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Chattanooga Area Motorcycle Events

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## Tom the Bomb... RAMBLINGS From the Top Dawg

Hey everyone! Welcome to the Six-Year Anniversary Edition of Road Rash Magazine! Another year is gone already? I hope September finds your knees in the breeze, the sun on your back and a smile on your face. This month, in honor of another successful year, we're jamming a year's worth of Biker Chicks onto the cover and into the center spread. Check it out and let us know what you think!

If I had a secretary, she would have quit by now. As soon as we announced we were canceling the Road Rash Biker Bash – my cell phone hasn't stopped ringing and my email program has been inundated with people asking "Why?"

Basically, the good people of New Hope, Tennessee must've been misinformed and thought we were planning to work up a "Number 6" on them. If you don't know what a "Number 6" is, you should rent the 1974 Mel Brooks movie "Blazing Saddles." In it, the actor Slim Pickens explains, "Well, that's where we go a-ridin' into town, a whampin' and whompin' every livin' thing that moves within an inch of its life. Except the women folks, of course." You'll have to rent the movie (or find the script

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YOUR NAME HERE ?

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on line) to find out what happens to the women at the Number Six Dance afterwards. Basically, the local government (the same people I'd mentioned before who "welcomed us with open arms") decided that bikers were nothing but trouble and sent us packing.

My face has had a patriotic work out (turning white with disbelief, red with anger and blue with frustration) during this entire ordeal, so in order to save you from reading all about it twice - I'll just point you to my partner Rock's article (page 8) for further explanation. I'm going to my "happy place," 'cause I've got good news to share!

You may have noticed the masthead on this magazine is different that the one's you've been used to seeing for the last six years. Right under "Road Rash," we now have the word "Chattanooga" (I'm serious, check it against the back issues you have beside the toilet in the back bathroom). Why you might ask? Because we wouldn't want you to confuse Road Rash Chattanooga with Road Rash Atlanta! You guessed it; our efforts to sell franchises are starting to pay off. Todd Pritchett (an avid motorcyclist and professional

photographer living in the North Atlanta area) has taken the plunge to be the editor of his own local version of your favorite motorcycle mag. So far the response in "Hotlanta" has been tremendous and we expect him to be up, running and fully operational in no time. We are proud to welcome him into the family and commend him on his good taste!

Well, the big thing this month will be the Trail Of Tears ride. Being the largest organized motorcycle ride in the world (undisputed with the exception of Rolling Thunder), everyone who is anyone will be found supporting the cause. You can check out the basic information on our Web site, [www.roadrashmag.com](http://www.roadrashmag.com) or get all the details you can eat at [www.trailoftears-remembrance.org](http://www.trailoftears-remembrance.org).

Be careful out there, and watch out for the other guy!

*Tom  
THE  
Bomb*

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# Outlaws MC Benefit for Ronald McDonald House

by Rock

This is a story of a couple and their miracle son. It is also a story about the Ronald McDonald House and their intervention into the lives of these two people. Finally, it is a story of a father's gratitude and promise to help the Ronald McDonald House for helping him and his family in their time of need. This is the story of "Lil R" of the Outlaws Motorcycle Club and the beginning of the Outlaws' Benefit Ride for the Ronald McDonald House in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The story begins in 2004 when "Lil R" and his wife "Trouble" found out that she was pregnant. This was a surprise indeed, since her tubes were tied which should have prevented her from having kids. Hence the term "miracle child". When she was five months along the baby's heartbeat became unstable and actually stopped during a routine doctor's visit. The baby was immediately delivered through a cesarian section and Ryan Lee "Lil Man" Birt Jr. was born on February 26, 2005 at a weight of only two pounds. Surviving his premature birth was miracle number two. "Lil Man" was alive and kicking against all odds. Since a baby must be at least three pounds to be released from the hospital, "Lil Man" was kept in intensive care for thirty days. His parents kept a constant vigil over him which meant many an hour in the hospital. Because they lived in Whitwell, this presented a real logistical problem. To make matters worse "R" was out of work and couldn't afford to stay in a motel for a month. Enter the staff of the Ronald McDonald House ("the House").

"The House" receives its referrals from hospital staff members. As doctors, nurses, or case workers learn of special need situations, they call "the House" and refer the people for services. In this case Pearl Wong, a case worker, referred



the Birts to the Ronald McDonald House. Their stay would end up being 30 days, and it was all free of charge. The House usually charges ten dollars a day during a family's stay. If the family can't afford that, then the residents agree to perform one of many daily chores to help around the House in lieu of payment. The Ronald McDonald House was the brainchild of Fred Hill, a member of the 1973 Philadelphia Eagles football team. During the course of his three year old daughter's illness from leukemia, the idea was born. A





home away from home for families with children in crisis. The Eagles enlisted the help of their local McDonald's restaurants to help raise money for the first house which opened in 1974. Today, there are over 200 RM Houses in 19 different countries. Each house is independently owned and operated. McDonald's is only one of the donors, so support from the local community is essential. The Chattanooga house has a budget of 1.2 million per year which is all raised locally. There are no United Way Funds involved in the Chattanooga RMH. The average stay is 13 days per family and they run at 100% occupancy year round for their 26 rooms. There is a community kitchen stocked with every imaginable food where guests can prepare their own breakfast and lunch. Dinner is cooked and served by various churches, social organizations, and businesses 365 days per year. There is also a more private kitchen on each floor, along with laundry facilities. There is an exercise room and a room for teens to play games or work on the computer. The Chattanooga house is as nice as any four star hotel. The feel is that of a large private home, complete with oriental rugs on the floors and the finest furnishings. A haven for people in the midst of crisis and illness and just minutes from their loved one's beds in Erlanger Hospital.

In addition to the main house, RMH provides an 1800 square foot hospitality center inside Erlanger Hospital. While the main house is only available to families with children 21 years or younger, the hospitality center at Erlanger is open to anyone in need. Showers, laundry facilities, library, and free food are provided to families of any patient in the hospital.

I was given a tour of the main house by Gina Crumbliss, Director of Development. I was amazed at just how little I really knew about the work of the Ronald McDonald House. Sure, I'd heard of it, but, that was about the extent of it. I was

totally blown away by the scope of this organization and it's work. It just made me feel good as I toured the house. I'm sure others have felt the same way as they walk the floors.

"Lil R", his family, and his club were overwhelmed by what the RMH had done for him. He told the House that although he couldn't pay them now, he would do something to repay them in the future. "R" didn't waste any time and the Outlaw's Benefit Ride for the Ronald McDonald house was born to fulfill his pledge. The first benefit ride was held in 2005 and raised over \$1700.00 for the House. In 2006, due to conflicting events, the funds dropped to less than a thousand. This year \$1800 was raised from the proceeds of the ride and the auction later that evening.

For the 2008 ride, Road Rash Magazine is teaming up with the Outlaws MC to try and grow this ride to one of the biggest of the year. The Ronald McDonald House is a unique organization. They help people in a way that no one else does and they do it with compassion and dedication. I can't think of a better group to support with your hard earned dollars. You never know when, God forbid, it may be you that needs the helping hand of the good folks at the Ronald McDonald House. Make sure and be watching for the full page ads next year and make this one of your must ride events of 2008. Just how many other opportunities will you ever have to ride with the Outlaws Motorcycle Club? The Road Rash Crew will even be tagging along. It's an experience you won't soon forget. Until next month.



LTRNTT,  
**Rock**





# Rock's Two Cents

It never ceases to amaze and anger me how bikers are profiled, even in today's world. They (the public) absolutely LOVE us as long as we are raising money for every charity on the block and giving them free ads in Road Rash Magazine to promote their

events. They flock around us at Nightfall and other places that we congregate to talk and look at our bikes. Many wish they had the stones to be like us.

Then, we have the other side of the coin, biker rallies. In the twinkling of an eye bikers morf from philanthropic, two wheeled money raisers, to scum of the earth degenerates. We now have to be watched and intimidated by hordes of law enforcement . A normal event of non biker citizens can have a gathering of 1,000 people with just a smattering of police presence. A group of 1,000 bikers on the other hand, would garner a regiment of cops complete with command trailers. The good ole intimidate them into submission school of law enforcement, even when it's not necessary. After all it looks good to the voters and that's what it's all about to the politicians.

