's Annual Fun Run**  
**Bomber's Bar & Grill, Coleman,**  
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**Michael J 989-387-0916**

## October

**October 9**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Vettes 4 Vets Color Tour**  
**Elks Lodge #1400, Alma, MI.**  
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The root of suffering is attachment.

Silence the angry man with love, silence the ill natured man with kindness, silence the miser with generosity, and silence the liar with truth.

### Motorcycle Quotes & Sayings

Being a biker is more than riding a bike you feel it in your heart and in your soul.

Racing is life, anything before or after is just waiting. – Steve McQueen

Don't let the fear of what could happen make nothing happen.

Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass; it's about learning to ride in the rain. –Dennis Kirk



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# Remembering the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks 20 YEARS LATER

*Survivors tell us what they saw and what they've learned in the intervening years*

By Steven Greenhouse, AARP



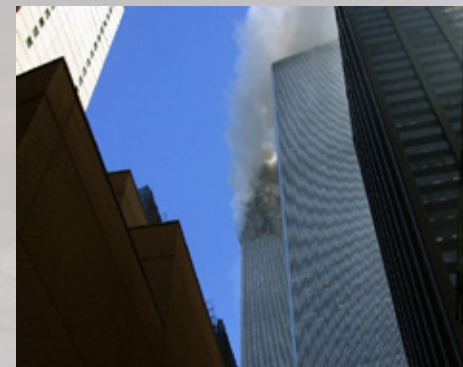
SEAN ADAIR/REUTERS

It's hard to fathom that teens now entering college — or serving in the armed forces — were not yet born on that unforgettable Tuesday morning. Nearly 3,000 people died in Manhattan, at the Pentagon and in a Pennsylvania field on September 11, 2001, in what remains the deadliest act of terrorism in history. To mark the 20th anniversary of that infamous day, we asked people with a connection to the attacks to reflect on what they experienced then and what it means to them today.

**Bill Keegan, a lieutenant\* in the Port Authority Police Department:** The World Trade Center in lower Manhattan was a beacon to the whole world. It said, "We want to know who you are, we want to work with you, and we want to trade with you." Trade allows us to understand different cultures and different people, and for them to understand us. I think that's why these terrorists targeted the towers.

8:46 A.M.

American Airlines Flight 11 from Boston, bound for Los Angeles, crashed into the World Trade Center's North Tower, between the 93rd and 99th floors.



HIRO OSHIMA/WIREIMAGE

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**Margaret Lazaros, a systems analyst for Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield, who worked on the 27th floor of the building:** It was unbelievable. It's even hard to explain. It was such a noise and such an impact that you actually felt it. It felt like the building shuddered. I thought everything was going to fall down. We just all stood there, looking at each other, and I remember I said to my girlfriend, "Something bad happened. I think we need to get out of here."

**Vincent Green, a top anti-corruption official in the city's Department of Investigation, who was in an office that faced the twin towers:** We didn't think it was an attack at that point. We thought it was some pilot who didn't know what the heck he was doing.

9:03 A.M.

United Airlines Flight 175, also headed from Boston to L.A., crashed into the World Trade Center's South Tower, between the 77th and 85th floors.



KELLY GUENTHER/THE NEW YORK TIMES/REDUX PICTURES

**Investigator Green:** I saw the second plane come around and go into the building. I told my colleague, "This is no accident. We're under attack."

**Michael Lomonaco, chef and director of culinary operations at Windows on the World, a restaurant on the North Tower's 106th and 107th floors:** I'd been in the shopping center on the lower level when the North Tower was hit. They evacuated us very quickly. I made a couple of calls to let people know I was safe. Then I heard a roar of jet engines. I looked up at the South Tower and saw the moment of impact. A fireball exploded. This was a tremendous shock. I thought of all my friends and colleagues at the restaurant, and I started to do a mental list: Who's up

there now? Who's working? We had 72 of our Windows family working that morning. We also had more than 100 people in a private dining room. So, after the second plane hit, I became emotional and felt tears well up in my eyes.

