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May 2024 Volume 20 Issue 2

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4TH ANNUAL MACKINAW CITY MOTORCYCLE RALLY



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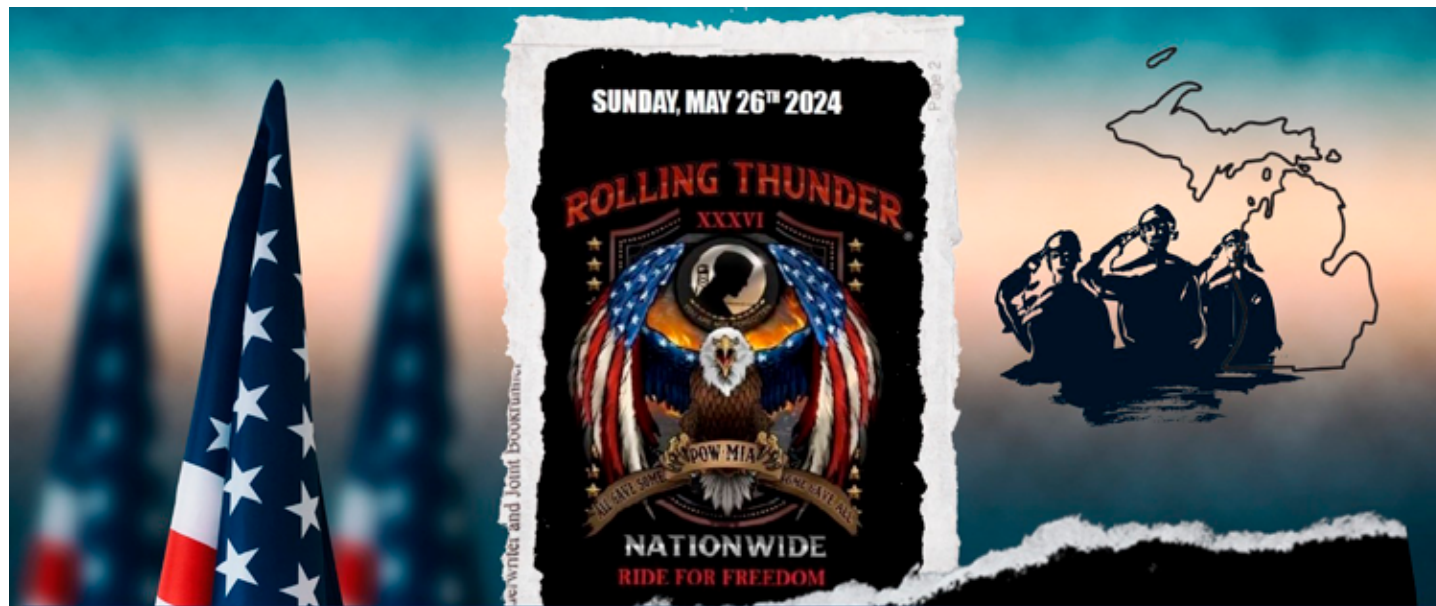
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2024 RIDE FOR FREEDOM NATIONWIDE

WEST MI (CHAPTERS 1 & 4)

SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 - BIKE NIGHT & CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

LOCATION: SANDY'S HARLEY DAVIDSON / TIME: 3PM -7PM

SUNDAY MAY 26, 2024, RIDE FOR FREEDOM

- KSU 8 AM - AMERICAN LEGION BOAT & CANOE 401 N. PARK ST N.E. GRAND RAPIDS, MI. SHORT STOP AT THE BELDING WAR MEMORIAL
- KSU 10:00AM MEET UP WITH CHAPTER 5 @ FULL THROTTLE
- KSU 11:30 TO THE STATE CAPITAL.

EAST MI (CHAPTERS 5)

• **SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 -10 AM - 4 PM - FLAG RAISING CEREMONY & PRE-RIDE EVENTS MOTOR CITY HARLEY, 24800 HAGGERTY RD, FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48335**

SUNDAY MAY 26, 2024, RIDE FOR FREEDOM

• **REGISTRATION STARTS @ 6:30 AM @MOTOR CITY HARLEY, 24800 HAGGERTY RD, FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48335**

- KSU 8:30 AM TO VG'S IN HOWELL,
- KSU 9:45 AM MEET UP WITH CHAPTERS 1 & 4 @ FULL THROTTLE
- KSU - 11:30 AM TO THE STATE CAPITAL

CEREMONY @ STATE CAPITAL

12:30 PM - TRIBUTE TO POW/MIA'S WITH FOOD, MUSIC, VENDORS & SPEAKERS.

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ON THE COVER

4th Annual Mackinaw City Motorcycle Rally

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LETTER FROM THE OWNERS

Things are off and running in the motorcycle world! We cannot believe how many bike blessings have popped up in the last couple of years. It's crazy how many there actually are, but it's nice to see that there are a lot of riders out there that are hungry for motorcycle events in or near their location. With that being said, we tried to be aware and share as many as we could find. We do our best in our online and social media searches, but I know we missed a few. So, here is a reminder, that if you would like to have your event listed for free in Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine you must email us the information in time or tag us in it. We are more than happy to add you in and help get the word out! That goes for our Readers Rides each month also. Send them in!

With May being Motorcycle Awareness month, let's do our part as riders and make sure we are not putting our lives completely in the hands of others. Ride safe. Ride smart. Ride defensively and always looking around you at the "what ifs." If you think or feel in your gut that the person coming at you, at the stop sign, or the light isn't seeing you... be ready. Ride your ride, but don't put yourself in harm's way and become part of a statistic. We are more than that to our friends, family, and all who love us. Help improve your chances of coming back home from a day of freedom.



Bike nights are back! There have been some "kick-off" events that have already happened in April and May is exploding with more bike nights and blessings every day. Well, with that being said we'll see you out and about this summer as we do our best to support all our advertisers and organizations that support us. Yes, and those that don't...lol. We'll take this opportunity to thank our advertisers that make all of this possible. Thank you again for helping keep Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine FREE to our readers and helping us grow our reach all over our beautiful state of Michigan!!

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2ND ANNUAL

HOUGHTON LAKE BLESSING OF THE BIKES

MAY 4TH, 2024



MEET AT THE HOUGHTON LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- 10AM REGISTRATION
- 11:30 FLAG RAISING
- 1PM BLESSING
- 2PM KICKSTANDS UP!
- RAFFLES!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

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MENTION IT'S FOR THE BLESSING AND USE "BIKE" TO BOOK FOR DISCOUNTED ROOMS AT KORBINSKI'S RESORT BEACH FRONT HOTEL AMERICAN INN AND SUITES



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MAY 22ND
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Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom Nationwide

Rolling Thunder Inc. Michigan Chapter 5, Duane O'Parka



Finally, the season is here! With a few warm days behind us and the promise of more to come, it is definitely go time for events throughout the state! With Memorial Day being the unofficial start of summer and quickly approaching, I wanted to find something that I could look forward to attending, but also something that has relevance to what Memorial Day encompasses.

I remembered my good friend Duane O'Parka, with Rolling Thunder Inc. Michigan Chapter 5 has an annual event on Memorial Day weekend. As luck would have it, Duane reached out and agreed to come onto the show. We set the date and decided to meet on the steps of the Capitol Building in Lansing to record.

