The Biking Life MAGAZINE

JULY 2014

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COVER PHOTO: THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN AT BLACK DIAMOND HARLEY DAVIDSON IN MARION, IL WHEN GOVERNOR QUINN WAS THERE TO SIGN THE POKER RUN BILL, ALSO PICTURED IS STATE SENATOR FORBY A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF BIKERS.

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Letter from the Publisher
By Jim Furey

ould it be? Is summer truly finally here? Boy it seems like it has taken forever but with the advent of the new month perhaps we can finally string together some nice days to get some riding in. We are proud to be once again be supporting the Metro East March of Dimes Bikers for Babies Ride this year. This year the ride is going to start at Wild Country in Collinsville, IL, sign up is from 9:00 AM to noon, from there the riders will have a great scenic ride up the Great River Road to historic Grafton, IL and one of our favorite destinations the Hawg Pit. We hope to see you here.

July is another busy month for us. If you cannot make it to the Bikers fir babies Ride then we invite you to visit us at our annual free swap meet, this year's event will be held at Big St Charles Motorsports and this promises to be our biggest outdoors free event ever. Our 11th anniversary party is coming up on August 10 and we look forward to riding with some of our best friends and enjoying the day.

Over the years publishing this magazine, I have allowed it to take away from riding time. In the past I drove to too many events. How can I get a true feel for a ride or an event when I'm at some static location, hawking shirts, the past couple of years I have tried to wean myself from that behavior and I tell you I'm not really missing it at all. I have done several rides this year most notably one of my favorites the Motorhead's Run and in addition to those I have just put on more miles by myself. And you know what I am digging it.

You know if you are too busy to ride then you are just plain too busy. Also some 238 years ago, a group of rebels probably not a lot different from the bikers of today got together to throw off the shackles of tyranny. Many of them did this at great risk to themselves, their families and in some cases their businesses. While you are enjoying the fourth of July holiday take a moment and think about what it means. Think about that small group of men who wanted something better for themselves and their families. I wonder how many of us today would be willing to take the same gamble those brave folks did all those years ago.

Well time to hit the roads on the bike and till next time thanks for making us part of your biking life.

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Hardtail Humor

One for the guys:
A drunk biker is riding through the city and his bike is weaving violently all over the road. An Irish cop pulls him over. The cop says to the biker, "Where have you been?" "I've been to the pub," slurs the biker. "Well," says the cop, "It looks like you've had quite a few." "I did all right," the biker says with a smile. "Did you know," says the cop, standing straight and folding his arms, "that a few intersections back, your wife fell off the bike?" "Oh, thank heavens" sighs the biker. "For a minute there, I thought I'd gone deaf."

One for the girls:
This biker lady has a heart attack and is taken to the hospital. While on the operating table, she had a near death experience. Seeing God, she asked, "Is my time up?" God said, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months, and 8 days to live."
Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a facelift, liposuction, and tummy tuck. Since she had so much more time to live, new roads to ride, she figured she might as well look even nicer.
After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While riding her motorcycle home, she was run into by a delivery truck and killed. Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 40+ years? How come you didn't pull me out of the path of that freakin' truck?"
God replied, "I didn't recognize you."

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SAYING THANK YOU

I love to hear the stories the bikers tell about how God has protected them over the past year after they attended a bike blessing. They've talked about close calls on the roads, bad weather conditions, losing a credit card or wallet, or getting really sick miles away from home. They are thankful they got home, safe and without a lot of problems.

Are you grateful that God has provided you with safety and protection during travels? Have you thanked God for your family and friends - and what about your home, apartment or roof over your head? Kathy and I were blessed with good jobs and our dads always had jobs. We never experienced going without food or housing. While Kathy was single, she was out having dinner with a date and his daughter. The daughter questioned him about saying grace at the table. She did not want to be embarrassed. The dad replied, "I have been hungry and without food and a home, and I will not eat without thanking God for the blessing of food and things God has now given me." (He was a vet and had spent many nights in a field away from protection. He really knew how important it was to be grateful.) This story makes me realize how often we take God's daily blessings for granted.

The Bible tells us the story of when Jesus healed a group of lepers. "As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him - and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" (Luke 17:12-17, NIV) Jesus knew all ten were healed – and He also knew that only one person came back to say Thank You.