It can't come as a surprise to anyone that spontaneous nudity occurs at many kinds of events across the country (Mardi Gras, NASCAR, etc.) . Beads for b\*\*bs started at Mardi Gras and has spread to other gatherings of partying people. Our event is an adult gathering of people 21 years or older (we card everyone). We hold our event at sites that are outside the view of the

general public and on private property. If a very few people want to shed a portion or all of their clothes and show off, does this pose a threat to public safety? Does this mean the entire event is akin to Sodom and Gomorrah? Should these people be subject to arrest? Should we burn them at the stake? No, we'll just take them to jail and separate them from their money. REMEMBER, these are the same

people that raise all this money for charity. One of them might sit right down the pew from you. They save your family from fires, work the factories, fix your cars, or handle your medical or legal matters. Doctors, lawyers, merchants, and probably a few thieves attend the Biker Bash. MOST ARE REGULAR, EVERYDAY, GOD FEARING, PEOPLE. John Q Public, you can't have it both ways. We are either scum of the earth, or we are civic minded citizens which is it?

My partners and I decided that spontaneous nudity should not subject a person to arrest at our event nor should non threatening intoxicated people. For these reasons we CANCELLED this year's Biker Bash in New Hope, Tennessee. Now the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help me God.

### The New Hope saga:

We met with the entire city council of New Hope, Tennessee in March after finding a plot of land and striking a partnership deal with the owner, Ed Martin, of Marion County. We told the council that we wanted a permanent home for our events and planned on holding at least two annual events plus starting an annual toy run in December for New Hope's underprivileged kids. The council, although somewhat apprehensive, agreed to allowing us to have one event this year to see how it went before making any long term commitments. We all agreed and Mr. Martin started working on the site. To date he has spent in excess of \$50,000 preparing us a beautiful site. A road was built, the field was sowed, underbrush cut out of the woods, a stage was built, and electricity and water service established.

Around the end of June, dark clouds started appearing on the horizon. Mayor Mark Myers, stopped by the property one day and informed Ed Martin that the city would require us to pay around \$2,000 to handle the extra police presence. (Does any of this sound vaguely familiar - Catoosa County '06)? "Why do we need police on the property" Ed asked, we'll have our own security on site. Not being a biker himself, Ed did not realize the profiling and discrimination that we bikers have known all of our riding lives. Ed also thought he had rights as a property owner to do what he wanted, within reason, on his land. The parcel was even zoned light commercial. To make matters worse, he had encountered various problems with theft and dumping for years on this land and he got absolutely NO police help with his problems. Now, all of a sudden, they wanted cops all over the place. He couldn't understand it, but I did, I'd been down this road before.

The dark clouds thickened when I got a call from Mayor Myers to request another meeting to hash out any final details. Ed, Tom, and I arrived at New Hope City Hall on July, 13th (Friday the 13th). We were early, and soon, one Tennessee State Patrol car arrived, then another, then another. Then the sheriff of Marion County arrived as the city councilmen were arriving. What the h%#! I thought. The mayor didn't mention any of this when he asked for our attendance. I was starting to feel like a long tail cat in a room full of rockers. This can't be good, I thought! I was right, it wasn't. The mayor called the meeting to order and the discussion started. The first thing out of their mouth was "how many gang members were we expecting". GANGS, they can't be serious. No matter how many charity rides we have we just can't get past it, can we? Ya think we're being profiled? We were then quizzed as to our plans including events, musicians, and the item of most concern, the "N" word, nudity.

They had it all worked out. The state patrol would cover all roads leading to the site, the sheriff and city police would concentrate on the inside of the site. The sheriff couldn't give us an exact amount of what all this would cost us. I told the sheriff Ronnie Burnett, that we would not agree to an open ended contract. We wanted an exact amount stated in front of everyone as to our financial liability for the unneeded and unwanted police protection/harassment. He finally agreed to the \$2,000 that Mayor Meyers had asked us for earlier. The sheriff asked if we needed

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him to put it in writing and I said "no, a hand shake between men is good enough". OK, I guess I was born yesterday. We're talking politicians here. I still believe that a hand shake between honorable men is binding. You can read between the lines.

The meeting was spirited at times, but we agreed on the following: We would pay \$2,000 for the cops after the event was over. There would be one car at the front gate to protect the money and observe those entering and leaving the property. There would be a couple of cars with a police trailer behind the stage in case a riot was to break out. (we've had so many break out in the past) There would be no arrests for spontaneous nudity and there would be no patrols of the free private camping area unless our private security required assistance. We reluctantly agreed to no nudity on stage. We would have a wet t-shirt contest, but it would follow the same guidelines as adhered to by the bars on Main Street in Daytona with shirts kept on. We didn't like this, but we agreed in a spirit of give and take. Finally, our security guys must not wear their security shirts off while off duty and not participate in the festivities while on duty. The meeting was adjourned with everyone in agreement.

Four days later I received a call on my cell phone (as noted in the Verizon incoming call log) from Sheriff Barnett saying that he couldn't allow any nudity on site and if any were encountered the offenders would be arrested. There could not be any drunkenness either. Of course we were to be selling beer and wine coolers on site (with a license from the city) and the city would be collecting taxes, but they better not see anyone drunk on this private property. He also informed me that there would be constant patrols of the free, private campgrounds. When I protested saying this is not the agreement we reached at the meeting only four days before, he said "well, this is the way it is now". Ed then heard the same thing from John Griffin, the police chief of New Hope. Threats of arrest were abounding and we were all wondering what happened to our agreement with the city council. Where was the city council? Who runs New Hope, the city council or the police chief and county sheriff?

On Wednesday, July 25th, Ed called me and asked if I would accompany him to speak one last time to the chief of police, John Griffin. This day he was not in uniform and was running Slick's Gun Shop in South Pittsburg as a private citizen. Ed Martin entered into a discussion with Mr. Griffin in an attempt to get him to abide with the agreement we had made with the council just two weeks prior. He would not budge and told us "if people needed privacy in the camping area then they could just keep their asses out of New Hope." Ed was shocked that his long standing reputation in the area was not even being considered. I then asked Mr Griffin if he had the authority to override an agreement we had with the entire city council. He didn't answer my question, but told me we could just cancel the event if we didn't like it. I then informed him that if he wouldn't abide by the agreement that the event was cancelled effective immediately (The staff had already discussed and agreed on this possibility). I then turned and walked toward the door leaving Ed Martin and Mr. Griffin talking. When I reached the door, I turned, took a few steps toward the men, and started to make an additional comment before leaving. Mr. Griffin shoved Ed aside & made a quick, aggressive advance toward me. When he reached me, he tried to chest butt me, but his belly reached me first pushing me backward. He then ordered me out of the store. I stood my ground while he was inches from my face yelling. I told him that it was not wise to assault a man in front of witnesses, then took two steps back, turned and left the store. Ed followed a couple of minutes later.

I thought about nothing else over the next 24 hours. If this man could get in my face and assault me for nothing more than asking him a simple question then how many others has he done this to in the past. Maybe even while in uniform. How many people throughout the years have been tush hogged by this man in his position as a law enforcement officer? How dare someone question him. He is the law yet he thinks he is above the law. The law only applies to us civilians. I'd love to hear from anyone that has had a similar experience with this man in year's past.

Road Rash Magazine could not invite our readers to an event with them expecting one thing, and then having them subject to

arrest by unreasonable zealots. We had to bite the bullet and lose the \$6,000 we had invested, along with the hundreds of hours of work, not to mention any profit.

Our partner, Ed Martin, was hung out to dry by his friends and neighbors, having invested a huge sum of money in the site. They should all be real proud of themselves. Not only would Ed not recoup some of his investment from this year's event, but, all future events at his new site are in jeopardy. Road Rash Magazine certainly will not sponsor an event in a town with this police chief at the helm. His attitudes about bikers and his assault on me should be reason enough. The mayor was quoted in the Marion County newspaper as saying "that it was all just a misunderstanding" If this were true, then why didn't the mayor or even one councilman contact us to work out said misunderstanding after we cancelled? I have not heard from one of these men since our last agreement on July 13th. Some city fathers, huh? Let their employee overrule them and then don't do a thing about it. Ya'll just need to elect the police chief, Czar, and disband the council. There was no misunderstanding between the police chief and Mr Martin and I. He made himself very clear.