The day we met had plenty of sunshine, but it was still chilly outside. Like a champ Duane rode an hour to make the show and shared as much information as we could fit in about their organization and the upcoming ride. The ride they put on is The Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom Nationwide and takes place Sunday May 26th. The ride starts at Motor City Harley-Davidson in Farmington Hills with registration starting at 6:30am and kickstands up at 8:30. The ride makes its way to the State Capitol Building where there will be guest speakers, vendors, food and things of that nature. I'd like to mention that Rolling Thunder Chapters 1 & 4 from the west side of the state will also be meeting up with Chapter 5 along the way to join in the ride to the Capital.

While shooting the shit with Duane before and after recording segments, I was happy to hear about another event Rolling Thunder has in the fall that includes The Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall. The event for that weekend is called Walls of Honor. What's ESPECIALLY cool about this is that for the first time EVER, the GoldStars Tribute Wall will make its way to Michigan. This is another awesome event put on by Rolling Thunder Chapter 5. Please check out their website at www.rollingthundermich5.com and their Facebook event page. Tune into the Rolling Thunder Episode of Riding with Brendan Podcast to hear about the Memorial Weekend event as well as the Walls of Honor event and many, many other events and enjoy my travels online. See you out there! Until next time....

Brendan Farren
Host of, *Riding With Brendan*



Philip Mielke

Galien, MI

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2001 Harley Davidson Road King FLHRCI 88ci, Stage 2, S&S 510 gear drive cams, Feuling oil pump, Cobra dual exhaust with Vance and Hines mufflers. Factory built as a classic but since changed some, adding hard bags and blackwall tires.

My backstory...



I was an adopted child and growing up in the 70s I loved motorcycles. I had 7 Japanese bikes over the years but quit riding when my daughter was in school. At the time, I was working 2 jobs, I had no time, and money was tight. Fast forward from 2006 about 15 years or so and with modern DNA technology, it got kinda crazy! Not only did I grow up having a sister who was also an adopted child, but since my birth family finding me, I now have 4 half siblings on my birth mother's side, 2 brothers, and 2 sisters. I also have 3 half-brothers and a half-sister on my birth father's side. So, I am now 1 of 10 siblings!



Turns out my motorcycle loving birth father had passed away, but my brothers Scott and Adam live close, and each have one of our father's Harleys. My half-brother Evan on my birth mom's side also rides a Softail Slim. I bought my Road King in 2021 with 32k miles on it so I could ride with them, and now I've hit 48k. I couldn't believe how much I missed being in the wind! It has been a few years now and we ride pretty regularly, have our own special Father's Day ride, plus ride to camp, and attend Easyriders Rodeo at Fowlerville together.

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AFTER THE RIDE

MAY 4th

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TEST & TUNE

MAY 18TH

300 FT DIRT DRAGS DAY TEST & TUNE

MAY 19TH

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RIDER SPOTLIGHT

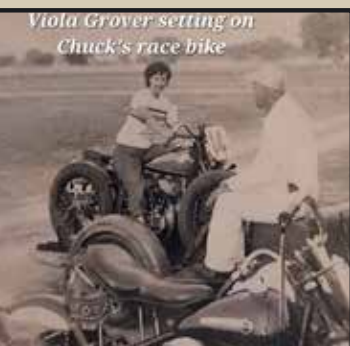
Story by: Stan Prapotnik

FLAT TRACK RACER CHARLES "CHUCK" GROVER

Charles Edward Grover
November 13th, 1915 - March 26th, 1993

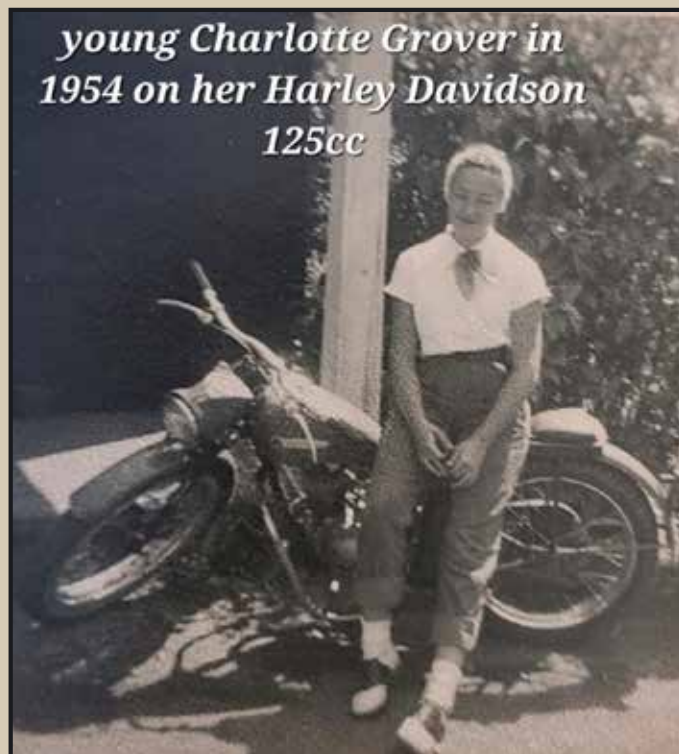


Chuck Grover was born in Marlette, Michigan, the son of Floyd and Gertrude Grover. Chuck had four sisters and he was raised in Michigan. On June 27th, 1936, Chuck married his sweetheart Viola Bouley. On April 26th, 1938, Chuck and Viola would welcome daughter Charlotte (his only child)



into the world. His passion for the sport even found its way to his grandson, Chuck Kelly who also was a skilled rider. Chuck started racing for Dick Beane in 1938 and became a professional racer within a couple of years. He worked a factory job at Mueller Brass for many

years and in the later part of his working career he worked as a construction worker. Although he always worked a regular job, he also worked on motorcycles on the side, and of course he also raced professionally. At some point in his career, he also had some small dealerships with Harley Davidson, then later a Norton and Ducati dealership, and later a partnership in a Honda Dealer for a short time.



When daughter Charlotte grew up, she married Neil Kelly of Port Huron. Neil fit in with the Grovers well as he was also a motorcycle enthusiast. Charlotte was quite a skilled motorcycle rider herself, just like her Mom. Neil and the Grovers were all members of the Sunset Riders Motorcycle Club in St. Clair County Michigan. Chuck and Neil raced together on a Harley Davidson non-studded sidecar bike and seldom ever lost a race for many years. The family all rode motorcycles together on the road for different events and Chuck and Neil both competed in several different types of motorcycle racing. At different times, both Chuck and Neil had performed daredevil feats such as riding a motorcycle through a flaming wooden wall or as it was called "smashing through the flaming wall of death."

Sources: Neil Kelly, Charlotte (Grover) Kelly, and the Port Huron Motorcycle Club Photo Archive



Although Chuck never won a National Race, he had some podium finishes including a 2nd place at Shreveport and a 3rd, a 4th, a 5th, and a 6th place finish at the famous Springfield Mile Championship. He also won some very big Non-National Races like Dayton several times and the Michigan State Championship and established himself as one of the top Dirttrack Racers in the world.

