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**Biker Chick
Melisa
pg. 24**

February 2008

**Chattanooga Area
MC Events**

**Check Out
Who's In The
Hot Seat:
pg. 42**

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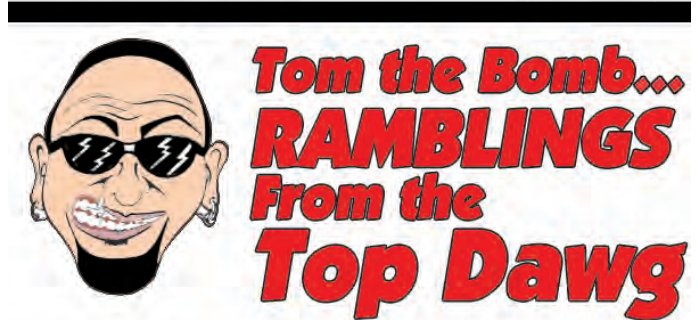
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Here it is February again. That means that warmer weather is just around the corner and you'll need to get out and enjoy the great riding roads now before it gets miserably hot. There are hills out there that need flattening and corners that need straightening... Don't waste a day you don't have to – we only have so many.

As a public service announcement, I guess I should remind all of you absent-minded guys out there it's time to start looking for that special something for that special someone. If you are lucky enough to have a Valentine – you should go ahead, blow the dust off of that checkbook and splurge a little on your main squeeze. You don't have to break the bank, after all – when it's all said and done, it's the little things that mean the most – but whatever you do, stay away from anything impersonal or practical in the gift department. I've heard women say that flowers and candy don't impress them in the least bit, but I've also seen those very women blush and giggle when the florist arrives with a big bouquet of roses and a heart-shaped box. Flowers and candy may be cliché, but they're traditional for a reason... Every woman wants flowers and candy. Trust me. Somewhere deep down inside – they all want flowers and candy.

I remember in elementary school, everyone in my small classroom was expected to bring a Valentine's card for every one of his or her classmates. Most of the time they were those cheesy perforated cards with the person's name written (in elementary school handwriting) right on the tiny envelope.

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(in elementary school handwriting) right on the tiny envelope. It was nice to get so many cards (a brown paper bag full) from all of my friends, but since it was practically a requirement, it wasn't a real big deal to me. Later on in high school, when one of the best-looking girls in school tapped me on the shoulder and handed me an envelope containing a Valentine's Day card – it really made my day! Honestly, I don't know how many cards she'd given out that day, if she'd made any kind of special effort to get me a card specifically, or even if it meant she was interested in me personally – but it meant a lot to me. As silly as this must sound, I have to admit I still have that card and it brings a smile to my face every time I see it. Thanks Shelly!

Make an effort this month to try and do something special for the people who are special to you. Not unlike a dusty Valentine's Day card that showed up when it seemed no one else cared, sometimes the smallest thing can make a lasting impression.

On another note, if you or anyone you know has submitted photos for consideration to be a model or to provide a bike for our front cover, please have them re-submit. We had an external hard drive crash and I'm afraid we've lost quite a bit of that information. Although we try to back everything up, accidents do happen.

I'd like to thank our loyal readers who have made a special effort to patronize

our advertisers during the holidays and beyond. Our advertisers pay our bills where you don't have to. If you show them your support and do business with them, this magazine can continue providing you with the most complete and focused local information you can't get anywhere else. We need your help to succeed and we are coming out of the starting gate with a renewed drive toward making Road Rash the best it can be.

If you haven't noticed, we have another Road Rash Biker Bash scheduled for August 15-17 in Martin Springs, Tennessee. Things are really looking great and everything is coming together. Please make plans to attend! Get divorced and quit your job if you have to. We are putting together a true "old school" biker party and it just won't be the same without you!

Be careful out there and keep an eye out for the other guy. Support those who support you and keep the rubber side down! I'll see you on the road!