Now, if the chief really subverted the council's agreement, then they should fire him for insubordination. If the council does not fire him then we all will have the real truth. The council simply used the police chief to take the fall because they changed their minds. The big question is WHY? Was there a clear and present danger of violence? NO, not based on our prior five year event history. What this all boils down to is what people may or may not be doing in their private campsites. The voyeuristic morality police wanted to patrol the campsites in hopes of catching a glimpse of a naked body or an over intoxicated guest so they could arrest them. Not on our watch, and not at our event. See ya later Barney.

LTRNTT,

**Rock**

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# TEARS ON BLACK LEATHER

## Brothers and Sisters Down or Gone

There were multiple motorcycle accidents in the area recently including one on August 2 in Hixson (where an un-named rider was reported in critical condition afterward) and one on August 7 on May Road in Chattanooga where a motorcyclist suffered severe head injuries. When police and/or emergency personnel report accidents, they rarely divulge the names of the parties involved pending notification of family members etc. If you know of a situation where that is not an issue – please let us know where we can spread the word (to solicit support) and inform the public (to warn of danger).

Another recent accident struck a little too close to home. Jason Barrick, the owner of the awesome Big Bear Chopper we featured in the August 2007 issue (last month) was involved in a serious accident on that very bike. In his own words, "I was hit by something. I don't have any memory of the accident, but all evidence shows something hit me. I am just lucky to be alive and lucky to be walking." He suffered a broken neck, and left wrist as well as a lot of cuts, and bruises as well as tears in inconvenient places (like there is a convenient place for that). The bike is more than likely going to be a total loss. He says he will be out of work for at least 2 months, but he will recover and vows his next bike will be even better. We wish him a speedy recovery and the best of luck!

Please keep our brothers and sisters who are suffering in your thoughts and prayers this month. And, if you know of anyone or any situation that should appear in this feature, please don't hesitate to drop us a line with the details. None of us are promised tomorrow, so we need to show support for those in need today.



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# Joe Cool's Biker Health



Road Rash readers, the following article is the opinion of its writer and does not reflect the opinion of the magazine or its publishers. That being said, I have always lived my life by one simple rule, the Golden Rule; "Do unto others, as you would have others do unto you." It is a simple rule of life that has given me wellness and balance in my life for nearly fifty years. Everyone has their own emotional or spiritual beliefs, which gives them a sense of fulfillment in their lives.

As a child I participated in my parent's religious beliefs, now, I have found that I have no religious preference. I have not attended church services in many years. When I did, I never felt comfortable. I felt out of place and undeserving of being in the presence of God and his good people. I found that my heart was not committed to the trappings of religious fervor, that are highly influenced by man, and not so much by the real hand of God.

I am writing on this subject because our spiritual health is just as important as the other dimensions of health and wellness. Exercise, diets, and clean living have little importance if you feel your life has no purpose. Most of us go through each and every day doing the same thing day in, day out. As life passes by, we can only wonder if we are making a difference. Is this the best that life has to offer? How can we make our short lived existence on this planet better for our families and neighbors? During this time of world turmoil it is easy to feel despair in the prospect of a bleak future.

Life on this planet with all that goes with it can be a

depressing existence. Depression is a real medical concern. Millions of people are being treated by doctors for clinical depression and stress brought on by life's trappings. That is why people seek out the comfort of a power greater than their own. Most people need to believe that there is something bigger and better out there to live for, even if it is in the after life. This belief in a higher power gives us a better spiritual feeling and a spiritual uplift that improves our daily lives. With this spiritual lift comes a better sense of one's self assurance that all is well and life is good.

Basically I do believe in the Christian faith, however, if there is a life after death, I do not believe that one's soul is lost without Christ. I believe in one God, that all faiths have the same God. I have concluded for my own spiritual health that I am a true "Humanist", I believe in the goodness in man. I do not allow the transgressions of a few to impact my love and concern for my fellow humans. We are all living here together; therefore, I will always give something of my self to others. That is the main reason I have written this article for Road Rash every month for the past six years. I hope the information that I share with the magazine's readers will help at least one person. If I spent my life only to please myself, I would be a very unhappy and lonely person. Instead, every day I share something of my self with my family, patients, students, friends and strangers. For me, this gives me balance in my life. I look to harm no one and help, love and respect everyone. For this, I believe God will show anyone favor regardless of their religious belief. For if your heart is true, God will know. He will know if your actions were based on love or hate, kindness or bitterness, selflessness or selfishness. Regardless how well you disguise your motives through religious piousness.

Each person has the right to choose their own spiritual path. If organized religion gives you a feeling of safeness in life, and a healthy balance in your daily existence, then stay strong in your beliefs. I only ask of you one thing. Please be tolerant to the different beliefs of others. Remember that as strong as you believe in your faith, others will have the same conviction in their

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belief. I would like you to consider one more point of view. With all the many religions in the world, have you ever asked your self; who is right? Which religion is the true religion? No one really knows the absolute truth about God and the after life. It is religious speculation and blind faith. The truth, as you know it, has been manipulated by man, and man is inherently flawed. The only people who can tell you the absolute truth about the after life are no longer with us. They have passed on and have met their God, and they cannot return to tell us if we are on the right path. Think about it. Remember to take care of your self. And take care of a neighbor, you will feel better for it.

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# HERE'S THE RUB

*Opening scene of the TV show "Then Came Bronson"*

*A businessman in a station wagon at a stoplight turns to his left, where a young man is revving his motorcycle, and asks...*

*"Taking a trip? - Whats that?"*

*"Taking a trip? - Yeah."*

*"Where to? - Oh, I dont know, wherever I end up, I guess."*

*"Pal, I wish I was you. - Really?.. well...hang in there."*

In the past few months, I have logged about 8,000 miles on my bike. I have been to Akron and back, Minneapolis and back, and Canada and back. I have ridden by myself, with a friend, as part of a small group as well as one person among an extremely large pack. I have done 1000 miles in twenty hours and meandered back-roads that took a whole day to go less than 300 miles. I have ridden both the Interstate and "the scenic routes" and even a few roads that did not appear on any map. There were times I had a specific destination and route to follow, times I followed the river roads never bothering to consult a map and other times that I simply headed away from



gray skies towards blue sky ending up wherever the open road and weather took me. It was sunny in New York, raining to beat the band in Illinois and downright cold at night in Wisconsin. So what kind of riding did I enjoy best? To tell the truth, it was all good!

Booger pretty much covered the ins and outs of our "Ironbutt" excursion in last months article. I can only add one piece of advice for those contemplating such a marathon...Go Commando! It makes all the difference in the world.

Nuff said!

I really like small town diners on main streets that serve good coffee and when you flirt with the waitress, you might get a free piece of pie for dessert. I like farms with barns and windmills. I like crossing bridges over water as you catch the smells that are lost to those in automobiles with the windows rolled up in the luxury comfort (?) of air-conditioning. I am not crazy about gravel roads or endless miles of corn that is "knee-high by the fourth of July." I am thankful that you can get off the interstate when there is an accident or construction pretty easily on a motorcycle. Sitting in dead stop traffic on an air cooled Harley is NOT what riding is all about. The bad weather or mundane scenery is better than laid up on a couch watching TV or stuck in a station wagon!

I am guessing everyone refers to where they live as "Gods Country" but I think I found Canada between Lake

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Erie and the Georgian Bay to be the most to my liking. There was so much water and all the land was so green and lush. Of course, it was July and this beauty was the result of nine to ten months of melted snow. One local told me that I was there at the perfect time...what he referred to as "our three weeks of bad sledding!" He said fall lasts about three days. "The leaves change, fall off and winter returns and you never know for sure what month it happened." I might not ever be fortunate enough to catch the Canadian fall change of colors, but the bugs tend to be the color of whatever berries or vegetation they had been eating. My windshield looked like snipers with mini paint balls were making a multihued easel. Discovering new shades of purples, crimsons, greens and yellows as they splatter made for an interesting few miles.

My most memorable moment came when I was riding the Mississippi River Road. I had overly indulged in the freedom of the "no-helmet" states for some time and sunburned the top of my noggin, the days before. It was early morning. The sun was just coming up and I was wearing a Road Rash boggin that Rock gave me. It blew off and because I really like that hat, I did a series of u-turns in the road to recover it. I brushed it off and when I put it back on, I noticed for the first time where I was. In the middle of nowhere is the Redwing Correctional Center, an impressive large granite building with guard towers, surrounded by chain link and barbed wire. Prisoners in the yard all stoically watched me. I scanned the rows of windows with bars and wondered just how many eyes were on me during that given moment in time. I didnt say or do anything. I just restarted the bike and rode away but

I realized that probably everyone was thinking, "Man thats freedom! Thats what I would so love to be doing right now!"