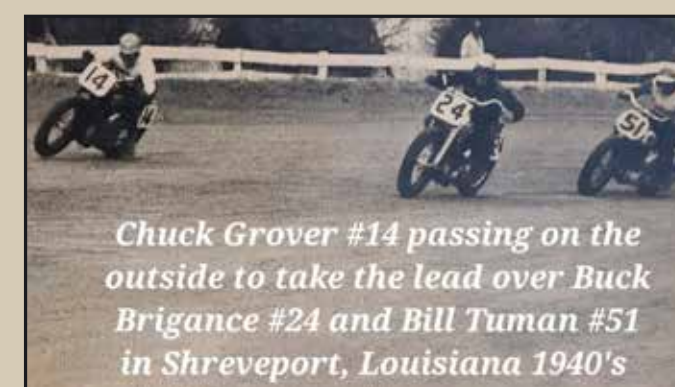


Chuck was a factory Harley Davidson team racer from 1941 to 1953. Like many top racers of his time, Chuck missed out on racing Nationals during some of his prime years because of racing being shut down during World War II. He was considered to be an expert mechanic and did all of the mechanical work on his own bike and occasionally for other racers as well. After his professional flat tracking career was over, he was a champion non-studded ice racer



for many years and was considered by some to be the greatest non-studded ice racer of all time.

Chuck was also an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Port Huron Motorcycle Club. He was heartbroken



when he lost his wife in a motorcycle accident in 1975. Retiring from the workforce in 1977, Chuck made his own homemade trike motorcycle and enjoyed riding it around and would even take it to Florida every year. He remarried eventually to second wife Sarah, and he continued to enjoy being a motorcycle enthusiast and is said to have even rode his motorcycle with his dog Corky.





Mackinaw City Motorcycle Rally

RIDE IN BIKE SHOW

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MICHIGAN
Magazine

Saturday June 8th

\$20.00

PER BIKE ENTERED

Registration

From 9am to 11am

Voting

From 11am to 1:00pm

TROPHY PRESENTATION

At 2:00pm

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WATCH FOR UPDATES

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The MHRA banquet was last month, and the South Lyon Spark Plugs Auto Club hosted the event this year. For their fundraising they chose Operation Injured Soldiers to be the beneficiary. It was a busy time with plenty of people donating to raise money for our charity that night, and we are very grateful. We are also looking forward to supporting their Car show that the South Lyon Spark Plugs will be hosting on June 23. Plans are underway for the Annual Lyon Ride taking place on July 20. This year it will be a FUN RUN that starts at James F. Atchison Memorial Park and ends at the New Hudson Inn. To participate, you can ride your motorcycle or drive a car. It's \$25 for the driver and \$20 for the passenger. This includes a ride t-shirt and some tasty food provided by the New Hudson Inn, and there will be tickets available for the raffle prizes. First Place is \$250, Second place is \$100, and third place is \$50. This event is always a fun time with friends, and it's important for us to share that 100% of the proceeds raised are used to fund the events we put on for our veterans, free of charge. The weather does not matter as it is a rain or shine event. Come on out and help us support the veterans. Some of the events that OIS hosts for veterans include but are not limited to fishing, hunting, football games, hockey games, and sky diving. There are a lot of ideas as the season is still early, but we are always working on more ways to get our veterans back outdoors. Follow the OIS Riders Facebook page for updates!

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You Better Have this Special Insurance on Your Car if You Are Ever in a Motorcycle Wreck

As you may have guessed by now, May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. What you may not know is how essential it is to have this special insurance on your car in case of a motorcycle wreck.

If you are in a motorcycle accident with a car, truck, or van, insured motorcyclists get no-fault benefits (payment for medical bills, wage loss, medical mileage, and house chores). If you are the owner and operator of an uninsured motorcycle, you do not get these no-fault benefits. This could mean hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical bills you are stuck with.

If you are operating or riding on a **MOTORCYCLE** and you are involved in an accident with a motor vehicle (a car, truck, van, but *not* another motorcycle), the automobile insurance company that is responsible for paying your no-fault benefits is determined by what we call the Order of Priorities. We just follow down a list of people involved in the crash who potentially have insurance until we identify actual insurance coverage on a person in the highest order of priority.

I can explain it better with an example: I'm in a motorcycle accident with a car. We first establish that I did have insurance on my motorcycle, so I'm eligible for no-fault benefits. Next, we inquire whether the owner, and then next, the operator of the car involved in the crash has insurance. If so, that insurance company must pay my benefits.

If there is no insurance for the owner or operator of the car, we then go to the next person with insurance in the Order of Priorities. In this example, it would be the car or truck insurance company of the operator of the motorcycle. In other words, we go to my (motorcyclist's) car insurance. Yes, the car that was in my garage and had nothing to do with my motorcycle accident can be the insurance company responsible for paying.

I advise that you choose "unlimited PIP Medical" (or as much as you possibly can afford) on **YOUR CARS, TRUCKS, and VANS** (your "motor vehicles"). Why? Because if you get in a motorcycle wreck and the at-fault driver is uninsured, your no-fault benefits will come from insurance on YOUR motor vehicle (car, truck, or van, *not* motorcycle) and it's best for you to have UNLIMITED PIP Medical which pays all your medical bills for life.

FYI: You can't buy No-Fault insurance on a motorcycle. No-fault benefits never come from your motorcycle insurance. We now choose the amount of PIP Medical coverage for our "motor vehicles" (cars, trucks, vans, *not* motorcycles).

Michigan No-Fault Medical coverage used to pay for **all** auto-injury related medical bills **for life**. It was the best coverage in the country. As this is no longer the case, we now must choose our desired amount of PIP Medical coverage on our cars, trucks and vans.

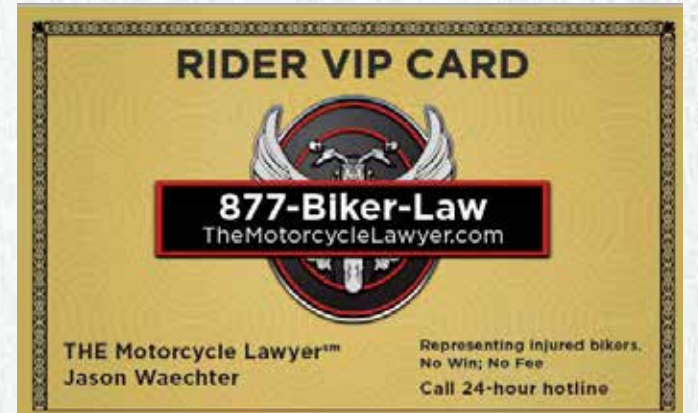
The choices are:

- Unlimited, \$500,000, or \$250,000.
- People with qualified Medicaid recipients can choose \$50,000 coverage.

Again, **we recommend motorcyclists choose unlimited PIP medical coverage on their cars, trucks, and vans** because it is basically the insurance policy second in line of priority to pay the no-fault benefits after a motorcycle accident. Given the many uninsured drivers on our roads, there is a decent chance that if you are in a motorcycle accident with a motor vehicle it will be uninsured, and you'll end up getting no-fault benefits from your own car's insurance company.

Check out our website, www.motorcyclelawyermichigan.com, for 50 one-minute video explanations about Michigan motorcycle law, no-fault law, and insurance.