Our parents teach us while we are very young to say thank you when we receive gifts. This habit should not change as we get older. When we receive a gift, we should say thank you. This is no different with God, our heavenly Father. When we receive a gift, a blessing, an answer to prayer, we should always, immediately, thank God. A simple whisper, acknowledging God's touch on our life, is all that's needed. But with some of the wonderful things that happen to us, maybe we should be a little louder and a lot happier in our thanks. Just as God hears our requests, he also "delights" in our praise. King David wrote so many praises, here's just one: "You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness; That my soul may sing praise to You, and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever. (Psalm 30:11-12.) David had a child die, had committed adultery, lived in exile, lived in caves, his best friend had died, but he still remembered the blessings of God and gave thanks for those blessings. We should do the same.

If you don't know how to pray, to simply talk to God and say "Thank You," talk to a Christian biker at the next function you attend. Find a local biker-friendly church. If you don't know one, call us and we'll help you find one. If you need prayer, we're here for you if you need us. You can reach Kathy and me at 314-434-2282 or e-mail me at h2osjk@att.net; or you can contact the CMA Missouri State Coordinators, Brad & Angie Barton at 573-576-8216, Email: bartonscma@gmail.com; or the CMA Illinois State Coordinators who are Doug Johnson at 630-878-2801 E-mail dougj@gmail.com and Karl Huckshold at 618-478-5303.

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Catfish Blessings
By Heather Harrop

Beer, barbeque, bands, body piercings/tattoos and bike blessings…who knew those things went together? Catfish did!

I was lucky enough to attend the 2nd Annual Blessing of the Bikes at Catfish's Sandy Ridge Again on May 17th. This is a cool bar off of Camp Jackson Rd in Cahokia, IL. The inside is spacious enough for a band and dancing while the outside has its own bar, a nice area for horseshoes, a stage, and plenty of room for outside fun.

While the chilly and possible rainy weather scared off some, a good amount of bikes still lined the grass. Individuals and groups were treated to a blessing near their bikes and a cross from the Sons of Thunder Motorcycle Ministry.

The sweet smell of barbeque wafted through the air. The guys from F.B.I. Competition BBQ Team were doing what they do best…grilling up some good eats. We grabbed a seat and enjoyed some delicious barbeque. Adults and children alike danced to the musical stylings of Stan Denton and The Wanted.

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If anyone felt like playing a game, Bra Pong was set up by Race for the Cure Team Brenda. What is Bra Pong? It is a tall board with different sized bras stuck to it. The object of the game is to stand at the line and try to make a ball into a bra cup. If you do, you win a free beer. All of the proceeds went to Race for the Cure. Sounds like a win-win to me! Pictured is Brenda Cobb, breast cancer survivor, along with her family and friends: Carrie Lewis, Stephanie Gesiriech, Sherry Lewis and Debbie Ball. Congrats to Brenda for being cancer-free!

The fun wasn't all outdoors. Inside, drinks were flowing, music was playing and laughter

was abundant. Hollywood Ink took over the band/dance floor area and was ready to do tattoos and body piercings.

Everyone seemed to be having a blast. Thanks to Catfish for having us all out and to Sons of Thunder for the blessings. This is an event that you won't want to miss next year. Check out Catfish's Sandy Ridge Again on Facebook or better yet, just go on down to the bar and have yourself a great time!