I knew I was living other people's dreams. It was an amazing sensation as I felt a myriad of emotions; gratefulness, mixed with a sense of responsibility, and just a pang of guilt. I had probably been taking it all for granted, until God blew my hat off and made me stop to realize just how blessed I truly am! If you can only get out for an hour or venture less than 50 miles from home, get out and ride! You will be living the life that some people can only daydream.

RUB

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## CMT/ABATE NEWS

Here's your CMT/ABATE report card for 2007 also known as 'What has CMT done for me lately?'

Let me start out saying every state motorcycle rights organization had a tough year. Safety advocates from the medical and insurance lobbies spent a lot of time and money pushing their agenda hard to restrict your freedom in all fifty states this year. States that allow you to ride a bike without a helmet were high on their hit list.

For example, Colorado, which didn't have any helmet law, ended the legislation year with a mandatory helmet law for those 18 and under.

Other states such as Montana and Pennsylvania came under attack but kept their freedom.

For Tennessee, we managed to kill another 'Kid Bill' that would have outlawed children under the age of 12 from riding on the back of your motorcycle. This type of legislation has come up three years in a row in Nashville. If CMT wasn't monitoring legislation on the hill, these types of laws would have probably passed before anyone could do anything about it. If you don't think so, ask members of ABATE of Arkansas what happened there four years ago.

CMT was successful this year getting the 'Right of Way Bill' passed.

This bill holds those responsible who injure or kill us by violating our right of way. Under the old law, if you violated someone's right of way, like running a stop sign, you would only be cited for running the stop sign even if they injured or killed you. That fine in Tennessee was around \$49.00.

Now if you are injured by some careless asshole that violates your right of way, they can be fined up to \$250.00 and have their drivers license suspended for up to six months. If you are killed, the fine can go up to \$500.00 and they can lose their license for up to one year. It doesn't seem enough but there you have it. That piece of legislation took us three years to get passed.

There were a couple of State Senators who fought this bill because they felt that drivers shouldn't be penalized for making mistakes while driving. Their rationale was if there was no intent by the driver to harm, they shouldn't be held accountable. 'FREEDOM OF CHOICE Bill'

First let me say that this bill isn't dead as reported by Channel 3 and Channel 9. The only TV station to get it right was Channel 12 by reporter Kristen Johnson. The person helping her to get the story right was Rock, who contacted me saying she wanted to do a story on the bill. Thanks for the call Rock.

The interview was a positive experience. I want to thank Kristen Johnson for quoting me accurately and staying neutral as a professional news reporter is supposed to be. To often this type of legislation gets slammed by the press and bikers are labeled as stupid and potential social burdens.

As you may or not be aware, we got this bill passed through the State Senate again for the fourth time. It got through the Full Transportation Committee for the third time. HB 1283 the helmet modification bill will be starting in the Sub-Finance Committee in the 2008 legislation session.

Sub-Finance is the black hole of bills. If your opponents want to kill your bill, legislators will attach a negative fiscal note. The helmet bill has a negative fiscal note that states that Tennessee will have to spend more tax dollars on those who could be injured while riding a motorcycle without a helmet.

The CMT/ABATE position is that the state will make more money than they will spend if the law is changed through tax revenue gain from the sales of motorcycles, apparel, accessories and tag registrations as other states have done since changing their helmet law. Florida, as an example, has

made an extra \$165 million over the last five years since they passed their 'Freedom of Choice'.

You and I know that this bill isn't about the money. It's about our personal freedom. Our right to choose and live as we want to. You ask how we can get this bill passed next year, you have to get involved. That means if the law was changed tomorrow, all of you who would choose to ride without a helmet have to contact your representatives and the members of the Finance Committee or at least the chairman of Finance Committee by phone, letters or email. Let them know your position on the helmet bill. That is the only way that this bill is going to pass. If the 165,000 Class M endorsed motorcyclists of Tennessee all wrote and called, this bill would pass. Want to learn more? The Tennessee Valley Charter of CMT/ABATE next regular meeting will be on September 16th (third Sunday of the month) at 2:00p. m. at Mac's Pub. Hope to see you there.

Ride safe & lets ride free

Yog

## MCIC NEWS

I think you would agree that an ideal situation would be if all motorcyclists were to be educated, informed, supported, and united. If everyone were "on the same page," not only would there be much less confusion among our ranks, but as a unified force, we could move mountains.

The problem is: Motorcyclists in general pride themselves as being non-conformists. Sure, you will find assimilated groups scattered here and there, but getting them all to agree on any one subject is a formidable task. However, it is not impossible – as has recently been proven.

As a part of a joint effort, local motorcycle organizations have started assembling about once a month at Motorcycle Clubs In Chattanooga (MCIC) meetings. These meetings are open to the public and you need not belong to any particular club, association or organization in order to participate.

Kick-started by the local chapter of the Outlaws MC, the MCIC meetings offer a unique forum whereby clubs, organizations and individuals can much more easily share information, pass along advice, and gather support from fellow motorcyclists.

Several issues were discussed (including rides, events and other concerns) and business was conducted during the last meeting (which boasted a large turnout representing several organizations), but perhaps the most heart-warming thing was when a young boy was rolled up front in a small wheelchair and introduced to the group. It seems he became a paraplegic after a bad car wreck, and he had been pestering his parents to buy him a special bicycle he could ride that would allow him to pedal with his hands (and be more like the other kids). In no time, the tough-looking leather-clad bikers that filled the room were falling all over themselves offering donations of time, materials, and money to get this little guy what he wanted. The average person on the street would have called it a transformation – but I've been present enough at these kinds of "miracles" to have learned not to judge anyone by their appearance. Bikers are a kind-hearted breed. And they have more fun than people do! I know it did my heart good to see that little feller smile. It also made me proud.

The next MCIC meeting is scheduled for September 6, although the location has yet to be announced. You can check out the event calendar on our Web site ([roadrashmag.com](http://roadrashmag.com)) or visit the MCIC MySpace profile ([myspace.com/chattanooga/gmcic](http://myspace.com/chattanooga/gmcic)) for further information. Come out and help support the biking community! See page 28 for pics.

**Tom the Bomb**





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## REVEREND BOOGER'S TWO-WHEELED PULPIT

Well hello,

For a long time I have given a lot of thought to what would be the one piece of my ramblings I could give the motorcycling community that would not be complete hogwash. The very best piece is, carry a bandanna while riding. The benefits of having of one of these pieces of fabric on you or your bike are untold. Goggle wipe, gas spill wipe rag, and bandage are just some of the many uses there are. Unlike most of the hogwash that I dispense, this useful suggestion has been proven over and over again. I will dispense some of the hogwash now.

Enjoy the power and beauty of your bike. Never mind the fact that you will not truly appreciate the power and beauty of your current bike, until you have traded it in on a new one. In 10 years, it may be the best bike you have ever owned.

Use the same care when choosing a motorcycle mechanic that you use choosing a doctor. At some point your life could depend on the skill of either one. Your bike is not as dirty as you think.

Don't get to obsessive about things breaking on your bike. OK, give them thought, but remember the real big surprises come when you least expect them. Like your drive belt breaking on your way to get your broken clutch cable repaired (put that in for you Tom).

Ride one road every so often that scares you (but ride within your experience level).

Ride as many charity rides as you can. You never know when it might be your name on the flyer.

Ride toy runs. Santa can always use the help, plus nothing looks cooler than a grown person riding around with toys strapped on their motorcycle

Keep in mind that it is called a Poker run and not a poker race.

Don't be reckless with other people's bikes and don't put up with people being reckless with yours.

Be understanding with newcomers to riding. As far as I know, none of us were born knowing how to ride a motorcycle.

Do your best to honor every request from a youngster to ride on your bike. It was in this fashion that most of us were introduced to the wind and it is a good way of paying back whoever put you on back of a bike first.

Don't spend a lot of time being envious of someone else's bike. Sometimes yours is the best, sometimes it isn't. The way a bike looks means little or nothing when you're broken down on the side of the road.

Remember good things people say about your bike and forget the bad things. If you figure out how to do this, let me know.