Jason Waechter
THE Motorcycle Lawyers



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1-877-Biker-Law or visit MotorcycleLawyerMichigan.com

CHARLIE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER: THE UNBREAKABLE BONDS OF BROTHERHOOD: A REFLECTION ON PROVERBS 17:17 FOR MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS

In the vast expanse of the open road, where the rhythm of the engine beats in harmony with the heart, there lies a profound truth that binds every motorcycle enthusiast. It's a truth as timeless as the road itself, echoing the wisdom of Proverbs 17:17, which gently reminds us, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." As we cruise through the winding paths of life, this simple yet powerful message serves as a beacon of light, guiding us through the twists and turns of our journey.

A Friend Loves at All Times

Imagine the road as a metaphor for life's journey—sometimes smooth, often bumpy, and occasionally taking us through uncharted territories. In this journey, just as in life, the companionship of friends who share our passion for riding provides a source of joy, strength, and inspiration. These are the friends who stand by us, not just when the ride is smooth and the skies are clear, but also when the storm clouds gather, and the roads become treacherous.

Let's embrace the essence of this proverb as a reminder of the unconditional love and unwavering support that flourishes within the motorcycle community. It's a love that doesn't keep score, doesn't hold grudges, and doesn't fade when the going gets tough. Instead, it's a love that grows stronger with every mile, nurtured by shared experiences, mutual respect, and the sheer joy of riding together.

A Brother is Born for Adversity

Adversity is an inevitable part of life, and just as the road can sometimes lead us into storms, so too can life present us with challenges that test our spirit and resolve. It is during these times that the true meaning of brotherhood comes to the forefront. A brother—or sister, for that matter—isn't just someone who rides with us under the sun; they're the ones who stand with us in the rain, offering their support, guidance, and companionship when we need it the most.

This aspect of the proverb shines a light on the depth of the bonds that connect motorcycle enthusiasts. These aren't merely friendships formed by a common interest; they are bonds forged in the fires of adversity, strengthened by the trials we face and overcome together. They remind us that we are never alone, that there's always someone willing to ride out the storm with us, to offer a helping hand, a word of encouragement, or simply their presence when words fall short.

Riding with Positivity and Hope

Let us view our rides—and our lives—through a lens of positivity and hope. Every journey on our motorcycles offers an opportunity to spread kindness, uplift others, and build stronger, more meaningful relationships. Let's ride with the intention of being a source of light and encouragement to

our fellow riders, knowing that the love and support we offer will be returned tenfold.

Let this proverb remind us to cherish and nurture the friendships and brotherhoods within our community. Let's commit to being there for one another, not just in times of joy and celebration but more importantly, in moments of need and adversity. Through this commitment, we reinforce the foundation of our community, making it a source of strength, comfort, and inspiration for all.

A Journey of Unconditional Love and Support

In the grand tapestry of life, where each thread represents a moment, a memory, or a milestone, the message of Proverbs 17:17 stands out as a vibrant hue, coloring our experiences with the warmth of unconditional love and the strength of unwavering support. As motorcycle enthusiasts, we share a unique bond, a brotherhood and sisterhood that transcends the mere act of riding. It's a bond that embodies the essence of this proverb, reminding us of the beauty and power of genuine friendship and support.

Let's carry this message in our hearts as we traverse the highways and byways of life, riding with purpose, passion, and positivity. Let's make every journey a testament to the enduring spirit of camaraderie that defines our community, knowing that together, we can face any challenge, overcome any obstacle, and emerge stronger and more united than ever before.

In closing, let us ride forward with the joyous knowledge that in this journey of life, enriched by the bonds of friendship and brotherhood, we are truly blessed. For in the words of Proverbs 17:17, we find not just a verse, but a guiding principle for our lives, a reminder that through love, support, and unity, we can weather any storm and celebrate every sunrise together, on and off the road.

Remember, my friends, in the vast expanse of life's highways, the most precious cargo we carry is not the gear on our bikes, but the love in our hearts and the bonds that unite us.

Until our next journey in Chaplain's Corner, ride safe, and may God's blessings guide you on every road you choose.



**Yours in faith and fellowship,
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VETERANS CORNER



The Difference between Memorial Day and Veteran's Day "Let's put the memorial back in Memorial Day."

Memorial Day is not the same as Veteran's Day. While Veterans Day honors all who have served honorably in our military. **Memorial Day** focuses particularly on those who have died in the line of duty. This distinction is quite important to military-connected children and their families.

"Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans -- the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) -- established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country." (www.va.gov)

It gradually became known as Memorial Day and was declared a federal holiday and moved to the last Monday in May to organize a three-day weekend beginning in 1971. The passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 by Congress made it an official holiday.

Those who seek to remind people of the more somber meaning of Memorial Day have advocated for Congress to change the date of the holiday back to May 30, instead of making it part of a three-day weekend of leisure.

Though those efforts have not been successful, Congress established "**The National Moment of Remembrance**" in 2000, asking Americans to pause for a minute of silence and reflection in honor of those who died in military service at **3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day**.

For those who have lost loved ones in the military, hearing "Happy Memorial Day" can feel jarring. Many veterans have expressed their displeasure with the phrase, deeming it inappropriate for the occasion.

"I do not know a single veteran who expects the country to mark this holiday with 24 hours of uninterrupted sadness," noting that "however well intentioned, this attitude does nothing to preserve the memory of those who died defending our way of life. In fact, it does the opposite."

"This Memorial Day, take a moment and head to the ocean or a special place when the sun is coming up or sometime during the day. Spend some time alone, and think about those who never made it back," after that "Then return to your family and be grateful for your life. Fire up the grill and invite friends over. And wish each of them a Happy Memorial Day, knowing full well that this day and the joy it brings are gifts you can never repay. Except, perhaps, by living a life full of happiness as all our fallen family and friends would have wanted."

After serving in the Army and Air Force for 31.5 years and participating in several Memorial Day events and funerals, this



time of the year reminds me of why I served and makes me remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. Let's remember them together and

not take our freedoms for granted. Have a Safe and Blessed Memorial Weekend. Pay Attention to the cage drivers and look out for each other. Remember those who gave the Ultimate Sacrifice.

"The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As Moment of Remembrance founder Carmella LaSpada states: "It's a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day."



SHARON K. HARVEY
(RET) TSGT, USA/USAF
"RED"

To learn more on the history of Memorial Day visit www.va.gov

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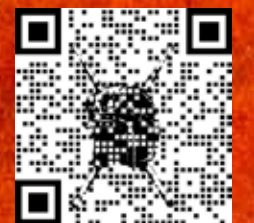