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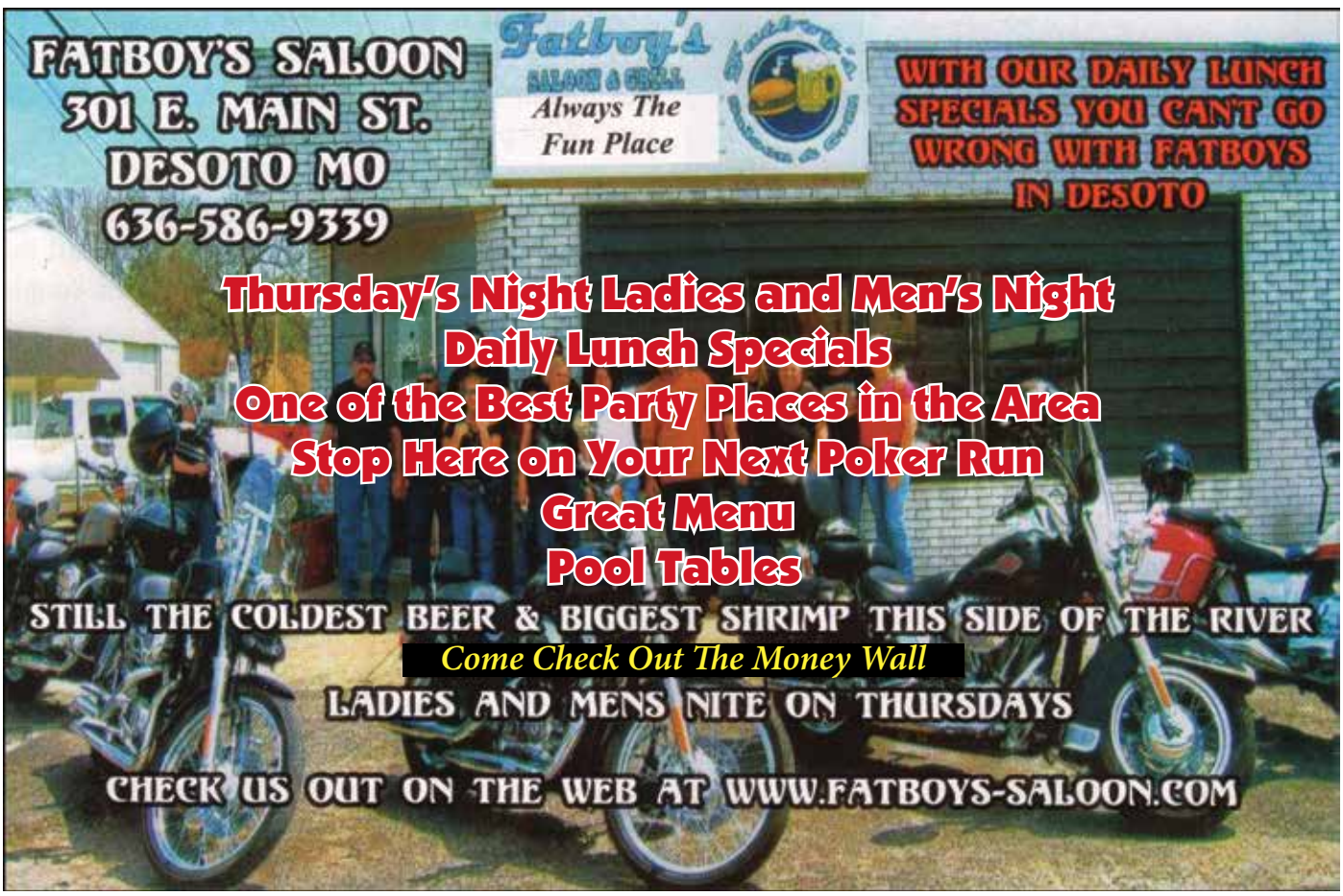

BIKE WEEK 2014

Safely ensconced indoors with the thermostat cresting 70 degrees we ride the winter out anticipating the arrival of riding season. The first party to help us shake off the winter blues is Bike Week in Daytona, Florida. Some just dream about going & then there are those of us that have to go to satisfy a restless spirit, bragging rights, a sense of belonging, or whatever the reason, we go. Next is the issue of how exactly do we get there? Do we trailer or do we ride? It's still cold enough to freeze the feathers off a Wooden Indian up north so if you're on two wheels it's a Polar Bear run, & when you get there you can break out the "Nice Trailer Sissy" T-Shirt. If you're towing you can cruise through the weather in comfort & still enjoy the party with your ego intact because riding in subzero temperatures may not be the smartest move one would make. I've made the loop there & back on two wheels & from experience I can attest to the fact it's no joy ride! This particular Bike Week we trailered but we've been living out of our camper for seven weeks prior to the rally from Fort Walton Beach to Miami in the Sunshine State trying to escape the winter curse. But hey, we're Biker's & this is what we do whether riding or towing we show up for the party. Let's take a look at the party. Bike Week 2014 observed.