Keep old charity event flyers, throw away old gas receipts.

Enjoy your bike. Ride it as much as you possibly can. It can and will be a good friend.

Ride, even if you don't have anywhere to go.

Read a map even if you don't follow it. Don't be overly



worried about getting lost. Some of the most wonderful things in the world have been found when the explorer was lost.

Understand that riding buddies come and go, but a precious few will stick with you to the bitter end. Work hard at bridging gaps in lifestyles and careers, because the older you get the more you need someone that knows where you live and can get you

back home.

Go to Sturgis once but leave before you forget which way is home. Go to Daytona once but leave before the crowds get on your nerves and you snap.

Respect old timers. Yeah, you may know that his tale about riding his 57 Pan Head cross country may be horse crap. But one day you will be sitting around telling horse crap about what you did on your 94 EVO, and hopefully someone will be patient with you.

Be wary of advice you listen to, but be patient of those who are telling it. Remember, advice is like a part that you dig out of a saddlebag, wipe off, and sell it for more than its worth. But trust me on the bandannas.

Ride safe, Ride smart, and Ride often

### Reverend Booger

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your Friday night ride stops!  
Live Music, BYOB, Choo Choo BBQ, sales &  
service. Open till 9 p.m!  
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## SEPTEMBER 7 - 9

Oxford, MS  
**VIET NAM VETS M/C & LEGACY VETS M/C  
1ST ANNUAL PARTY AT THE BARN**  
12 Miles north of Oxford MS on Hwy 7 north  
8 am Friday the 7th  
Contact: Bubba  
(662) 607-3256  
mailto:BubbaVNV1@yahoo.com

## SEPTEMBER 8

Chattanooga, TN  
**SIMON MOTLEY POKER RUN**  
Thunder Creek Harley-Davidson - FBO 11:30  
Brandy Bates: 423-421-6053

Chattanooga, TN  
**THUNDER OVER CHATTANOOGA**  
Thunder Creek Harley Davidson - Noon - 5 pm  
Pastor Carl McGill: 706-218-0275, carl@thunder  
overchattanooga.com,  
or www.thunderoverchattanooga.8m.com

Eton, GA  
**ETON MOTORCYCLE CRUISE-IN**  
Eton Fairgrounds - 5 p.m.  
(second Saturday of every month through the  
summer)  
Billy Cantrell 706-280-4625 or Kim Hall 706-  
695-2652

Blairsville, GA  
**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**  
(featuring ROCKASAURUS)  
Copperhead Lodge - 4 p.m.  
Sandra Stephens 404-414-8283

## SEPTEMBER 9

Chattanooga, TN  
**BIKER SUNDAY**  
Stonebriar Community Church - 10:30 a.m.  
Worship Service / Meal / Ride  
Scott Ptak - 423-504-9518,  
pastor@stonebriarchurch.org,  
or www.stonebriarchurch.org

## SEPTEMBER 14

Chattanooga, TN  
**SUNDOWN & TRAIL OF TEARS KICKOFF**  
Thunder Creek HD  
423-892-4888  
www.thundercreekharley.com

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## SEPTEMBER 15

Ringgold, GA  
**A RIDE FOR SMILES**  
Catoosa County DFCS - 10 a.m.  
706-937-2222, or googoo227@catt.com (rain  
date Sept. 22)

Dalton, GA  
**OPEN HOUSE AND TWIN CAM JAM**  
Mountain Creek HD  
706-370-7433  
www.mountaincreekharley.com

Blairsville, GA  
**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**  
(featuring J.B. Walker & The Cheap Whiskey  
Band)  
Copperhead Lodge - 5 p.m.  
Sandra Stephens 404-414-8283

## SEPTEMBER 22

Roswell, GA  
**8TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY**  
Killer Creek HD  
770-777-1000  
www.killercreekharley.com

Blairsville, GA

**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**  
(featuring Sundown)  
Copperhead Lodge - 6 p.m.  
Sandra Stephens 404-414-8283

## SEPTEMBER 29

Dalton, GA  
**MOTOR MANIA POKER RUN**  
North Georgia Fairgrounds - 10 a.m.  
Glenn Swinney: 706-876-1300,  
motorheads@motormanias.us , or http://  
motormanias.us

## SEPTEMBER 30

Chattanooga, TN  
**CMT/ABATE MAC'S TEDDY BEAR POKER  
RUN**  
Mac's Pub - noon  
423-570-0250

## OCTOBER 4 - 7

Fontana Dam, NC  
**SMOKEY MOUNTAIN BIKE WEEK**  
Fontana Village Resort  
aburchfield@fontanavillage.com  
www.fontanavillage.com  
www.hellbender28.com  
www.smokymountainbikeweek.com

## OCTOBER 13

Eton, GA  
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FAIRWELL RIDE**  
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signsuz@bellsouth.net, or  
www.unioncountyhumanesociety.org/  
ridelikeananimal.htm

Roswell, GA  
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404-379-8030, sdr@bigjohndragrace.com , or  
www.bigjohndragrace.com

# ONE YEAR OF BIKES AND CHICKS



For our six-year anniversary edition, we decided to pay tribute to the cool bikes featured in the last year, the beautiful ladies who have accompanied them and the behind the scenes people who brought them to our readers. We'd like to offer a heart-felt thank you to the bike owners, models, photographers, photo stylists, as well as the people who provided studio space for our shoots.

If you know of a bike, model, photographer or background scene you would like to see featured here, please don't hesitate to give us your opinion. A few digital snapshots and some valid contact info is all it takes to get them in the running – and we are always looking!

As always – if you'd like to see more... check out our Web site: [www.roadrashmag.com](http://www.roadrashmag.com)!

Thanks for another great year!!!

**TOM THE BOMB**  
(and the *Road Rash* staff)



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ALISE



STEPHANIE



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APRIL



JESSICA LAUREN



MISTY

TABBY



MARTINA



RABECA LEE





# BIKE-FRIENDLY BUSINESS LISTINGS

WHERE ROAD RASH CAN BE FOUND!

## All Aboard RV- pg 17

232 Cassidy Lane  
Ringgold, GA 30736  
706-935-6727  
www.allaboardrv.com

## American Cycles - pg 31

3208 Rossville Blvd.  
Chattanooga, TN 37407  
423-698-2850  
www.americancyclesllc.com

## Aunt Sue's K-9 Bakery- pg 43

1420 McCallie Ave.  
Chattanooga, TN 37404  
423-622-6261

## AutoCycle Powder Coating - pg 35

1920 Dayton Blvd.  
Red Bank, TN 37415  
423-876-8132/ 770-355-5119

## Battlefield BBQ - pg 32

1006 Lafayette Rd  
Chickamauga, GA  
706-375-1111

## Baty's Beverages - pg 15

1702 Gault Ave N  
Ft. Payne, AL 35957  
256-844-4962

## Biker's Stop - pg 13

Hwy 11 @ 136  
Trenton, GA  
706-657-BIKE

## Bourbon St Music Bar - pg 37

2000 E 23rd St  
Chattanooga, TN  
423-697-0645

## Carriage Motors - pg 10

1106 Lafayette Rd  
Rossville, GA 30741  
706-861-3959

## Chaps Bar & Grill - pg 29

2819 Cummings Hwy  
Chattanooga, TN 37419  
423-822-3411

## Chattanooga Ducks - pg 15

201 West 5th St  
Chattanooga, TN 37402  
423-756-3825

## Chatt. Healthy Coffee - pg 40

chattanoogahealthycoffee.com  
423-843-4945

## Dirty Dave's Party Store - pg 37

2680 S Hwy 411  
Chatsworth, GA  
706-695-0197

## Dr. Dave's Service - pg 9

10511 London Lane  
Apison, TN 37302  
423-236-4100

## DynoMasters - pg 37

Chattanooga, TN 37407  
423-331-1252

## East Brainerd Wine - pg 29

7804 East Brainerd Road  
(Bi-Lo Plaza)  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
423-855-4120

## E.J.'s Bar - pg 12

10861 Highway 28  
Whitwell, TN 37421  
423-413-4958

## Ela's Tattoos - pg 29

814 Chickamauga Ave.  
Rossville, GA 30741  
706-866-1995



## Electric Cowboy - pg 39

Eastgate Shopping Center  
Chattanooga, TN  
423-499-1995

## Evermore Galleries - pg 14

6910 Shallowford Rd.  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
423-899-0059

## Fireside Lounge - pg 18

4021 Hixson Pike  
Chattanooga, TN 37415  
423-870-7078

## GEICO - pg 47

6219 Lee Highway - Suite 10  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
423-894-2600

## Hawg Wild Cycles - pg 43

922 Lafayette Rd  
Rossville, GA 30741  
706-861-0313

## Heartland Grill - pg 10

3772 Rhea Co Hwy  
Dayton, TN 37321  
423-570-9877

## Hefner's Furniture Sales - pg 11

3816 Mt Pleasant Rd  
Dalton, GA 30721  
706-694-3539

## Hogs Pen - pg 20

1018 Salem Rd  
Rossville, GA  
706-861-4647

## Hooters - pg 30

5912 Brainerd Rd  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
423-499-8668

## Hot Spot Lounge - pg 40

2106 Chattanooga Road  
Dalton, GA  
706-277-7639

## Jeannie's Harley House - pg 13

3715 Rossville Blvd  
Chattanooga, TN 37407  
423-867-7795

## Johnny Houston - pg 2

Suite 402 Flatiron Building  
707 Georgia Avenue  
Chattanooga, TN 37402  
duijohn@hotmail.com  
1-866-384-5646