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shout out

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MAY 2024

MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 CINCO DE MAYO 2ND ANNUAL MS'D WITH THE WRONG MFR BIKE RUN SCOOTERS BAR & GRILL 24TH ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE BIKERS CHURCH OF THE LIVING WORD	29 30	7 14	1 LOOK TWICE SAVE A LIFE MOTORCYCLES ARE EVERYWHERE ABATE OF MICHIGAN	2 3	HARLEY-DAVIDSON DEMO TRUCK VEHICLE CITY HARLEY-DAVIDSON	4 PORT HURON MOTORCYCLE CLUB 300 FT DIRT DRAGS TEST-N-TUNE 2ND ANNUAL HOUGHTON LAKE BLESSING OF THE BIKES THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HARLEY-DAVIDSON DEMO TRUCK VEHICLE CITY HARLEY-DAVIDSON INTERNATIONAL FEMALE RIDE DAY
5 42ND ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY SWAP MEET & BIKE SHOW MIDLAND COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 	6 13	14 21	8 15	9 16	10 17	11 ANDREW'S FUNDRAISER EVENT SCOOTERS BAR & GRILL BLESSING FOR JESSICA ZIPS 45TH PARALLEL HARLEY- DAVIDSON
19 BUBBA'S 23RD ANNUAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND CLASSIC 2024	20 27 	21 28	22 MOTORCYCLE INFO WITH TIM FROM STATE FARM SANFORD AMERICA LEGION POST 443	23 30	24 31	18 PORT HURON MOTORCYCLE CLUB 300 FT DIRT DRAGS TEST-N-TUNE BUBBA'S 23RD ANNUAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND CLASSIC 2024 RAY C'S BLESSING OF THE BIKES ROLLING THUNDER WEST MI CHAPTERS 1 & 4 ROLLING THUNDER EAST MI CHAPTER 5
26 BUBBA'S 23RD ANNUAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND CLASSIC 2024 ROLLING THUNDER WEST MI CHAPTERS 1 & 4 ROLLING THUNDER EAST MI CHAPTER 5	27	28	29	30	31	2ND ANNUAL BEETER'S BIKE SHOW

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HOT RODS TOPICS

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May is already here, and there are so many events and fundraisers that will be popping up all around the state to get your attention. Please continue to be kind and helpful in any way and wherever you can. As motorcyclists, we know that it almost goes without saying, right? It means so much to whatever or whomever you decide to donate to and believe me when I tell you that anything you can do will make a difference in someone's life. It is worth every minute of your time and every penny you donate!

Also, don't forget May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. Get to your local Township or City Administrator and get your proclamation designating May as Motorcycle Awareness Month and help save lives!

On a sad note, our organization recently lost two members in a month. One to cancer and the other to unfortunate health issues. When you lose a brother or sister all the memories can come rushing back of all the times that you hung out. Like conversations over drinking a beer or sharing a meal. Or the times you laughed together, rode together, went to parties, family events, and then suddenly, they are no longer here. You feel that a part of you has been taken away and it's so darn hard to just let go of all the good and bad times that you shared together. Bikers have the biggest hearts, and we couldn't ask for better brothers or sisters who would help at a drop of a dime to be there for you when you need them the most. All that toughness that we are assumed to have can quickly go away and the caring, gentleness and concern for our brothers or sisters comes to light. There is no better feeling than knowing that. The memories we make together are priceless and unforgettable! We will miss you John (Stubs) Jackson and Adolph Mulzer. May you ride to heaven with the wind at your back and no obstacles in your way. Throttle down hard and ride free my brothers! St. Peter will open the gates to heaven when he hears you coming. Ride and rest forever in peace. Stay safe,

HOT ROD BEATON
President / Hot Rods Motorcycle Awareness and Suicide Prevention Foundation

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REGIONS AND CONTACTS

It's another beautiful day here in Gladwin, MI and I'm quickly getting used to this occasional 70-degree weather. It's great to have the windows open and the smell of a bonfire in the breeze. Hopefully everyone has been enjoying it right along with us!

This month I'd like to honor some very good people that volunteer their hearts, minds, and souls to ABATE of Michigan. They lead their regions with great care and bring so much joy when they see us attending their meetings or others. You'll hear me say it repeatedly, I'm so proud to be a part of this magnificent group of regional coordinators or as we are called, RC's. So, without further ado let me introduce them to you and share where they are located in this beautiful state of Michigan. When you can, go and enjoy a beverage, a meal, or a ride with them. They all do a great job creating and planning events to give you the perfect day or weekend ride. They are there for you and welcome you to join them once a month for a meeting. There are some changes going on currently and some of the Regions may show TBD until things get settled, but they do exist!

Region 1: TBD

Counties: Keweenaw, Gogebic, Ontonagon, Houghton, Baraga, Iron

Region 2: Travis Graham

Meetings on the 2nd Saturday at Hubert House
9929 S. North Hubert Rd.
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Counties: Schoolcraft, Luce, Chippewa, Mackinac

Region 3: Van Dunson

Meetings on the 1st Wednesday at Johnny's Torch Riviera
12899 Cherry Rd.
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Counties: Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee, Wexford, Grand Traverse, Missaukee, Kalamazoo, Antrim

Region 4: Dave Etherton

Meetings will be determined, check out their FB page for location. Counties: Charlevoix, Emmet, Cheboygan, Presque Isle

Region 5: Cindy "Gizmo" Meloche

Meetings on the 1st Sunday at 1:00. Find them on Facebook.
Counties: Mason, Lake, Oceana, Newaygo, Muskegon

Region 6: Merry Garrett

Meetings on the 2nd Sunday 1:00pm at Baileys Bar and Grill
Bay City, MI
Counties: Gladwin, Arenac, Midland, Bay

Region 7: Tim Polk

Meetings from November-April on the 1st Sunday 2:00pm at Lucky Thumb MC Club
May-October at Evergreen Park, Caro, MI.
Counties: Huron, Tuscola, Salina

Region 8: Robert "X" Meloche

Meetings: TBD
Counties: Ottawa, Kent, Allegan, Barry

Region 9: Nick Henry

Counties: Ionia, Clinton, Eaton, Ingram

Region 10: Vern Stock

Meetings on the 1st Sunday at 3:00pm at Ghost Town Saloon, Elwell, MI
September, November, January, March, May, July
Evergreen Tavern, Hemlock, MI
October, December, February, April, June, August
Counties: Gratiot, Saginaw

Region 11: Richard Snooks

Meetings on the 1st Wednesday at 7:00pm at Chicky's Paradise, Almont, MI and the Last Wednesday at 7pm at Total Sports Production, Harrison Township
Counties: Lapeer, St. Clair, Macomb

Region 12: Dan Eby

Meetings on the 1st Sunday at 1:00pm at Paw Paw Eagles, Lawton
Counties: Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Barrion, Cass, St. Joe

Region 13: Dan Kenzie

Meetings on the 1st Sunday at 12:00pm
Proud Vets, Parma, MI
Counties: Calhoun, Jackson, Branch, Hillsdale

Region 14: Shiny Bob

Meetings on the 4th Sunday at 4:00pm at Saline American Legion, Saline, MI
Counties: Livingston, Washtenaw

Region 15: Robert Prine

Meetings on the 3rd Sunday at 3:00pm
VFW Post, Romulus, MI
Counties: Wayne

Region 16: Jesse Gordy

Meetings: TBD
Counties: Montmorency, Alpena, Alcona, Crawford, Roscommon, Ogemaw

Region 17: TBD

Counties: Marquette, Alger, Dickerson, Delta, Menominee

Region 18: Leroy Cuykendall III

Meetings on the 1st Sunday at 2:00pm
Veterans Hall, Maybee, MI
Counties: Lenawee, Monroe

Region 19: Bill Stewart

Meetings on the 1st Tuesday at 7:00pm at The Shark Club, Waterford, MI
Counties: Oakland

Region 20: Mark Berger

Meetings on the last Sunday at 2:00pm at TBD
Counties: Genessee, Shiawassee

Region 21: Craig Brown

Meetings TBD
Counties: Oscoda, Clare, Mecosta, Isabella, Montcalm

We encourage you to visit the ABATE of Michigan website at <http://www.abateofmichigan.org>

There you will find information on everything from who our officers and board members are, see how to purchase ABATE products, and where our events will be held in each region. We would love to have you join us at any number of these regions. If you have questions, you can contact me, Merry Garrett at merrysgarrett@yahoo.com Until then, ride like you never have done before.