Rolling into town on International Speedway Blvd. carries you past the race track & will dead end at the Atlantic Ocean. All of the vendors are situated at the race track as are the bike factory tents. Factory demo rides are scheduled throughout the day if you care to test out the new product lines. The Factory tents offer theme clothing & info on new products. Outside the tents are the Babes whose jobs are to get you in the tents & keep you there. Vending ranges from Christian Motorcycle Ministries, biker clothing, bike accessories, Pin Stripping, Dyno testing, right on to J&P aftermarket parts. Whatever you're looking for you should be able to find it there. This too is a really good spot to check out all the bikers pride & joy, if you like looking at or photographing motorcycles. While in this area of town just about any type of food can be located along Speedway Blvd. My favorite is Cracker Barrel that's just next door to the Speedway.

Continued on page 14

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A right on Speedway Blvd. sets you in motion to arrive at the Infamous Main Street to be a part of the endless stream of bike traffic. Parking is $5 per bike if there isn't a spot on the street. What can you expect on Main Street? You can expect to be separated from the gold that you brought with you. If they could figure out a way to charge you to watch the human zoo they would indeed. Lift your camera to take a photo of a woman that came to the dance barely dressed & she'll tell you that's $5.00. No, I don't pay for photos! 99% of the ladies I photograph are pleased to pose for me for free. What can I say? The other 1% I either shoot anyway or just shine them on. Female attendants are paid to sit in the Porta Potty area & they post a sign demanding a tip. At the vending area some builders post a sign wanting you to donate a buck to photograph their bike. Any way you look at it we wind up leaving a lot of gold here for the locals. 2013 Bike Week brought in a whopping $74.8 Million dollars into the city, which is even more than the Daytona 500 brought in.

There were an estimated 500,000 of us that went to Bike Week riding everything imaginable. All the Fine Young Cannibals are mostly on Café Racers. A plethora of old dogs are on Harley's or Trike's. A segment of middle aged riders are on Metric's. College kids on Scooter's & the ladies are on whatever will allow their legs to touch the ground, Three Wheelers, Café Racer's, 883s, Shadows & fat front tired Harley's. Main Street is home to food vendors, beer girls, bands, wet t-shirt contests, shops, bars, & Porta Potties. Bikers trolling the streets are the common denominator but some find a spot & take up residence just to watch the parade of bikes on display.

Bring rain gear cause you're going to need it. Warm riding gear if you plan to stay in town for the night life. Helmets are optional but every year someone falls & busts their melon & dies. If you have plans to ride to Key West expect traffic jams on the bridge on your way back. Country roads really don't exist because dry land is at a premium & is commercialized. Attitude is mostly on an upswing & people are generally friendly.

Be watchful of the biker that has to show off so they don't run you down because every year one of them does or center punches a cage. It's ok to talk to a bike club member that's not a 1%er, but letting 1%ers speak first & not asking question about the club is proper biker etiquette. I don't say these things to discourage you but to school you so you are prepared. If you haven't been to a rally Bike Week is a good start because it is pretty tame compared to Sturgis.

Don't get me wrong you'll find women wrestling in cabbage, wet t-shirt contests, women wearing risqué clothing, & debauchery abounds in the nightlife arenas. That is if that's what you came a thousand miles for. But for the most part the camaraderie, & socialization & the bikes are worth the effort! Orlando is just an hour's ride away if you'd like to visit a theme park. If you're eating hamburgers you're missing a central part of the Florida experience because plenty of restaurants serve up some really nice Sea Food choices. There's a mini rally in New Smyrna Beach just a hop, skip, & a jump south of Daytona on hwy. A1A. A lot of bikers, me included stayed in Central Florida in RV Parks or cheaper motels & ate up the 45 mile ride through small towns & semi-rural roads. If you find yourself on state rd. 19 going through Howey in the Hills slow your horse down to a trot because they are waiting for you. Too you'll find some of the small towns you'll be cruising through host mini rallies. To be honest we just can't do & see all there is that's available for us in one Bike Week so plan on coming back the following year to pick up where you left off.