**Salvatore Cassano, a Fire Department assistant chief of operations who became chief of operations right after September 11:** The World Trade Center was built to withstand a plane crash. Well, it withstood the plane crash. It just didn't withstand a fire from the thousands of gallons of jet fuel that were incinerating everything in there.

**Systems analyst Lazaros:** We got into the stairwell, and it was so quiet. Everybody knew something really bad had happened, and everybody just wanted to get out of there. We all just started walking and walking and walking down. We saw the firefighters, a lot of them. They started coming up the stairwell. So, we all moved over for them. They had so much equipment on them. And it was smoky, and they were sweating already. They were walking up the stairs. We asked them, "Where are you going? Where do you have to go?" They said, "Oh, we have to get underneath the fire. But you go." They had all these ropes and things, and all those guys never got out of there. Never.



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We got to the end of the stairwell and went through the open door. At first we had no idea where we were. I said, “This must be some kind of old subbasement, somewhere that’s full of debris.” It was the lobby we had come into in the morning, but everything had been destroyed.

**9:37 A.M.**  
American Airlines Flight 77, bound from the Washington area to L.A., crashed into the western side of the Pentagon.



LARRY DOWNING/REUTERS

**Specialist Beau Doboszewski, a soldier with the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment who was working as a Pentagon tour guide:** All of a sudden this one airman comes running up the bottom ramp, and he’s just beet red. He screams, “We’ve got to get out of here. A plane just hit the Pentagon.” It was a lot of chaos. We had people that were on fire. We tackled them and put them out.

**9:59 A.M.**  
The South Tower collapsed.



AARON MILESTONE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

**Principal Dolch:** We had evacuated all the students to the south, toward Battery Park. As we were crossing into the park I heard the sound that I always describe as snap, crackle and pop. I looked back, and I thought the world had come to an end. Every time I think about it, I shiver. It was just a tsunami wave of dirt and debris, just behind us.

**Chef Lomonaco:** Suddenly, as I was looking at the twin towers, one of them disappeared in a cloud of smoke. It literally disappeared. There were mothers with strollers; there were elderly people; there were thousands of people who were running north on Church Street, away from this collapse.



AP PHOTO/FILE/SUZANNE PLUNKETT

**10:03 A.M.**  
United Flight 93, headed to San Francisco from Newark, New Jersey, crashed into an empty field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.



TIM SHAFFER/REUTERS

**Stephen M. Clark, currently the superintendent of National Parks of Western Pennsylvania, which includes the Flight 93 National Memorial:** The airplane was taken over by the terrorists at 9:28 and didn’t crash until 10:03. So what happened during that time frame is nothing short of miraculous. The passengers knew they were part of some type of suicide mission, yet they had the courage to take a vote and then implement a plan to try and retake control

of the plane. They simply ran out of time. There were 33 passengers, five flight attendants and two pilots on board, along with the four terrorists. That airplane was only 18 minutes away from Washington. That particular morning, both houses of Congress were to be in session. You had over 4,500 people working in or near the Capitol building. You had congressmen and -women; you had the incredible symbol of democracy; you had employees; you had visitors. So, there’s no doubt that those 40 people saved countless lives.

**10:28 A.M.**  
The North Tower collapsed.



JOSE JIMENEZ/PRIMERA HORA/GETTY IMAGES

**Robert Snyder, an American studies and journalism professor at Rutgers University in New Jersey:** I was walking past South Street Seaport, and I felt a rumble under my feet. Then I looked over my shoulder, and I saw that the second tower had fallen. The scene was absolutely apocalyptic. **Systems analyst Lazaros:** I could see the North Tower coming down, and I said, “Oh, my God, that’s our place.” It was unbelievable. There were so many people that were still on the upper floors and couldn’t get out.

After the towers collapsed, friends and family members began a frantic search for loved ones who worked in or near the complex.



MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

**Christy Ferer, founder of Citybuzz and Vidicom and a former television correspondent who was married to Neil David Levin, the Port Authority’s executive director:** I went down to the site with pictures of Neil and handed them to the rescue workers and said, “Please look for this guy.” It was probably irrational, but I did it. I guess it was about four days later that I really admitted he was gone. **Systems analyst Lazaros:** It just broke my heart when children walked around looking for their parents, with pictures and posters, asking, “Anybody seen my mother, my father?” Because all I could think of was, *It could be my daughters doing that.*

For nine months afterward, workers searched Ground Zero.



PORTER GIFFORD/CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES

**FDNY Lieutenant Berkman:** We’re looking to see if there’s anybody there, and people keep coming up to us and saying, “Have you seen my cousin?” “Have you seen my father?” The Fire Department people were looking for their family, friends or fire company. Because we knew there were thousands of people potentially trapped in that burning pile of debris, including possibly thousands of first responders. **9/11 widow Ferer, who later became New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s liaison to families who lost loved ones on 9/11:** Many of the families were just crumbling under the weight of the sorrow, the uncertainty and the lack of closure. A lot of their emotions turned to anger down the road. Many of them did not find body parts. I believe that something like 40 percent still have nothing to bury. **FDNY Lieutenant Berkman:** I figured it out, at one point, that I must’ve worked with about 250 of the 343 firefighters who were killed that day. The guy whose gear I borrowed that day, Captain Vinnie Brunton, from Ladder 105, he was killed. When you have 12 or 14 FDNY funerals a day — I had to make a decision a lot of days: Whose do I go to?

In the years that followed, survivors and families pushed forward.



ANGEL FRANCO/THE NEW YORK TIMES/ REDUX PICTURES

**FDNY Assistant Chief Cassano:** As much evil as there was that day, there was also much good. I mean the people who came to help us from all over the country, all over the world. We couldn’t have done it alone.

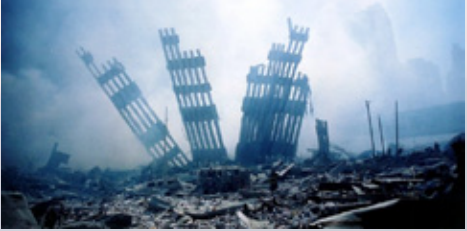
**Systems analyst Lazaros:** You learn to hold everybody closer and don’t take anybody for granted. I never get off the phone with anybody I care about without saying, “Hey, love you.” **Principal Dolch:** There was a long time during which I didn’t take care of myself, and emotionally I was a mess, but I didn’t really know that until a good two years later. I finally asked myself, *Why do I feel almost catatonic most of the time? Why am I still jumping every time there’s a siren?* I did a lot of resiliency work — talking, writing. Learning to appreciate the moon, the stars, the skies and the creator of the moon, the sun and the stars. **Port Authority Police Officer Lim:** Several months after September 11, I attended a concert of my 14-year-old daughter’s school orchestra. Ravel’s Boléro was on the program, and Debra had a clarinet solo. All of a sudden, I broke out crying. I told my wife, “I’m so lucky to be here to hear this.” It taught me to appreciate the important



RJ CAPAK/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES

things in life. And at the same time, it was hard to come to grips with the loss of my canine partner, Sirius. Every time I talked about it, I would always say, “Well, the people were more important than a dog, obviously.” But I was told by people smarter than I was that until I accepted the loss of my friend, my dog, that I would never get over this completely. Now I can finally say I have.

Today the world remains irrevocably changed.



ALEXANDRE FUCHS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

**Alice Greenwald, chief executive of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the former World Trade Center site:** We have young people and people starting careers who have no memory of this event. And yet they are living in a world that has been defined geopolitically, and in terms of security consciousness, by the events of 20 years ago. This next generation has grown up with the sense that terrorism is the norm, and that breaks my heart. **Port Authority Police Lieutenant Keegan:** This country came together. We found that what makes us human together is that people hurt the same way. No matter what your political affiliation is, what your color is, what your religion is. Seeing how we came together and seeing the goodness of people, I think that’s something we need to take forward into this COVID situation and further on. **Chef Lomonaco:** We also learned that we can rise from the ashes. We learned that we can rebuild our lives.