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*Peace and love to all,
Merry*



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42nd ANNUAL MOTHERS DAY SWAP MEET AND BIKE SHOW

WHERE: Midland Co. Fairgrounds

6905 Eastman Ave. • Midland, MI 48642

WHEN: MOTHERS DAY
May 12, 2024



Admission: \$5.00

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BULLET POINTS

BY GREG DENAY, AKA JOHNNY

Happy May everybody! I certainly do hope all is well with all of you wonderful readers! I'm going to change things up a little bit this month from my normal rantings. I'm going to share my and my wife's experience of a unique Concealed Pistol License (CPL) class that we took. Though I already have my CPL, I wanted to compare this class to the class I took 4 years ago.

I had been bugging my wife, "Stabby", to get her Concealed Pistol License ever since I got mine. She was always hesitant to do so for the fact that she wasn't overly confident shooting a pistol, let alone carrying one. She had always shot rifles and smaller pistols outdoors, so after multiple trips to the gun range, she finally felt comfortable enough and decided to "pull the trigger". I told her to pick where she wanted to go, and after some looking around and feedback from some friends of ours that went there, she decided on Applied Training Solutions (ATS) in Midland, MI.

As I couldn't summarize it any better, straight from their website (www.simu-range.com): "The Applied Training Solutions Academy is a firearms training and skills training center located in the Midland Mall. The Academy is an initiative of Applied Training Solutions, LLC and was created to deliver world-class firearms training to both civilian and law enforcement personnel. ATS-Academy provides training and firearms learning experiences that are unavailable from other instructors or training centers in the Midwest. Our team of combat experienced instructors have developed a science-based curriculum of skills building drills and lessons that are not widely available. By leveraging the ATS-Midland Digital and private Live Fire Training Range, their unique experiences can be translated into training that is delivered in an environment both safe and conducive to learning. The lessons are designed to meet the need of both novice, advanced, and professional firearms users."

Now that she had decided where the best class for her



was, there was only one problem, she wouldn't go alone. I had to go with her. If you have been to a CPL class before, you know how boring they can be. I knew I was going to be in for a long Saturday, so I was trying to think of ways to liven it up. At first, I had settled on being "that guy" and asking a thousand questions that are completely irrelevant to the class but then I thought "she might stab me".

So, I decided to not be an a**hole for once and write an article on the experience. I know those of you that actually do know me are completely shocked.

We got to ATS (located in the Midland, MI mall) and signed in. Upon arrival, I met Kevin and pulled him to the side explaining who I was and that I was there mostly for moral support for my wife, but that I would also like to write about our experience for Thunder Roads Michigan Magazine. He readily agreed. Jason was the one doing much of the instruction. Jason was very knowledgeable and, like most instructors, tried to liven up the (in my opinion) most boring class you'll ever take.

The first hour...well let's just say I don't fully remember. It explained the different types of guns and their firing systems, different types of ammunition, etc. When I wasn't daydreaming or looking around, I would find myself



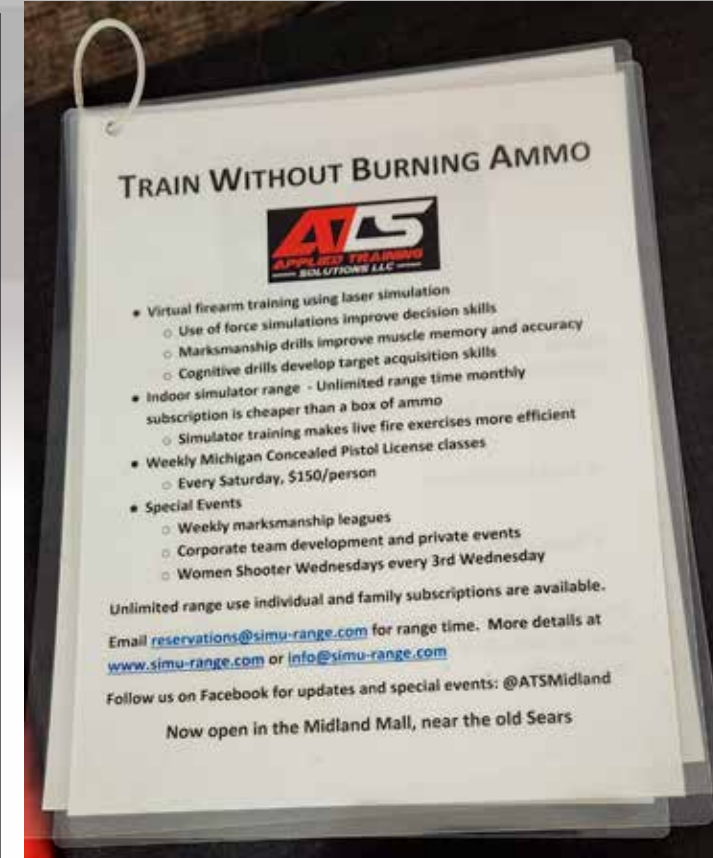
mumbling what he was going to say before he said it. I would like to reiterate that is NOT a knock on Jason, it's that I already knew everything he was explaining. Jason did a much better job than the instructor I used 4 years ago.

Now comes the unique part of this class, the part I was looking forward to seeing. The Smokeless Range. Their website states "Smokeless Range is a development tool for both cognitive skills and marksmanship training." To me it looked like laser tag for adults, but with a purpose. The computer had ten different scenarios that you could run, and each one could be adjusted to varying levels of difficulty.

After establishing that everybody knew how to grip a pistol properly, it was time to "shoot". First up was Match Target. As soon as the image popped on the screen you had a shape and color that you had to find to shoot. Green circle, red square, blue hexagon, etc. This was working on identifying and finding the target. There were 14 targets in all for this stage. Then came the pop-up targets that is called the Transitional Drill. The silhouetted man would pop on the screen, and you got two shots, then it would pop up again in a different spot and again, two shots. Five targets in total.

After some fun with the simulated live fire, it was time for the most boring, but important part, laws, civil liability, and the use of deadly force. This portion must be taught by an attorney, or someone trained in the use of deadly force per Michigan law. Again, I tried to resist the urge to play on my phone or go and have a smoke, because there isn't anything they are going to say that I don't already know. But I urge you, if you do take a CPL class, PAY ATTENTION HERE! This stuff is important. That is why you'll hear me mention it as much as I can in these articles for you all.

Now for the really fun part, range time. It was roughly a 15-minute drive to the range, and we were given a range time of 4:00pm. Since we left at around 2:45, that gave us an hour to kill. So, we stopped by Lee Bar (as the range is right around the corner) so I could have a beer (poor Stabby



was stuck with H2O) to try and ease my boredom. Don't worry, I wasn't planning on shooting anyways. This was my wife's day.