Tom
THE
Bomb

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ONE OF

Ron "2 Tall" Spunar

OUR OWN

by Rock

I had heard his name for years, but our paths had never crossed until late December of last year. I had towed Tom the Bomb's famous cow bike to Custom Cycles of Chattanooga for repairs after the transmission locked up one rainy night on Hixson Pike. (No, he didn't go down. That's a miracle in itself and another story for another day). Anyway, as I walked in to visit the injured cow we finally met. He was elbow deep in grease and parts as I walked toward the cow. Then... he stood up, looked down at me and said, "I'm '2-Tall.'" All I can remember saying or thinking was, "Yes. You are," as I looked up and shook his hand. His hand swallowed mine as I stood in his shadow. Tall is a "38, 38, 38." That's a 38 waist, 38 length, and 38 sleeve length with a 18-and-a-half inch neck. He wears a size 17 boot. His wife Tangee is four-foot nine-inches. As we talked I could tell that his was a story that ya'll needed to hear. So, here it is. The "big man" is in the building!

Ron "2-Tall" Spunar is bigger than life. Topping out at an impressive seven feet tall and 287 pounds, let's just say that 2-Tall stands out in a crowd. He was born in Petersburg, VA in 1965 and his family soon moved to Elkhart, IN where he grew up on a farm. On the farm the young "Tall" learned the basics of small engine repair and soon started working on all types of farm equipment. His involvement in the FFA (Future Farmers of America) further nurtured his love of mechanics, welding, and other farm oriented necessities. Ron wrenched tractors, combines, harvesters, and any other piece of farm equipment that was down. He got his first motor driven cycle when he was in the third grade and soon started wrenching and changing parts on it.

By the time he reached high school he was 6' 10" and naturally played on the basketball team. After graduation he accepted a basketball scholarship at Southwest Mississippi where he played his freshman and sophomore years. During a UTC recruiting trip, Mac McCarthy's UTC Mocs recruited him. He played for UTC his junior and senior year under a full scholarship. At UTC he majored

in business finance (with a minor in psychology and computer science) and graduated in 1988.

After graduation "2-Tall" started "Community Recycling Systems," a recycling and waste disposal business. This enterprise was the first curbside recycling business in the Chattanooga area. He sold Community Recycling in 1993 when he was 28 years old. He was young, had a few bucks in the bank, and had a burr under his saddle. He decided to take some time off and ride his Suzuki Intruder 1400 across the country. This time off stretched into eight months during which time he rode in each of the 48 states and Canada.

When he returned in 1994, he went to work for the Auto Zone in Dalton and then assisted in setting up most of the Auto Zone locations throughout Chattanooga. During this period of time his need for speed prompted him to buy a Suzuki Hyabusa and a 1100 Katana. He later bought a limited production Suzuki Hybrid M109R which was the first one in Chattanooga. He bored it out and did everything possible to make it the fastest in town.

In 1998 Tall left Auto Zone and went to work for the Corrections Corporation of America where he was a corrections officer. He later went to Grant, New Mexico to undergo BOP (Federal Bureau of Prisons) training. He also had a stint transporting federal prisoners before he changed professions again in 2001. The multi faceted "Tall" moved from law enforcement to property acquisition and remodeling. He worked in the property field for two and a half years and acquired a number of properties, which he still operates under the moniker of "Spunar Properties."

Another career move was made in 2003 when he became a fugitive recovery agent for ABC and C&C Bail Bonds. After about six months he branched out into writing bonds while still operating his "Republic Fugitive Recovery." In 2006, as if he didn't have enough to do, Ron started hanging around Custom Cycles and getting his hands back in the grease. In addition to his properties, fugitive recovery, and writing bonds he was now back in the mechanic-ing business. He took it a



step further in April of 2007 when he started Chattanooga Fabrications (motorcycle parts fabrication), which shares a building with Custom Cycles. 2-Tall can now rent you a house, fabricate a part for your motorcycle, fix your scooter when it's down, bond you out of jail, then chase your butt down if you jump bail. He's going to make money at every avenue. Now that's what I call multi faceted.