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PRESENTS

# BIKES ON THE BRICKS

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POLICE ESCORTED RIDE  
SATURDAY, SEPT. 11TH

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"DOWNTOWN STREETS OPEN TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC"

10am - 4pm: Police officer training on Flat Lot  
10am - 7pm: T-Shirt & Saturday ride registration sales  
4pm - 10pm: Beer Tent Open

6pm - 10pm: Jon Fett Quartet playing in Beer Tent  
6pm - 9pm: Mini Bike Races presented by the Damned Wheel Club

SATURDAY

"DOWNTOWN STREETS CLOSED TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC"  
"VENDOR SETUP AND MOTORCYCLE PARKING ONLY"

8am: T-Shirt & Saturday ride registration sales  
8am - 10am: Police officer training on Flat Lot  
8am - 11am: Ride registration at Vehicle City Harley-Davidson  
10am - 10pm: Beer Tent Open  
11am: Police escorted ride leaves VCHD  
12pm: CRASHTINA Stunt Show  
1pm: Police escorted ride arrives in Downtown  
1am - 4pm: The Blue Hawaiians  
2pm: Rockabilly Pinup Girl Contest on Main Stage  
2pm - 4:30pm: Police officer training on Flat Lot  
2pm - 3:30pm: Police Last Man Standing Preliminaries on Flat Lot  
3pm: Buffalo Soldiers presentation on Main Stage  
4pm: CRASHTINA Stunt Show  
6pm - 10pm: John Vance Band playing in Beer Tent  
7pm: CRASHTINA Stunt Show

SUNDAY

10am: Opening Ceremony & Blessing of Bikes  
10am - 1pm: Motorcycles Show registration  
(Must enter at S. Saginaw & 4th Streets)  
10am - 5pm: T-Shirt Sales  
10:30am: Law Enforcement Skills Competition  
Noon - 5pm: Beer Tent Open  
12pm: CRASHTINA Stunt Show  
1pm - 4pm: Days of Glory playing in Beer Tent  
1pm - 2pm: Police Last Man Standing Finals on Flat Lot  
1pm - 3pm: Motorcycle Show Judging  
2pm: CRASHTINA Stunt Show  
3:30pm: Police Competition Awards Ceremony on Flat Lot  
4pm: Motorcycle Show Awards Ceremony on Main Stage

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## IT IS BIGGER THAN ME PART II

By Jon Burt

9,799 was the starting numbers on my odometer April 2, 2021. Currently the number looks to be close to reaching the 6,000 mile goal. A few donations in and the \$1500.00 donation to Horace "Mann" Elementary School is looking more like a reality. A few people have made donations and quite a bit of others have stated they will do the same, therefore I am excited this vision is being fulfilled.

15,740 is the number as of July 24, 2021. Five additional out-of-state trips, meeting many great brothers and sisters on twos, in cages, and everyone has the same goal in common - living life to the fullest. As I shared before, after going down May 5, 2019, I aspire to live for the next generation. So, the donations collected that I will be providing to the school will be divided into three \$500 splits. The funds will be given to three (3) student's families of the elementary school; they will be selected as "Exemplary Students." Someone that has a passion that goes beyond the classroom. Someone that enjoys riding his/her bicycle. After all, that is how I started my love for motorcycles.

Through my journey and miles on the road, whether civilian, riding club, social club, motorcycle club, outlaw, or 1%, I have received nothing but encouragement. The Detroit MC scene is one that has to be navigated with poise and respect. The international MC set is one that must be navigated even more respectfully as one needs to get clearance to pass through different areas. But, I must admit, the invitation to ride has been nothing less than a pipe-hollering experience. I have met some of the most respected clubs, respectfully passed outlaws on the highways, and broke bread with some of the dominantes in some of the big cities. What I have learned along the way is; RESPECT-BREEDS-RESPECT.