## Kelly Bonding Co. - pg 33

Chattanooga, TN  
423-265-4999

## Ken's Liquors - pg 33

6015 Dayton Boulevard  
Chattanooga, TN 37415  
423-875-3338

## Kenny Reynolds Originals - pg 10

Chattanooga, TN  
423-899-2161 or 423-316-3765

## Killer Creek HD - Back Cover

1140 Alpharetta Highway  
Roswell, Georgia 30076  
770-777-1000  
www.killercreekharley.com

## Kirk's Cycle - pg 20

929 N. Glenwood Ave  
Dalton, GA 30721  
706-226-4090

## KZ 106 - Classic Rock - pg 20

821 Pineville Rd  
Chattanooga, TN 37403  
423-756-6141

# BIKE-FRIENDLY BUSINESS LISTINGS

WHERE ROAD RASH CAN BE FOUND!

## **Laura's Market - pg 11**

Highway 111 N  
Atop Cagle Mountain  
423-949-5063

## **LeatherBull.com - pg 12**

Online Motorcycle Apparel

## **Leather and More - pg 37**

3397 Main Street  
Jasper, TN 37347  
423-942-6400 or 423-421-7396  
debvern@aol.com  
www.jlcleatherandmore.com

## **Leather Penguin - pg 13**

3395 Hwy 64  
Cleveland, TN  
423-472-9752  
423-506-2499

## **Logan's Total Fitness - pg 32**

1525 E Walnut Ave  
Dalton, GA 30720  
706-278-0773

## **M.C. Muffler & Brake - pg 32**

3006 Rossville Blvd.  
Chattanooga, TN 37407  
423-624-4520

## **Mike's Seafood Mkt. & Grill - pg 9**

121A Murphy Highway  
Blairsville, GA 30512  
706-897-0677

## **Motorcycle Ranch - pg 12**

28210 Highway 127  
Pikeville, TN  
423-505-9500

## **Mountain Creek HD - Back Cover**

1001 Market St. Suite 37  
Dalton, Georgia 30720  
706-370-7433

## **Mountain City Landscape - pg 12**

Chattanooga, TN  
423-622-9090

## **Precision Coatings- pg 37**

2840 Wood Ave.  
Chattanooga, TN 37406  
423-622-7879

## **Quick Tees - pg 13**

3472 Brainerd Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37411  
423-697-1856  
www.quicktees.com

## **Quiznos Sub - pg 37**

3905 D Hixson Pike  
Chattanooga, TN  
423-877-3327

## **ReMax South - pg 13**

3565 Main St.  
Jasper, TN 37347  
423.834.3844 or 423.596.5379

## **Rick Davis' Gold - pg 30**

5301 Brainerd Rd.  
Chattanooga, TN 37411  
423-499-9162

## **Riders Bar & Grill - pg 11**

Lee Hwy & Airport Rd  
Chattanooga, TN 37411  
423-855-5118

## **River Park Chiropractic - pg 43**

4922 Brainerd Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37411  
423-893-6691

## **Ronnie's Red Eye - pg 11**

6400 Hwy 41  
Jasper, TN  
423-942-6225

## **Rossville Tattoo Removal pg 29**

814 Chickamauga Ave.  
Rossville, GA 30741  
706-866-1995

## **RT Cycles- pg. 34 & 38**

1931 Lafayette Rd.  
Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742  
706-861-3000

## **Rusty Duck - pg 30**

736A Ashland Terrace  
Chattanooga, TN 37415  
423-870-2665

## **Sear's Shoe Store - pg 35**

2778 LaFayette Rd.  
Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742  
706-866-5935  
www.SearsShoeStore.com

## **Sequachee Valley Mtrsports - pg 15**

5784 West Valley Rd  
Dunlap, TN 37321  
423-949-8354

## **Southern Honda - pg 3**

1408 Workman Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37407  
800-959-5432  
www.southernhonda.com

## **Steel Horse Motorcycles - pg 32**

5511 Ringgold Rd  
East Ridge, TN 37412  
423-499-9488

## **Stereo City - pg 13**

6725 Ringgold Rd. - Suite B  
East Ridge, TN 37412  
423-504-9874

## **Stroker Cycles - pg 35**

11320 Thatch Rd  
Harrison, TN 37341  
423-344-2571

## **Thunder Creek HD - Bk Cover**

7720 Lee Highway  
Chattanooga, TN  
423-892-4888  
Fax:423-892-0093  
www.thundercreekharley.com

## **Tobacco & Beverage Mart - pg 13**

7804 E. Brainerd Rd.  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
423-899-6215

## **Tri-State Synthetics - pg 40**

79 Dogwood Lane  
Dunlap, TN 37327  
423-827-4722  
www.tristatesynthetics.com

## **Ultimate Cycle & Scooter - pg 41**

1604 Market St  
Chattanooga, TN 37408  
423-634-8151

## **Wanda's Restaurant- pg 37**

20 Pin Oak Dr  
Rock Spring, GA  
706-764-1633

## **White Cotton Leather - pg 20**

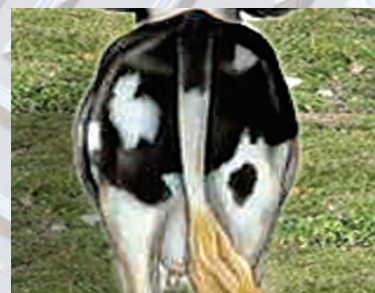
325 S Hamilton St  
Dalton, GA  
706-278-8191

## **White Oak Barbershop - pg 14**

2244 Dayton Blvd  
Red Bank, TN 37415  
423-875-4224

## **Xcite Lingerie - pg 33**

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Chattanooga, TN  
423-899-4401





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# Blowing Smoke

(Continued from last month)

Monday morning rolled around and that meant ATV time in Carson National Forest in New Mexico. Before we headed out the ATV's were unloaded and reloaded so they were all on the bottom of the infamous double decker trailer and my bike and my dad's trike were unloaded so we could pack them for the rest of our trip. This task was even more interesting than the initial loading because due to the poles holding up the second story the ATV's had to be arranged in a certain undetermined order so they would all fit. It was like musical chairs except with ATV's. It was a real work out between all the pushing and pulling to get the ATV's as close as possible and the moving of some



pretty heavy ramps back and forth and side to side. With the bikes loaded and everyone's gear packed, the trip to Carson was on.

Carson is over 1.5 million acres and ranges in height from 6,000 to over 13,000 feet and is full of wildlife. On this

day, some of the missionaries went along for the ride. I don't think they quite knew what they were getting into going with some experienced WindRock ATVer's; they were completely exhausted by day's end. The group traveled up over 12,000 feet and actually rode in the snow.