Okay, enough of this business crap... Let's get into his personal life. I casually mentioned earlier that his wife



Tangee is only four-foot nine-inches tall. Tangee is a surgical cardiac

intensive care unit nurse manager at Erlanger. She is the love of his life so I had to delve into how they met. It seems that 2-Tall first laid eyes on his bride to be in the Republic Parking Garage next to the jail. He was smitten and it was love at first sight. Using his investigative skills he soon learned who she was and delivered an invitation for dinner to her home (Tangee says he stalked her). Not only is Ron very tall, he is very smoooooth. To make a long story short, she accepted his invitation and they were married in the spring of 2005. Of course they didn't tell anyone they were married. Later that year they were married again for friends and family on Halloween of 2005 by Judge Russell Bean. They celebrate their anniversary on Halloween every year.

When you see "Mr Tall" (the name many local judges call him) out and about, make sure to say hi and tell him that you read about him in Road Rash Magazine. Now that I've interviewed the tallest biker around, maybe I should start looking for the shortest for a future article. If any of you have a person you'd like to see as a One of Our Own please contact me at rock@roadrashmag.com - **Rock**





ROCK'S TWO CENTS

Hi Folks,

I hope everyone made it through the holidays unscathed. To be honest with you, I'm glad it's over. All I can think about right now is warmer weather and where this year's travels will take me. I'm hoping for a long

western trip if the Biker Bash planning doesn't interfere. Remember, the BASH is BACK. Our Bash is different than all the mega events around the country. We like to think of ourselves as an "old school" biker party. Not a lot of frills, just a lot of good people having a lot of a good time.

I found the following poem on the web and laughed till I cried. Check out: <http://groups.msn.com/toddsharley pix> Everybody I've read it to, thought that I wrote it, but I can't take credit for writing it. I can take credit for putting my "two cents" aside this month and bringing it to you. If any of this hits too close to home, at least be able to laugh with us.

How to Be a Biker

A Sarcastic & Satirical Poem by "Todd8080"

Bikers are a subculture, you might have heard folks say. But how's a man to join this clan? Must he ride every day?

Is there a special set of rules that helps define the rider?
And how long is this journey to becoming an insider?

Does one just go and buy a bike to claim their rightful place?
To get there will you need long hair and whiskers on your face?

Well, take heart, it's your lucky day. I'm here to set you straight.
Just play it smart and act the part, then you won't have to wait.

No dues to pay (unless you count the fortune you'll be spending).
No greasy hands or club demands, it's all done with pretending.

See, preparation's paramount to taking on this role.
Without the right appearance you're just one more rich a#@hole.

The "just-got-out-of-prison" look is what you must achieve,
So cultivate it carefully and you'll make folks believe.

Naturally you'll have to get yourself some Motorclothes®.
The whole ensemble's pricey, though, as every biker knows.

But that official uniform will suit you fine, you'll see
(It's sure to underscore your individuality).

Some new tattoos will show the world that you're bad to the bone.
The tribal ones are popular, though which tribe is unknown.

Regrettably they hurt a bit; your skin will bleed and swell.
If that won't do there's fake ones, too, and they'll work just as well.

Wearing helmets is for squares, so they should not be used.
Are you pro-choice? Have you no choice? Admit it, you're confused.

Don't bother thinking for yourself, mimic what others do.
Within a week you'll go from geek to hardcore biker, too.

If all this seems like too much effort just to play a part,
Pretend it's year 'round Halloween and you're a kid at heart.

And what about the bike itself? Is pristine paint taboo?
It's true that chrome won't get you home, but neither will bird doo.

Adorn your scoot with skulls and flames so there can be no doubt:
You scoff at death with every breath, it's what you're all about.