For a full complement of photos you can go on Face Book to Hombre Have Motorcycle Will Travel & like my page. Whatever you do make sure you get out there and get some of it on you. In The Wind… **Hombre!**

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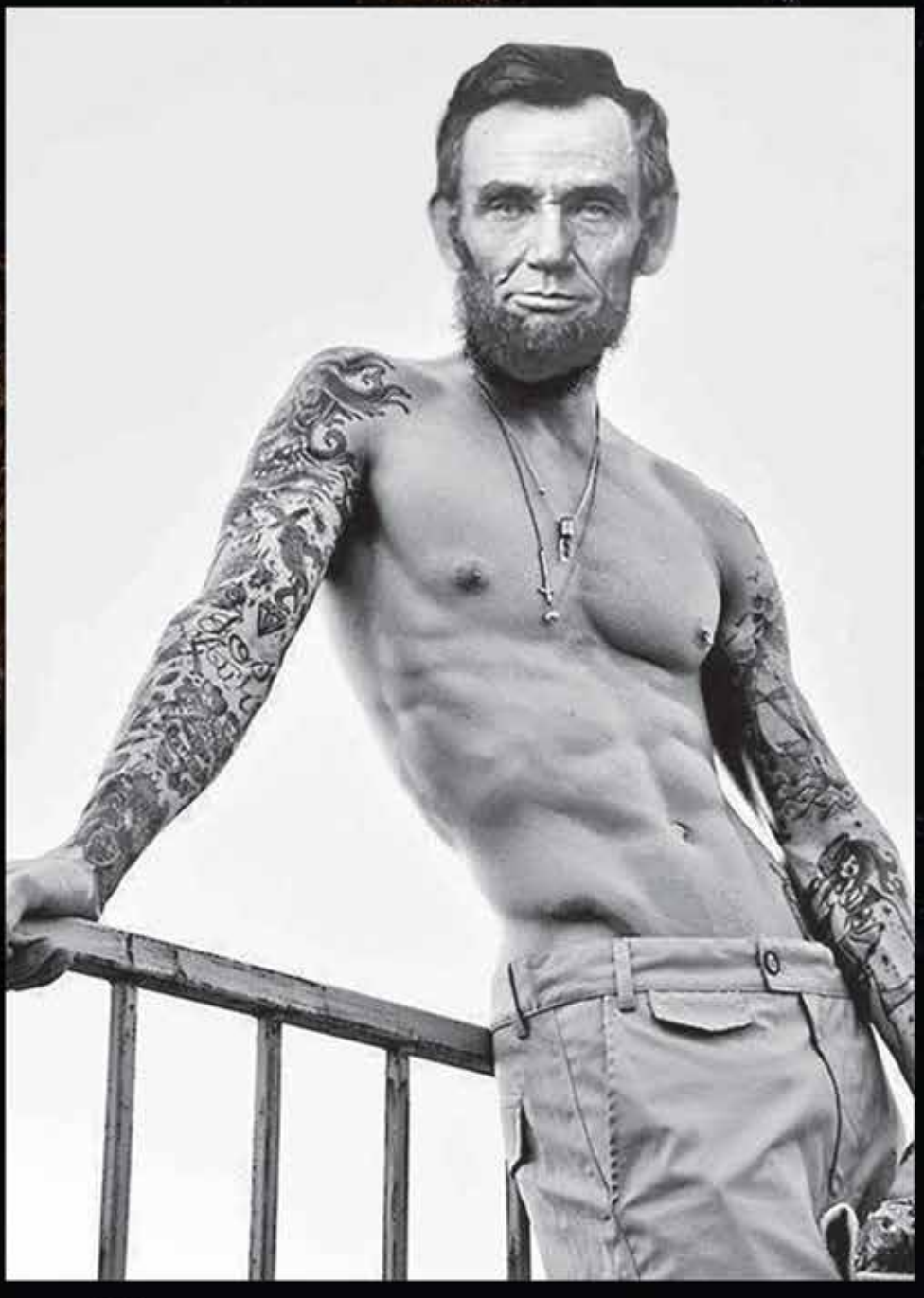