On Tuesday we were invited to ride ATV's at the Wager Ranch. Rome Wager is an American Indian World Champion Saddle Bronc Rider and a North American Indian missionary. The cowboy church that was held the week we were in New Mexico was also on the ranch. There is a rock formation that runs through his ranch that is called the dike rock. The dike was formed when magma rose up from the earth's core through a fissure, then cooled and crystallized as it reached the surface. The resulting rock is very erosion resistant and therefore stands above the horizon. The dike rock cutting across the Wager Ranch reminds me



of pictures I've seen of The Great Wall of China. During our ride through the sagebrush covered land, we saw several wild mustang skeletons and snagged a great souvenir, an elk pelvic bone! Let me tell you, dust around here

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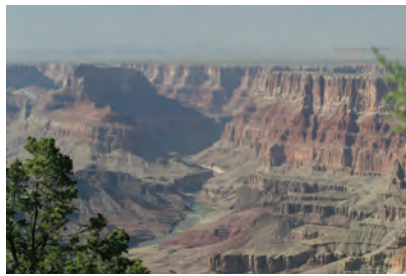
MODEL	SALE	MODEL	SALE
C90 (1500 cc)	\$8,199	Haybusa 1300	\$8,999
C50 (800 cc)	\$5,699	Bandit 1250	\$7,299
C50T (800 cc)	\$6,599	SV 1000	\$7,599
M109 (1800 cc)	\$10,999	SV650	\$5,099
M50 (800 cc)	\$5,699	GSXR1000	\$9,899
S83 (1400 cc)	\$6,399	GSXR750	\$8,999
S40 (650 cc)	\$3,599	GSXR600	\$7,999
V-Strom 1000	\$7,699	KATANA 600	\$5,199
V-Strom 650	\$5,899	DRZ125L	\$2,299



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is nothing! By the end of the day we were all COVERED in it from top to bottom. I'm sure the motel probably wondered what was going on with the shower running that long, but the dust out there is like glue. That was definitely the dirtiest I've ever been. That night we went to our last church service and had to say goodbye to all of our new Apache friends.



The next morning rolled around and we were up, packed, and ready to hit the road by 7am. Somehow between the last time I rode here and when I pulled out of the gravel parking lot there, my

bike had gained a lot of weight. I was carrying enough clothes for 10 days, my winter jacket and pants, both mine and my dad's full face helmets, and a gallon of emergency gas all on my Suzuki Boulevard C50. My dad had his clothes, camera equipment, and his winter suit on his Suzuki Boulevard C90 Trike. Why was I carrying some of his things when he had more room than me? Well, my dad likes photography a little more than most. His entire tourpak on the back of the trike was full of camera equipment, I'm talking 2 huge lenses that are almost as long as my arm and he had to be able to get into that box when he wanted, and so he couldn't strap anything on top.

Shortly down the road we ran across some road construction. Road construction there isn't like here, there are no lane closings. They jerk up the entire pavement and send you across the dirt road - the dusty ... graveled

...pot hole filled ... dirt road. Out there they recycle the pavement - yank it up, send it through a machine where it's mixed with new materials, then put back down - makes for a great road for motorcycles, let me tell you. We traveled on until we entered the Navajo Reservation in Arizona, which has got to be the hottest, driest place ever. No amount of water or Gatorade can make the heat easier to take. It was worse than the 100+ days we've been having. Well, we finally crossed that desert and ended up at the Grand Canyon, which is seriously one of the most beautiful places I've ever seen. We took the south rim loop around and stopped at each pullout to view this wonder.



It's one of those places you could sit for hours and just enjoy the view and the sound of the wind blowing through the canyon. On one of our last stops we encountered a coyote that was just walking along the edge of the road. He was more curious about us than we were about him.

As the day grew later we left the Canyon headed toward Las Vegas and the Suzuki dealer show. ....to be continued.

**Teri Welborn**

RT Cycle Suzuki Yamaha Inc.  
teri@rtcycles.net" teri@rtcycles.net

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ROAD RASH MAGAZINE - CHATTANOOGA AREA MOTORCYCLE EVENTS



Chattanooga hosted the Star Touring & Riding Association Rally from July 23-27, 2007. This is the third major motorcycle event held in Chatt-Town. The Tennessee State HOG rally was in '04, the national HOG Rally in '05, and Star Days '07. For those of you that don't know, "Star Days Chattanooga" was the Star Touring & Riding Association Ninth Annual International Convention. Although not affiliated with Yamaha, Star was begun by a small group of V-Star riders and has grown to chapters in many states and several foreign countries.



The Chattanooga Choo Choo was the host of this event (also hosted the 2004 Tennessee HOG Rally). These events have shown fellow bikers from all over the world that Chattanooga is "Biker Friendly" as well as some of the best riding country in the world. Sometimes, we locals just forget, or maybe some were too busy going somewhere else, to notice. The events included vendors with some custom bikes and other custom items of interest to riders. Yamaha showed up with two tractor trailers of their bikes for demo rides, seminars, organized rides, charity rides, bike shows, and banquets. They were also invited to Ultimate Friday's, Sundown at the Creek, and Nightfall. Most of Stars events were open to the public, but unfortunately not enough of us knew or were not there. I was shocked to learn that Tennessee did not even have a Star chapter. All the riders that I talked with said that they were impressed with what they saw and experienced here and many said they would be back.

Paladin

One peice of advice about riding safely that I heard was the thought: "When I ride, I'm invisible and everybody is out to kill me!" This makes sense to me, so RIDE SAFE!!!

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I've known this month's featured Hot Seat victim, "Dozer" a pretty good while, and I know what a genuine, sincere and caring person he is. I also know (as his moniker may suggest) he isn't one to be pushed around. At first glance, most people wouldn't guess he is such a nice guy or was so easy to talk to, and anyone who would disrespect him (despite an appearance that might seem intimidating) probably deserves whatever might bounce back. But that is just another reason we chose him out of the crowd to be kidnapped and tortured for our reader's entertainment. I hope you guys appreciate the risk we've taken!

Dozer (a full-patch member of the Freedom Riders MC who is "born and raised" in Harrison, TN), may be the only bike-rider I've ever met with a tracheotomy. In other words, he breathes through a tube in his neck. Some people may consider that taking body piercing a little too far, but the fact is it saved his life a couple of years ago after a bad problem with sleep apnea. Although it is a pretty trick piece of customization, he is looking forward to the day when his Medicare kicks in and he can have it removed.



Dozer married his sweet wife Sandra seven years ago, and can sometimes be found hanging around and showing his support for her business "Mystic Modes Mini Spa, Books, and Gifts" on North Market Street in Chattanooga. It's a great place to buy a cute little knickknack (you know you want one), or get anything from a manicure to massage therapy. Besides that – it's just a cool place.

Enough small talk - let's see how Dozer does under the bright lights once we sit him down in "The Hot Seat."

#### The (infamous) Hot Seat Questions:

**1) Do you have any nicknames, and if so, how did you get them?**

When I was in another club, one of the patch holders started calling me "Dozer" because he said I looked as big as a dozer.

**2) When did you first start riding motorcycles, and what was your first bike?**

I started riding a mini bike when I was 9, but didn't get my first street bike (a '73 Honda 350) until I was 15. I've had ten or twelve others since then (if you count mopeds, dirtbikes, café racers and street bikes). I ride a '99 1200 Harley-Davidson Sportster (Limited Edition) now, but I've been eyeballing the '07 Harley Streetbob lately...

**3) What was your longest road trip on a bike, and did anything interesting happen?**

I guess my longest trip was from Chattanooga to Daytona Beach, Florida. On that trip, a car stopped at a green light right in front of the pack. Everyone locked it down and I dropped mine. I was so mad I picked up my bike by the bars without any help.

**4) Do any other members of your family participate in motorcycling?**

My wife Sandra rides with me - for now.



**5)** Have you ever had any serious wrecks?  
I haven't had any serious wrecks, but I have come #@% close.

**6)** Have you ever been discriminated against because you ride a motorcycle?  
Yes. I get strange looks when I walk into certain places. It's also not unusual for me to see women grab their purses, and lock their car doors when they see me.

**7)** Have you enjoyed special benefits because you ride a motorcycle?  
Yes, I think I have. If nothing else, riding introduced me to the great bunch of brothers I ride with.

**8)** What is your favorite type of riding and what is your favorite local route (within 100 miles)?  
I like to ride in early spring, when it's not too #@% hot. My favorite route would probably be from Chattanooga to the Ocoee then on through to Murphy, North Carolina and back. It's a nice mountain route with lots of curves and beautiful scenery.

**9)** On average, how many miles do you ride each year?  
I haven't been keeping track... Being disabled, I ride as often as I can, but not as often as I would like to.

**10)** If you could change one thing about the motorcycling community, what would it be?  
I'd like to see people and drivers to pay more #@% attention.