A bunch of Maltese crosses is another way to go.
What do they signify? Who cares, they're only there for show.

The bike is just a prop you see, stage dressing in your play.
In full attire you'll inspire all eyes to look your way.

I'm sure you've heard loud pipes are cool; they're proof that you are tough.
Who cares if neighbors' kids can't sleep, too much is not enough!

Don't bother learning riding skills 'cause you were born to ride.
Cars can't ignore your mighty roar, they all will move aside.

One thing that's very crucial is to have a wide rear tire.
It won't improve performance, but then that's not your desire.

Again, it's all about the look; fat rubber implies power.
They'll never know your bike won't go a hundred miles an hour.

Avoid the highway at all costs, the boulevard's your spot.
More folks will see you, long to be you, riding skills or not.

Mostly you'll just park the bike and pose in public view.
The hoi polloi can eye your toy while idolizing you.

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And don't forget to drink a lot, it's part of the mystique. It makes you seem more interesting, rebellious and unique.

Along with that comes attitude, the nastier the better. No one can know a faux Brando was once a frail bed wetter.

Be sure to work on language skills, particularly curse words. A well-placed s#@t or f%#k is nice, or maybe you know worse words.

All men are "bro", all women "b#@!h" - this may take some rehearsing. But then who can remember names with all that drunken cursing?

Brag about your bike, call it "your latest acquisition." Mention you own three to further bolster your position.

Status symbols don't come cheap, you've earned the right to boast. The most authentic biker is the one who spends the most.

Toss around some gear head terms like "spark advance" or "VOES." So what if it's all Greek to you, odds are no one else knows.

Just one last thing I must impart on how you should behave: If in our travels we should pass, please don't forget to wave.

Oh, I'm not saying I'll wave back, but then I'm not a bro. I've just been riding all my life, so, what the h#ll do I know?

ha, ha, ha, hardy har har - see ya next month - Rock

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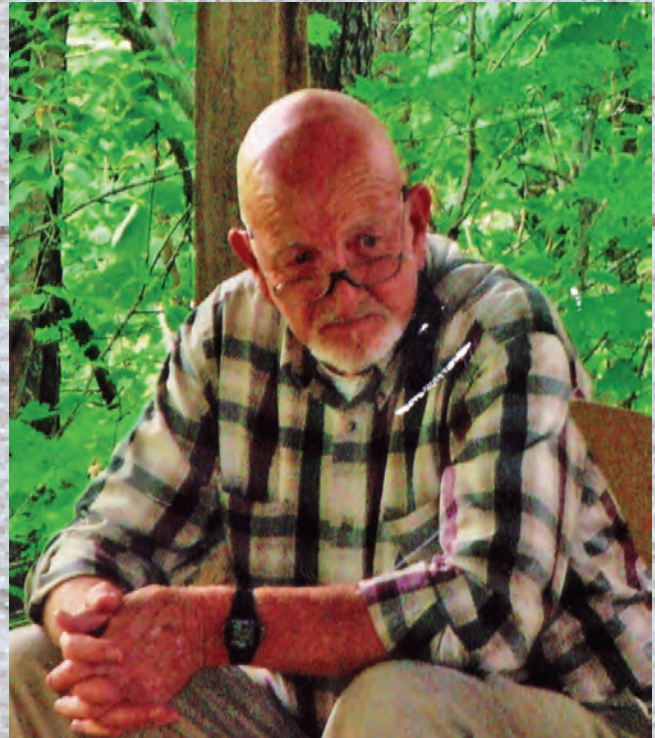