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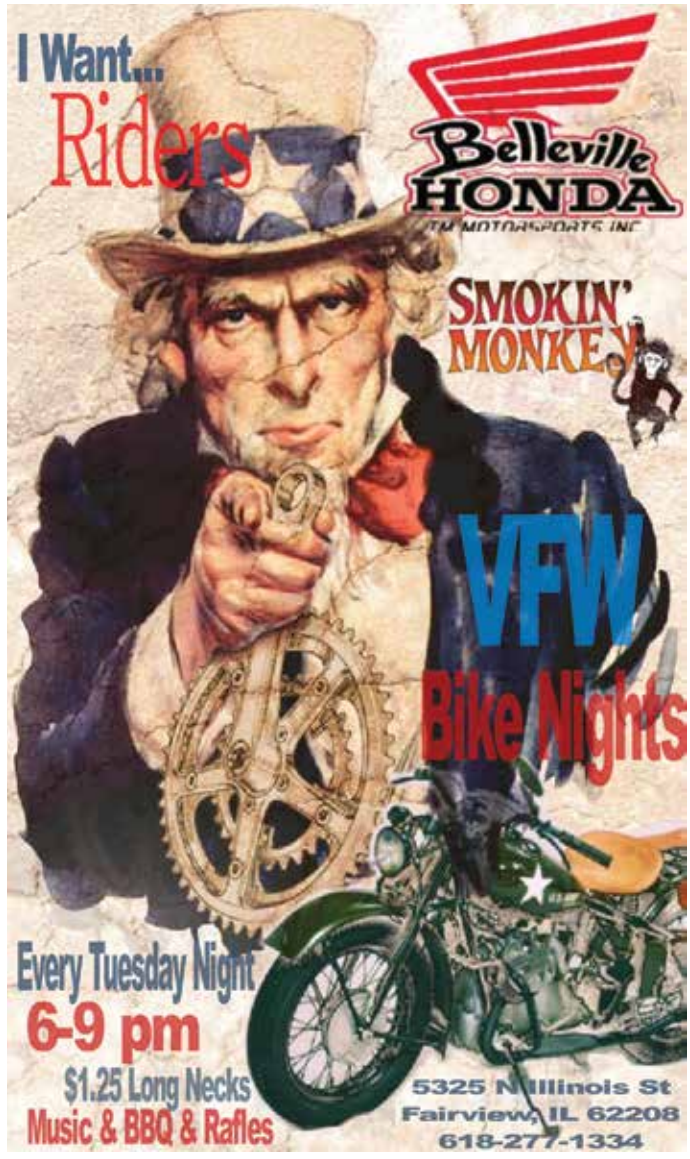

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Poker Run Bill Signed
By Jim Furey

Many times there are unintended consequences to actions. I believe that was the case in the state of Illinois recently, The legislators passed a measure that allowed gambling in a variety of establishments. I am hoping that the impact this had on poker runs, was an unintended consequence.

Almost since the day this law was enacted some dedicated motorcycle supporters in the Illinois Legislature like Senator Gary Forby with the help of A.B.A.T.E. started working on getting this consequence changed. It took many hours and with the clock counting down on the Legislators for this session. A compromise was struck the Poker Run Bill was passed.

This main tenet of this bill was that the final stop for a run has to get a stamp or a permit from the County Clerk of their county and this will run like $25. Prior to this bill all stops would have had to get a very expensive permit with the net result being poker runs as we know them would have become extinct. Now you know why in many areas so far this year there has been fewer poker runs, well the fact is that folks did not want to take a chance.

So this past June 11 Senator Gary Forby, Governor Pat Quinn, Bob Myers and many other dignitaries gathered at Black Diamond Harley Davidson in Marion, Illinois for Governor Quinn's signing of the bill. This was quite a feather in the hat for Shad Zimbro and Rodney Cabaness the owners of the dealership.

They are on of the thriving businesses in Southern Illinois and a centerpiece of the riding community in the region. They host many events at their dealership including a summer concert series. Looking for a fun getaway for a weekend check out southern Illinois.

Our thanks to Governor Quinn and all those who worked so hard to make this bill a reality. It would have been a tragedy to deprive so many worthy causes f one of their primary fund raising activities.