My last trips have been down to Memphis, Tennessee for an annual. I also grabbed state signs for Arkansas and Mississippi while in the area. Then I came back home to fellowship with the Detroit Set. From there, I got back on the road to do a weekend Midwest/east tour to Cincinnati/Cleveland, OH and kept piping down the 80/90E to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to a function with several MCs. Then I came back home to pay my respect to a fallen member of a 1% club. This season has been surreal and I look forward to many more like this.

Get that YONDA!! (15,740 - 9,799 = 5,941 miles thus far for 2021 season)

Thank you for the donations and encouragement,  
-Smoke



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Through riding for the 2021 season, my goal is to donate 25 cents per mile up to 6000 miles; that is up to \$1500 for the riding season ending December 31, 2021 from each participant. If you are willing to match my miles and/or donate to the cause, give me a call/text at 248-919-8257 and ask for Jon A.K.A. Smoke.

Funds can be donated to: <https://fundly.com/raising-the-next-generation/dash>



# INTRODUCING CALL SAM CHOPPER SHOP

What do one of Michigan's most respected law firms and one of Detroit's favorite Red Wings have in common? The Call Sam Chopper Shop! This summer, The Sam Bernstein Law Firm is partnering with Red Wing great, Darren McCarty, to document the build of a one-of-a-kind custom chopper in a show airing on various social media outlets.



Design and fabrication is being handled by Bad Pig Customs in Hazel Park, MI. The team of mechanics, led by Dave Foster, bring years of wrench-turning, fender-welding experience to the project. Think American Chopper – minus the drama and for a great cause. The finished bike will be donated to Volunteers of America Michigan (VOAMI) and raffled off to one lucky winner.



The Sam Bernstein Law Firm created The Call Sam Chopper Shop based on inspiration from their motorcycle-riding clients who were injured while doing what they love. The firm knows that riding is a way of life and despite overcoming horrific injuries and obstacles, many riders get back in the saddle and continue to ride. They know you can't keep a rider down, just like a veteran who's down on his or her luck – sometimes they both need a little help.



Attorney Mark Bernstein explained, "We're constantly in awe of the unrelenting determination and positive outlook of both our clients and our veterans. This project is meant to bring bikers together while supporting Michigan veterans who have selflessly served our nation."

Several of The Sam Bernstein Law Firm's attorneys and staff ride and know first-hand the dangers that bikers face. Mark said what riders everywhere already know – distracted drivers are everywhere and accidents happen in the blink of an eye. He added, "Knowing the complexities of Michigan's motorcycle law and No-Fault system is key to receiving the compensation a biker deserves. Being motorcycle enthusiasts ourselves, we take these cases personally because that's what family does."

The Sam Bernstein Law Firm and VOAMI will be attending as many motorcycle events as possible this summer to give away Call Sam Chopper Shop merchandise and sell raffle tickets.

Raffle tickets to win the Call Sam Chopper can be purchased through VOAMI throughout the summer. There's no limit on how many you can purchase and each one is a chance to win the bike. All raffle ticket proceeds go directly to VOAMI to help Michigan veterans.

Curious to see how this custom bike turns out? So are we! Catch the latest episodes of the Call Sam Chopper Shop on Youtube, social media, or at [callsam.com/chopper-shop/](http://callsam.com/chopper-shop/). Find out who will take home this one-of-a-kind chopper when the winner is announced September 24th during Imlay City's Bike Night.



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By: Geneva

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1			6		2	8
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Winner Last Month

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of Blissfield, MI

Congratulations!