TEARS ON BLACK LEATHER

Brothers and Sisters Down or Gone

On Sunday December 23, I received news that not only had the biker community lost one of their own, but I had lost a friend. Fred "Uncle Fred" Hickey had lost his battle with cancer. Midge and I met Uncle Fred several years ago through his nephew Bill, who was the drummer for "Southern Heritage Band." Uncle Fred was their biggest fan and did his best to be at every fundraising event they played. I found out early the he and I shared a love for the song "Wipeout" and Bill hated playing it. So from that moment on it became our passion to do whatever we could to push Bill into playing it. His sense of humor and larger than life personality was infectious. He also had a playful side, so everyone expected pranks to be pulled when he was around. We all can close our eyes and imagine him up in heaven sneaking around playing pranks on the other angels. His passing has left an empty space in all our hearts. For all of you that knew him or want to honor him the family has asked that donations be made to Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation (www.pbtfus.org). Fred and his wife Darleen were big supporters of this organization. Any donations should be made in honor of Fred Hickey, G.W.R.R.A, chapter W. His warmth, generosity, and sense of humor will be missed by his family and all who knew him.

Midge Adams
Reverend Booger



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COMMENTS FROM READERS

Thank You, Thank You to all who have stepped up to the plate and gave shirts for our Vets. It is going well and we have gathered over 200 shirts for the Vets. You are the Greatest! There are Vets wearing shirts from all over our beautiful USA because you have made it happen. The last 100 shirts we sent only lasted five minutes before the guys snapped them up. The Operation First Response people are excited and thank you too. I don't like mention individuals but I fell I must. Charlie at Thunder Creek, you are too much Brother and then Bill Cason from The Trail of Tears sent a "pile" of T.O.T. shirts, all new, never been unfoled. I am Very Proud to call the Bikers in our area " My Friends and Brothers. To Lil 'R at the M.C.I.C. for announcing this for us and the men of Road Rash, Rock, Tom the Bomb, and Moleman have made this happen. What can I say but, thank you, but that doesn't seem enough. Thanks Brothers.

Grizz : Elder
Bikers for Christ
circuitrider1941@msn.com

Recently I have experienced how brothers and sisters in the biker community will help others in a time of need. I had to undergo major back surgery two weeks before Christmas and was out of work for about three weeks. I had some really great brothers and sisters step up and help my son and myself through these rough times. I cannot individually say "Thanks" to everyone, but all of you, even people that I don't know have affected my life in a very positive way. This will forever remind me of what this "biker" life is all about.

Thanks again,

P-Nut
Unwanted MC

Hey Rock,

I got the CD out to Moleman last week. Sorry my interent was acting up and I haven't been able to send this until today. Thanks for sharing them with everyone for me and the Patriot Guard. I know the Marines and their families will enjoying seeing them. Thank you again for all you, Tom and Moleman do for our community!

Jeff "Fatboy" Holt



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Have you ever experienced heart palpitations, trembling, flushing, pupil dilation, general weakness, awkwardness, stammering, shyness and confusion? These are common responses when two people meet and have a mutual attraction. So, if you have ever been in love you've probably had most of these physiological responses. It's the early stages of lust and love. It's what starts a relationship, but it is not what makes the coupling last.

February is the month for lovers. It is the time of the year you show your affection through flowers, cards, and candy. This is one day of the year that you should act like you did when you first began the courtship with the one you love. When a relationship begins, you should probably have a mutual physical attraction with the other person. Then comes common thoughts and ideas that demonstrate your compatibility. The common attraction will then bring you into an intimate relationship both emotionally and physically. Then (if you're lucky) you will feel the overwhelming need to be with that person all the time, because you are in love. If you are really lucky, that person will feel the same about you. So, your life begins with someone else by your side - your life partner.

I am not a relationship expert. My expertise is fitness/wellness. However, a healthy relationship is very important for wellbeing. My lovely wife and I have been together for 27 years. We have raised two sons and have one grandchild so far. We have had our ups and downs just like everyone does through their married lives. But, in my opinion, love and lust has not carried us through all these years. Mutual admiration and respect is the foundation of a lasting relationship.