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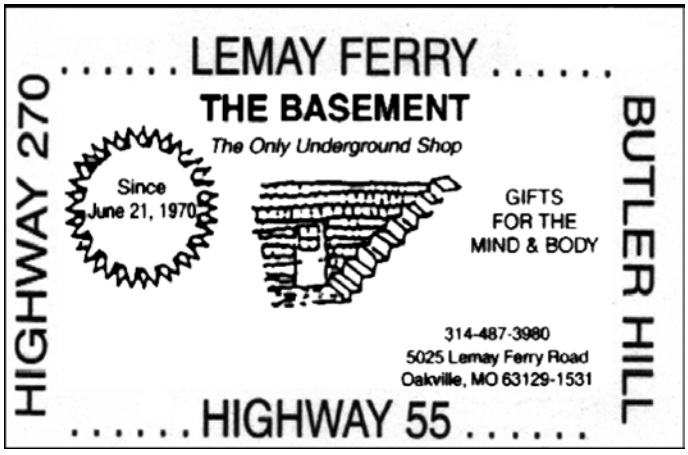
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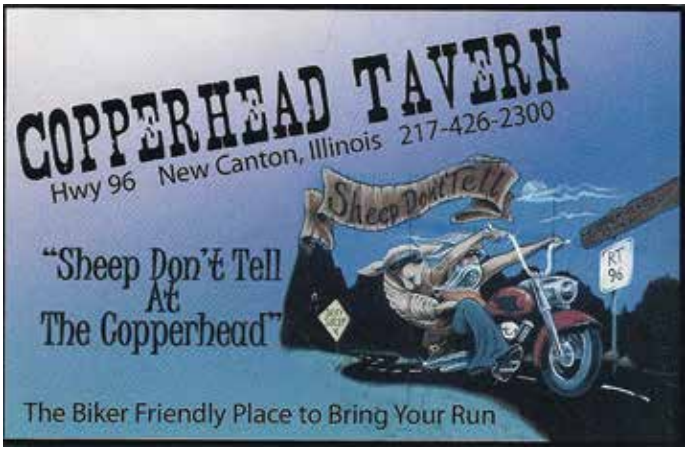
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FORR Blessing

For 28 years now, the Freedom of Road Riders, of St. Louis have put on the Blessing of the Bikes. And for 28 years no matter who I was with, (group wise) or what I was on I have been here. This year was no different so onPpalm Sunday, with a threat of horrible weather coming in Joyce(Mrs Killer) and myself got on red to go get blessed.

While I think the chance of bad weather held attendance down, there was still a nice crowd and it was great to visit with everyone, T Bone and Chopper and the other Statesmen, the Tribe of Judah members and of course the CMA members.

Dale from the Tribe of Judah has an amazing painted Heritage(may be wrong on model) but Darren from Liquid Illusion in the STL laid down the paint work showing the Jesus on the cross with the Romans gambling for his robe and piercing his side. This bike is what he intended it to be a rolling testimony to his faith.

Speaking of faith,getting blessed is why we're all here at the Grand Slam Bar in the rain (yep it got us,) listening to Big Bob recite the poem he wrote for his friend Crash called "God Restored a Harley." Basically (and dog gone it I walked off with out one, someone send that poem to the

Continued on page 22

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Bikers Welcome

mag please,) it says that God can take even the most wretched soul and with time and the right people around that soul and the correct mindset of the person being restored, can make it as new and as shiny as Kevin's(another tribe member.

Red Panhead and while we may think of ourselves as already in pretty good shape, you know that our spirit person is doing great really God see's us as an old wore out motor with rusty broke spokes and a crappy primer paint job with just zippys and duct tape holding our faith together. But he can and will make you new just as new as a bike leaving a great restore shop with a paint job to match Dale's but you got to be willing to admit you ain't all what you should be and that you need the shop.

It ain't easy but it is free, your bills already been paid by Jesus. All you got to do is get your rusty crusty over there to get it done. Now dig the pictures it was a real joy seeing everybody (especially the crew that's been there for awhile (you know who you are) nice new bike Hank and that makes 17, right Mrs Killer till next year Killer out riding Blessed.

Killer Opinion

From the Freedom Desk, noise our next battle and how they will take away our toys, don't think it can happen look at Germany. I know I am going to piss off a lot of people. Ok, that being said we as bikers need to come to the quick belief that everyone who ain't us hates us.

They may like our money but they hate us and will do what ever it takes, however illogical, it may seem to stop us riding and by our own misguided belief we fall into their trap. Loud pipes save lives, yes they may , they will however also cost you your right to ride a modified (chopper or any other) bike. Because when minivan mom gets her windows rattled by you as you go on your way she gets pissed off, gets together with like minded moms and then the dads that don't ride and are p whipped fall into line and pretty soon you got people jumping up and down at city hall demanding noise ordinances.