For as high-tech as this place was, the range surprised me. It was in somebody's backyard. Again, not a bad thing, just surprising. Now I understand why they told us to make sure we had boots. My wife didn't have boots, so after trying to lead her through the mud and water with minimal damage to her shoes, we reached the range. Everybody (excluding me) shot their state mandated 30 rounds of live ammunition out of a Sig Sauer P322. Nobody died or was injured, so in all it was a good time.

All in all, I felt that Applied Training Solutions (ATS) held a great class, for both beginners and experienced alike. In both simulated fire and live fire, both Jason and Kevin had first-class, hands-on training for the students. They answered any and all questions with extensive knowledge and respect. We will definitely be going back there again for some of the other simulated firing classes that they offer. It's a lot cheaper than ammunition after all. Check out their website for various class offers and scheduling. Stabby is especially looking into the Woman Shooter Wednesdays. Until next time, vote accordingly.

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2024

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JULY 4: 7th ANNUAL MBL THUMB RUN *4 MEET UP LOCATIONS

JULY 18-21: REBEL ROAD, MUSKEGON MI

AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 1: FREEDOM FEST, AKRON MI

SEPTEMBER 7-9: BIKES ON THE BRICKS, FLINT MI

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CARAMEL OIL SLICK

- CARAMEL SYRUP
- 1½ OUNCES SALTED CARAMEL VODKA
- ¾ OUNCE COFFEE LIQUEUR
- ¾ OUNCE CREAM

1. SWIRL THE CARAMEL SYRUP IN A ROCKS GLASS.
 2. ADD ICE, SALTED CARAMEL VODKA, COFFEE LIQUEUR, AND CREAM IN A COCKTAIL SHAKER.
1. SHAKE TO CHILL.
 2. STRAIN INTO THE PREPARED ROCKS GLASS OVER ICE.



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JOKER'S WILD



How's y'all's summer body goals looking? Mine is looking like I got a great personality!!

"I could stay awake just to hear you breathing Watch you smile while you're sleeping ..."
 Aerosmith = Romantic
 Rest of Us = Restraining Order

My wife is always on my azz cause I don't put things back where I got them, and then got really mad when I told her that People that are organized are just too lazy to have to look for things. She just walked out, so score!, yet again I proved her wrong.

(*An anagram is any word you can scramble the letters and create another word.)

"Dad, why is my sister named Teresa?"
 "Because you Mom loves Easter and Teresa is an anagram of Easter."
 "Oh, thanks Dad, that makes sense."
 "No problem, Alan."

A man and his wife, moved back home to their beloved Tennessee, from Minnesota. The husband had a wooden leg, and to insure it back in Minnesota would cost them \$2000 per year. When they arrived in Tennessee, they went to an insurance agency to see how much it would cost to insure his wooden leg. The agent looked it up on the computer and said: "\$39. even". The husband was shocked and asked why it was so cheap here in Tennessee to insure it because it cost him \$2,000 in Minnesota? The insurance agent turned his computer screen to the couple and said, "Well, here it is on the screen, it says: Any wooden structure, with a sprinkler system above it, is \$39. You just have to know how to describe your current situation. (*Hillbillies have a creativity all their own).

A woman made an appointment with her all-knowing Fortune Teller whom after reading her palms, her tarot cards and her crystal ball declared: "Your husband will meet a very violent end." Me: "Yes, I know, but will I be convicted?"

Jerry likes to share weird but true little gems of trivia that people won't soon forgeti.e., Elephants masturbate by slapping their massive penis against their chest until they ejaculate. (*if you googled that join the club)

After this recent eclipse, y'all women need to remember how big of a deal an event that only lasts 4 minutes actually is - - -

Kid in the back seat throwing a fit because he only has 20 movies to watch - Dad looks at kid in rearview mirror, locking eyes, and says, "When I was a kid, I watched the same thing every trip, it was called the window!"

Kids advice on marriage: Tell your wife she looks pretty, even if she looks like a dump truck. (* this kid is going places)

Lil' Joey just replaced the can of air freshner in the church bathroom with an air horn. And now, we wait.

Scrappy, a local beachgoer, couldn't even get a second look from any of the girls on the beach. So he headed over to Razor, at the lifeguard tower, to see if he had any advice for him. "Dude, it's obvious," said Razor. "You're wearing those gnarly old swimming trunks that make you look like an old geezer. They're majorly outta' style. Your best bet is to get yourself a Speedo—say, two sizes too small—and drop a potato inside it. You'll have all the babes you can handle, dude." The following weekend, Scrappy hits the beach with his brand-spanking-new tight-ass neon green Speedo and his potato, and it's not long before he approaches Razor at the lifeguard tower once more. "For cryin' out loud," yells Scrappy, "it's worse than before! Everyone on the beach acts digusted as I walk by, covering their faces, turning away, laughing! What's wrong now?" "Jeez, Scrap!" shrieks Razor, "The potato goes in front, dude!!"

Happy Mother's Day Amazing Women!

EVENTS



THUNDER ROADS®
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Magazine

May 2024

May 3

-Harley-Davidson Demo Truck Vehicle City Harley-Davidson 2400 Austins Pkwy. Flint, MI
Check out Facebook for details

May 4

-2nd Annual Houghton Lake Blessing of the Bikes
The Chamber of Commerce
1625 W. Houghton Lake Dr.
Houghton Lake, MI
All Day Event!
See ad for details

-51st Annual Fowlerville Swap Meet
Fowlerville Fairgrounds
Fowlerville, MI
Check out Facebook for details

-Blessing of the Bikes
Bikers Against Bullies USA
Horace Blackman Park
212 E. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, MI
11:30am-3:30pm
Check out Facebook for details

-Destined to be Blessed 4 Annual Bike Blessing
301 W. Michigan Ave.
Ypsilanti, MI
2:00pm-7:00pm

-Harley-Davidson Demo Truck Vehicle City Harley-Davidson 2400 Austins Pkwy. Flint, MI
Check out Facebook for details

-Port Huron Motorcycle Club 300 Ft Dirt Drags Test-n-tune 3376 Griswold Rd. Port Huron, MI 12:00pm-6:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

May 5

-2nd Annual MS'D with the wrong MF'R Bike Run
Scooters Bar & Grill
6004 Torrey Rd.
Flint, MI
Registration 9:30am-11:00am | KSU @ 11:00am

-7th Annual Motorcycle Swap Meet
AMCA Metro Detroit Chapter
Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds
751 S. Almont Ave.
Imlay City, MI
9:00am-3:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

-24th Annual Blessing of the Bikers Church of the Living Work 1100 N. Ovid Rd. Ovid, MI
Check out Facebook for details

-104th Annual Spring Run
5803 Lake Harbor Rd
North Shores, MI
Gates Open 8:00am
Ride at 11:30am

-Poker Run
American Legion Post 48
731 N. Clinton St.
Grand Ledge, MI
Registration 11:00am-Noon
Check out Facebook for details

May 11
-5th Annual Blessing of the Bikes
Dearborn Heights Moose Riders
27225 W. Waren St.
Dearborn Heights, MI
2:00pm-12:00am

-ABATE Region 10 Spring Fling Annual Membership Ride
Farmers Home Tavern
Hemlock, MI
Sign up at 10:00am KSU at 11:00am

-Andrew's Fundraiser Event
Scooters Bar & Grill
6004 Torrey Rd.
Flint, MI
2:00pm-6:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