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

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# BULLET POINTS

THINK

BY RICK WYATT



One of my favorite duties is teaching the Concealed Pistol Summer is racing towards a conclusion and things have gotten really strange lately. On a brighter note, I was able to take a motorcycle adventure and rode to Deadwood, SD for a trike rally. The last time I did a long-distance bike sojourn was five years ago when I made the Run for the Wall and Rolling Thunder events. Because of other events happening all around me I wasn't sure if I could (or should) make this summer's journey but by mid-June things seemed to level out and I felt I had a green light. Well to make a long story short, because I had put off making the go/no go decision until nearly the last moment I had also put off making the necessary plans and preparations for such a long ride; and I paid for it. Yes, I still went but sailing wasn't as headache free as it would have been if I had put everything together in January (when I booked lodging at my destination) and not had to cobble so much in the last few days before I left. What a pain in the ass, but being in the wind meant it was still a good trip.

Now some of you are wondering where I am going with this, so I won't leave you in suspense any longer. With the current social, economic and political environment we will all find that life is easier if we take the time to plan before we do instead of flying by the seat of our pants. An example, for the last couple of years I have advised hunters to make sure they have everything they need for their hunt before season begins and last year (as usual) our store was mobbed by people looking for ammunition in the last week leading up to opening day. Many were disappointed, some were pissed, but the ammo shortage last November was really severe and those who waited until the last minute had to change their plans. Right now there is a fair selection of both guns and ammunition, but that can all change literally overnight. Hunters beware, even if you think you have enough to get through the season it wouldn't hurt to have a couple extra boxes on the shelf, just in case!

Check your guns, make sure they are in working order while you are at it. I will never forget the guy that came in the store literally on the evening of November 14th several years back looking for a bolt for his Remington 700 Needless to say he was in full panic mode and I didn't help his anxiety much when I told him that you can't just buy a bolt off the shelf and slap it into a rifle and expect it to work, and for it to be done properly the bolt should be fitted by a gunsmith who knows what they are doing. For those of you planning to buy a new firearm now is the time while there is still a semi-reasonable selection on the shelves, and you won't be saddled with a "settled for" gun which we all know you probably won't be happy with in the long run. Plan on buying quality up front and you will find a way to afford a firearm that will serve you well for years and maybe pass on to a child or grandchild. Now is

the time to make the move if you are considering it because we don't know what the next few months will bring.

Now is the time to plan for a lot of things because there is an ill wind blowing and we are all going to get caught up in it. There is an extremely high probability of serious (if not runaway) inflation which severely limit how far family budgets will stretch. When the Fed pumps the economy full of their brand of Monopoly Money the value of the dollars we earn can go into a free fall as inflationary prices rise. Most of you don't know how bad things got in the late 1970's when we lived through runaway inflation, many families spent years recovering from its effect. Fuel and energy skyrocketed, prices on consumer goods spiked, goods and services disappeared, and jobs went away. I knew people who had adjustable construction loans under 5% but ended up saddled with double digit mortgages when the Federal Reserve raised rates to curb inflation. Needless to say, most ended up losing their homes, and buying big ticket items such as cars, motorcycles, snowmobiles, etc. were out of the question if you intended to put food on the table and keep the lights and heat on.

Preplan and you (and your family) will be amazed at what you can accomplish even in a terrible economy. I have a simple rule of thumb when it comes to guns and ammo. I currently have the firearms I would need to if everything were to take a dump all at once, they are my baseline that I can get by with if need be. I also set a baseline for my stockpile of ammunition, no less than 500 rounds for my primary calibers (actually I keep around a thousand) and 200 rounds for my 38/.357 and 44mag. To try to stockpile the amount of firepower I have at today's prices would make your grippers slip and stain your drawers, but I didn't do it overnight. Watch for ammunition on sale or look for it in bulk whenever you can find it, and don't become dependent on exotic calibers because when push comes to shove you won't be able to replace them. This is not a time to take on excessive consumer debit, I am not saying don't buy a good gun or stockpile some ammunition; just keep it reasonable like stashing the bucks for a couple of boxes of bullets every payday instead to abusing the credit card on a single large purchase. Keep it simple, and maybe most important keep it safe and don't make yourself a target for theft. I know that I have already said to much about what I have on hand but know this too, my ammunition and other shooting supplies are always kept secure in a safe and the dogs are always on duty whether we are home or not and they like a nice tender leg of thief now and then!

Be safe friends-----

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