And then you got no more loud stereo's no more loud diesel trucks(and your saying whats bad about this) and no more modified bikes because they will start with exhaust and go through the whole bike for our own good, mind you to be , we are safe and calm no more. Yes I have aftermarket pipes with mufflers, and I love the sound of a good bike on the highway at night but not everyone does and remember your right to swing your fist ends at my nose. We have the chance in this country to show how GREEN and good bikes are right now lets not as a group F it up I am not saying don't ride loud and proud I am saying use your brain and remember where your doing it at, ride happy.Killer

The Biking Life MAGAZINE

The Biking Life MAGAZINE

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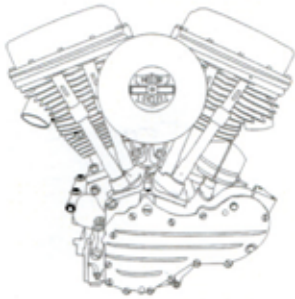

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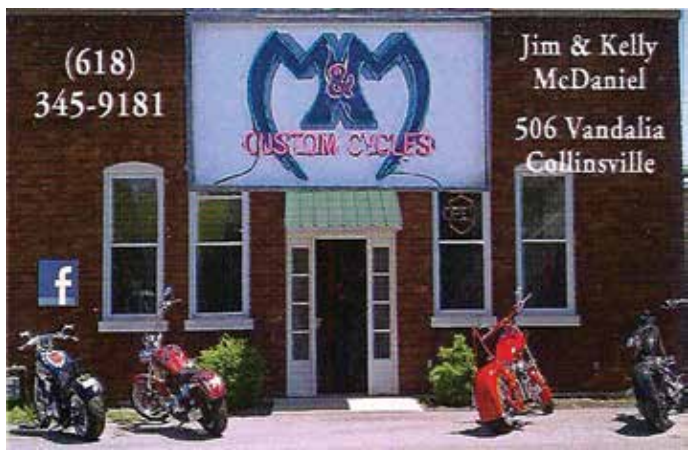

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Upcoming Events

Weekly Events

Tuesday Bike Night the Third Tuesday of the Month at Down on the Corner n Hwy 96 in Marcelline, IL
Wednesdays Mudbugs Bike Night At Mudbugs, 605 N Main St, Caseyville, IL (618) 855-9035
Wednesdays Bobby's at Buffalo Park on Ill 159 in Maryville, IL (618) 855-9035
Thursdays Bike Night at Bikers Corner at 1924 N Vandeventer Ave in St Louis, MO
Thursdays Bike Night at Cousins Bar and Grill at 5301 Caseyville Ave in Washington Park, IL

Thursdays Hardriders call their hotline (314) 340-2000 for info
Thursdays Bike Night at Geos Wings and More on West Main in Belleville, IL from 6:30 to 10
Thursdays Crown Royals M/C Bikers Night Out Blues Alley 9053 Riverview St Louis

Fridays Discounts for First Responders at Mungenst Motorsports
Friday Bikes, Beers and Bonfires at Chasers on Dutch Hollow Rd. Ask about long neck specials
Last Saturday of the month Free Coffee and donuts at Mungenast Motorsports

July

6 Dreamweavers Gary and Lora Memorial Run sign up at Ted's Motorcycle Wordl from noon to 2

12 Biker Baptism Hwy 30 at Pearce Creek near Lonedell, MO

12 ABATE Rodeo at Cottage Hills VFW sign up 4 to 5
13 Red Knights Axe ! Run sign up at Ted's Motorcycle Wordl from noon to 2
19 Outlanders Ice cream Run sign up at Ted's Motorcycle Wordl from 11 to 1
20 Skyriders Reapers Run sign up at Ted's Motorcycle Wordl from 11 to 1
26 Dream Weaver Rodeo sign up Bills Acres in Keysport, IL from 11 to 1

26 Dana's Dream Run sign up 9:30 to 11:30 at DeSoto AVETS
26-27 TBL Free Moorcycle Swap Meet on the parking lot at Big St Charles Motorsports
27 ABATE Summer Run sign up at Ted's Motorcycle Wordl from 12 to 1:30

August

2 Salty Dawgs Nigth Summer Run Runway Lounge Bethalto, IL 5 to 6:30
3 Bush Pilots Summer Run sign up at Ted's Motorcycle World from 11 to 1
10 TBL 11th Anniversary Poker Run sign up at Shady Jacks from 11 to 12:30
31 Cards cubs runn to support the VFW for more info contact your local VFW

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