-Bike Run
American Legion Riders Post 22
2200 S. Niagara St.
Saginaw, MI
Sign up at 11:00am | First Bike out at Noon
Check out Facebook for details

-Blessing for Jessica
Zips 45th Parallel Harley- Davidson
980 S. Wisconsin
Gaylord, MI
12:00pm-4:00pm
For more info:
Kim @ 989-370-1392 or Rachelle @ 231-350-2528

-Motorcycle Summer Kick-off Party
Bishop Murphy Knights on Bikes
22040 Tyan Rd.
Warren, MI
4:00pm-Midnight
Check out Facebook for details

-RPM Promotions Midland MI 1/2 Mile
Midland County Fairgrounds
6905 Eastman Ave.
Midland, MI
3:00pm-10:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

-Zero Motorcycle Demo Day
Triumph Detroit
47488 Van Dyke Ave.
Shelby Township, MI
10:00am
Check out Facebook for details

May 12
-42nd Annual Mother's Day Swap Meet & Bike Show
Midland County Fairgrounds
6905 Eastman Ave.
Midland, MI
10:00am-3:00pm
Admission: \$5.00
Check out Facebook for details

-ABATE Region 7 Motorcycle Awareness Ride
Evergreen Park
4731 N Van Dyke Rd.
Cass City, MI
Ride Starts at Noon

May 17
-52nd Annual Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes
Baldwin, MI
www.lakecountymichigan.com

May 18
-52nd Annual Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes
Baldwin, MI
www.lakecountymichigan.com

-49th Annual Hobo Dinner & Poker Run
Ghost Riders
1000 Glenhill Hwy.
Clayton, MI
Sign up at 11:00am | First out at 1:00pm

-BMWCMGR Vintage Motorcycle Meet
5995 Division Ave. S.
Grand Rapids, MI
9:00am
Check out Facebook for details

EVENTS



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-Port Huron Motorcycle Club 300 Ft Dirt Drags Test-n-tune 3376 Griswold Rd. Port Huron, MI 12:00pm-6:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

May 19

-52nd Annual Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes
Baldwin, MI
www.lakecountymichigan.com

-Blessing of the Bikes
AGAPE Apostolic Church
11117 Whittaker Rd.
Milan, MI
Gates Open at 2:00pm
Blessing @ 4:00
For more info 877-8-AGAPE-8

May 22

-Motorcycle Insurance Info with Tim from State Farm
Sanford America Legion Post 443
2080 N. Meridian Rd.
Sanford, MI
6:00pm-7:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

May 25

-Bubba's 23rd Annual Memorial Weekend Classic 2024
804 S. Huron
Linwood, MI
Charity Bike Show
Sign up 10:00am-12:00pm
for info call 989-697-5525
See Ad for details

-Ray C's Blessing of the Bikes
1491 S Lapeer Rd. (M24 & I69)
Lapeer, MI
Check out Facebook for details

-Remember & Honor
American Legion
59990 S. Main St.
Three Rivers, MI
Starts at Noon
Check out Facebook for details

-Rolling Thunder West MI Chapters 1 & 4
Sandy's Harley-Davidson
11940 N. Maple Island Rd.
Fenton, MI
Bike night & Candlelight Vigil
Check out Facebook for details

-Rolling Thunder East MI Chapter 5
Motor City Harley- Davidson
24800 Haggerty Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI
Flag Raising Ceremony and Pre-ride Event
Check out Facebook for details

-Some Gave All Memorial Weekend Ride
Reining Liberty Ranch
4514 Silver Pines Rd.
Traverse City, MI
9:30am-8:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

May 26

-2nd Annual A Biker's Blessing
1917 S. Washington Ave.
Lansing, MI
Gates Open at 1:00

Bubba's 23rd Annual Memorial Weekend Classic 2024
804 S. Huron
Linwood, MI
Charity Bike Run
Sign up 10:00am-12:00pm
for info call 989-697-5525
See Ad for details

-Remember & Honor Car Truck and Motorcycle Show
33320 Kelly Rd.
Clinton Twp, MI
10:00am-3:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

-Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom
West MI Chapters 1 & 4
American Legion Boat and Canoe
401 N. Park St. N E
Grand Rapids, MI
KSU 8:00am
Ceremony @ State Capital 12:30 PM
Check out Facebook for details

-Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom
East MI Chapter 5
Motor City Harley- Davidson
24800 Haggerty Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI
KSU 8:30
Ceremony @ State Capital 12:30 PM
Check out Facebook for details

May 31

-Military Honor Night
235 W Nepessing St.
Lapeer, MI
6:00pm-10:00pm
Check out Facebook for details

Sneak Peek into June!

June 1

-2nd Annual Beeter's Bike Show
Beeter's Brew Pub
902 E. Pine St.
Sebewaing, MI
Check out Facebook for details

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To get your event listed in Thunder Roads® Magazine and on our web site, send the information to:
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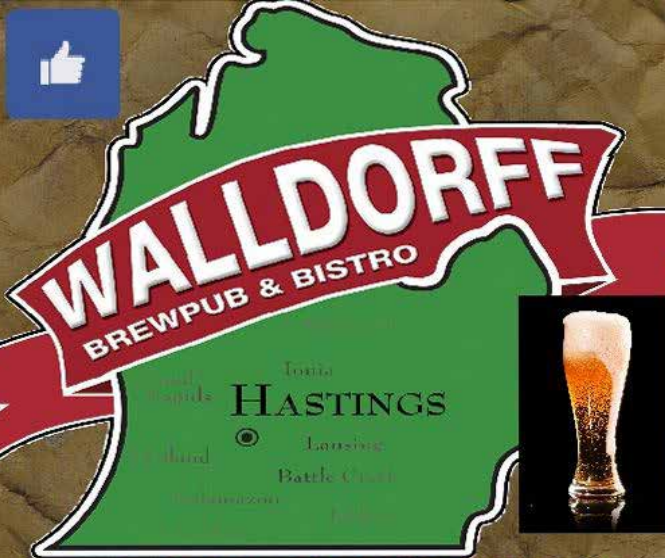
Event information must be received prior to the 10th of the month preceding the event month to be posted in the magazine.


Remember to call ahead before planning to attend any event as the information/dates may change. Thunder Roads® Michigan is Not responsible for errors or omissions.

Just For Fun





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

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- Roosters Corner - Gladwin
- Ryders Bar & Grill - Midland
- Tool Shed Pub & Grub - Munger
- The Otherside Bar & Grill - Freeland
- Trackside Food & Spirits - Reese
- The Whiskey Jar - Brown City

WEDNESDAYS

- Ghost Town Saloon - Elwell
- Iron Horse Bar & Grill - Akron
- Scooter's Bar & Grill - Flint

THURSDAYS

- Auburn Hotel & Tavern - Auburn
- Beeter's Brew Pub - Sebawaing
- Birch Run Speedway - Birch Run
- Buckley Roadside Bar - Buckley
- Lee Bar & Grill - Midland
- The Tippy Cowboy - 4th Thursday of Every Month - Pinconning
- Vehicle City Harley-Davidson - Flint

FRIDAYS

- 2 Wheel Tavern - Wolverine
- 11:11 Bar & Grill - Bay City
- Parisville Saloon - Parisville

SUNDAYS

- Chicky's Paradise Saloon - Almont
- Otter Lake Bar - Otter Lake

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

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