Well, it looks like it's "mission accomplished" here. We captured Dozer and forced the Hot Seat answers out of him. Now if we can just figure out how to let him go without being dozed over... Seriously, if you see Dozer out and about, relax the grip on your purse, unlock your car door, and ask him to sign your copy of Road Rash Magazine. In my opinion, his passion for riding and triumph over physical obstacles earns him a certain degree of respect. Let him know if you agree!

If you or someone you know needs to be featured in The Hot Seat – let us know! Nominate your friends today!

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# SEE 8 STATES

## Wings In The Wind



by Eddie Rahm (Part 3 of 7)  
Photography by John Martin

**Recap:** Our trip took us through eight states in five days on back roads and state highways. We left Chattanooga on day one and arrived late in Damascus, Virginia traversing highways in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia (280 miles), with rain in the North Carolina mountain section (August issue). It was absolutely a wonderful but tiring day. I will describe each day in successive issues with day two as follows.

### Day 2 – Virginia–Tennessee–Kentucky (320 Miles)



The late night visiting with our roommates meant we were not in a big hurry to hit the road on day two. After our showers, we walked down the street to investigate the options for breakfast. We discovered Damascus was having it's annual hiker Trail Days, meaning empty seats were as rare as oil spots under a Honda. We decided on sausage



brisk, and the highway was a succession of straights connected by sweeping curves. This highway basically follows the trail that was cut by Daniel Boone and his crew of axe men and was used as a main corridor for early American settlers heading west. After logging

about 20 miles on the Trail, we stopped for photos of a long-deserted bar/barber shop on the side of the road. One of many old deserted buildings we explored on our trip. Lisa and her son James, who lived next door, came over to check out our bikes and to bring us bottles of water. They shared how they moved to Virginia from Ohio to get away from some negative influences on their family, and the move had been very successful. After visiting a bit we wished them well and thanked them for the water, but it was time to hit the road because we had lots of curvy miles before we called it a day.



Before long we arrived at the small town of Gate City and rode parallel to the Clinch River soon passing through the community of Duffield, on top of Cumberland Mountain. It was in this area that Daniel Boone's son



biscuits at the nearby convenience store and made nearby stone steps our own restaurant table. We noticed various hikers passing by seemed unfriendly and a little different, a sentiment echoed by several of the local folks we talked with. After breakfast we ambled back to the Dancing Bear, cleaned our dirty bikes, packed the freshly dried-out gear, and had our daily morning group devotion. We found this to be one of the highlights of each day, sending us out in the right spirit.

As we mounted our bikes for what I knew would be a long day, our night's rest had pretty much erased the fatigue of the ride in the rain the day before. The owner of the Dancing Bear waved as we headed down the street and back on Highway 58 toward Abingdon. Upon reaching Abingdon, we hopped on to I-81 for a few miles before we exited back on 58 at Bristol, Virginia. It is at this point on Highway 58 that we began the segment called the Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail. This



100-mile section turned out to be my favorite part of the day, due to the variety of scenery and relaxing riding. The initial stretch was a corridor through upscale farms at the foot of the Cumberland Mountain. The air was still a little



James, who was only 17 years old, was killed in an Indian massacre in 1773. As we continued down the highway, we left Virginia and entered the north edge of Tennessee at the city of Cumberland Gap, where we stopped for fuel. A gentleman from Illinois who

was traveling with his wife in their Sebring convertible told me he had been wanting a bike, but thought he was too old. He said after seeing us he realized he wasn't too old after all. After topping the tanks, we old geezers continued on by turning right on Highway 25E heading north toward Kentucky. Within a of couple minutes, we approached the ventilated and well-lighted Cumberland Gap Tunnel. At almost a mile in length, it was not only impressive in appearance, but a blast to drive through. As I led the way I was sure



a freight train was following me, but upon exiting the tunnel I realized it was just Wally and Hobert's Screaming Eagle pipes. It was awesome! We exited on the Kentucky end of the tunnel and stopped for a short posterior break and some lunch plans. After another 15 miles on 25E we stopped at Pineville, Kentucky at the foot of Pine Mountain for fuel and lunch at a McDonalds/convenience store combo. We kind of got tickled at lunch after we realized Hobert paid more for his single quarter pounder with cheese than Jon paid for his double, which was on sale. I guess it pays to read those signs that are hanging by wires over your head instead of talking to the folks behind you in line.

After lunch we hit Highway 92 directly across from the McDonalds and headed west. The curvy Highway 92 snaked its way through Ingram, Siler, and entered the Daniel Boone National Forest at Williamsburg. On to Whitley City and the small town of Pine Knot where I started noticing



my Garmin GPS unit was showing the next turn was getting further away, rather than closer. This is not good. It basically means that I had missed my turn somewhere. I immediately found a spot to turn around and looked up at the name of the road, which was the Old Baptizing Hole

Road. What better way to turn one's self around than the old baptism hole. Five miles of back-tracking and we were once again on Highway 92. Staying on 92 we reached Monticello, called the Houseboat Manufacturing Capital of the World, and turned left on Highway 90. I almost missed the turn but for the second time on this leg Randy was able to set me straight. Randy became my right hand man for the rest of the trip. He was good with directions as well as an encouragement to me, no matter how tired he was. Every group needs a Randy.

Continuing on Highway 90 we were only about 10 miles north of the Dale Hollow Lake, which has produced the world record Small-Mouth Bass and state records for Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, and Kentucky Muskie. We crossed the Cumberland River near Burkesville, which interestingly is the location of the first oil gusher hit in America. Ironically, they were actually drilling for salt when they hit oil, and the oil was bottled and sold for medicinal purposes. Somewhere along this stretch I smelled the aroma of burning wood, which is my favorite smell when riding my bike. It kind of reminds me of the good old days, when we burned leaves in the ditches behind our houses instead of bagging them. By this time we were getting pretty tired, with quite a few miles to go. As we put the wheels spinning several thousand more revolutions down the road we eventually passed the Kingsford charcoal briquette factory in Summer Shade. This is the largest charcoal briquette factory in the world and I was already thinking about that big juicy charcoal grilled steak for supper. By then we were out of the mountains and soon were on a divided highway, giving our bodies an



opportunity to rest from the curves we had enjoyed at other times. With darkness approaching I was ready to finish up this tiring leg on a fast and relaxing divided highway that gave us the opportunity to open the bikes up for a change. Hobert later vowed to have some performance mods prior to next years trip. By now it's dark and we finally rolled into Glasgow, Kentucky. We turned due south on Highway 31E and were able to squeeze out a few more miles down to



our day two destination, the Four Seasons Country Inn. The Four Seasons is a classy, country-style motel that is independently owned and operated by lifetime Glasgow residents Charles and Carole Smith. After settling in, we headed back into town for the Bolton's Landing Restaurant and a well earned supper and discussing things that might make the trip

more enjoyable next time around. Needless to say, the hot topic was shortening the leg lengths. We'll make some adjustments and improvements for next year's trip. After supper we headed back to the motel a little more rested for a visit with our new roommate and a good night's sleep. Congratulations, you've made it through the hard part of the trip! Sleep great, you are going to enjoy tomorrow Wild Wings!

#### **Some things we learned on Day 2:**

We were becoming very good group riders. We can be an encouragement to people wherever we go. That two ten-minute breaks work better than one twenty-minute break.

No matter how tired we got, a little rest and a good meal at the end of the day put things back into the proper perspective.

The disappointment in how many bikers had chosen the no helmet option in states with no helmet laws.

Hint for the next leg (October issue): It will be our best eating day of the trip with stops at the homes of the two inch thick pork chops for lunch and the Thrown-rolls for supper. We will spend the night in a town that is becoming known as a modern day ghost town, on the banks of Old Man River.

**Eddie Rahm**  
Wings in the Wind



**Mystery Pic #3** – Give me the name of the park, location, and the president it was built in honor of. Prize is a \$100 gift certificate to Steel Horse Motorcycles sponsored by Steel Horse Motorcycles on Ringgold Road. Responses should be sent to [HYPERLINKmailto:edtenga@bellsouth.net](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:edtenga@bellsouth.net) edtenga@bellsouth.net Note: John Kosky was first of over 20 correct responses on last month's mystery pic. The tunnel's name is The Cumberland Gap Tunnel and thanks to Ultimate Cycle & Scooter for sponsoring the prize.

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