In the beginning of every relationship is the courting phase, when you show your best side and hide those idiosyncrasies that only your mother knows about. After the commitment is made and you cohabit is often when your true self emerges. Are you willing to overlook those things that your spouse does that irritate you? Are you willing to change lifelong habits that irritate your partner? How long will you control your flatulence in the presence of your soul mate? As time goes by both of you will change and so goes the relationship. Will you still admire that person across the breakfast table as you did several years ago? Do you still like that person you share your bed with? Do you like the person you have become in order to make your spouse happy? These are some very important questions to ask yourself.

It is very important to truly like the person you are with. You may always feel love, but you must actually enjoy that person's presence in your life. My wife is my closest and dearest friend. She knows me better than anyone. I trust her implicitly. Most of all, I respect her. Respect is the most important aspect of a developing relationship. As two people grow they do not always grow together. They each

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take a different path. Do you respect your partner enough to give them the room to find their own path, which may not always include you? Does your spouse give you the same freedom for self-growth?

I absolutely admire and respect my wife. I like who she is. I respect her opinions and ideas, even though I don't always agree. I enjoy her presence in my life. I also am grateful that she respects me enough to allow me to pursue my own interests when she chooses not to participate. This has helped us stay together all these years and with more to come.

Gentlemen, always be a gentleman. Show your respect by opening doors, taking her hand when walking and asking her opinions on life decisions. It angers me when I see men walking several paces ahead of their women. That's what men do in Iraq. It is a sign of disrespect and contempt to that woman. So wait for her in the Wal-Mart parking lot, no matter how long she takes to get out of the car.

One more thing that I will not do is badmouth my wife to others. Men who go out with their buddies and belittle their wives are insecure boys who do not know how to have a quality relationship. This is disrespect. If you have something to say, say it to her, or go to a counselor or pastor. It is much more effective than airing your dirty laundry in public.

I have one last personal philosophy in my relationship to share. My ideas of "making love." I do not use the term "making love" for sex. The act of lovemaking is not sexual. I use it as a daily lifestyle. I show my wife each and every day that I love her. Throughout the day I remind her of

my love for her. I go out of my way to do things for her. I consider her thoughts and feelings in every thing I do. This is love making. I make love every day. Can you say that? And at the end of each day there is that better possibility that I might get lucky!

So grow with the one you love. Enjoy their presence in your life and respect who they are and your time together will be a long and happy one. Respect yourself and respect the one you are with. See you on the road.

Be cool, stay cool,
"Joe Cool" Wiram
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HERE'S THE RUB

"I was so much older then I'm younger than that now!"
Bob Dylan

Like a lot of brave hearts, I ventured out on the first day of the New Year challenging the arctic weather to ride. Partly because it is a tradition, somewhat because it is a test to see if I can still do it yet one more time. Arguably, because I might be just a little crazy, but mostly because I got a complete set of electric clothes for Christmas and could do that Electric Cowboy thing! I wasn't doing one of those polar bear club, jump through a hole in the ice, crazy ideas... I just wanted to ride!

I had never broken down and made the investment in cold-weather motorcycle riding gear in the past because I didn't ride much when it got really cold. I didn't ride that much when it got really cold because I didn't have the proper clothes. So you can see, it is one of those "chicken-egg," which-comes-first kind of thing. To get a complete set of socks, pants, vest gloves, thermostat, and connector pig-tails you have to spend well over seven-eight hundred bucks. I guess the egotistical part of me reasoned that kind of money would be better spent on chrome, something others see year round not worn as under-garments! When I built the chopper years ago I heard the term "form



follows function," which means it if it doesn't make the bike go faster, stop quicker, or handle better it simply isn't necessary! Many may consider electric-gear wussing out, but then I'll probably be out riding when they are shut-in at some watering hole bragging about how they still don't see the need for a windshield. In frigid weather, heated suits definitely allow me to go faster, stop less and even look better doing it!

Last month in momentary lapse of sanity, I confessed Rock was right about most everything when it comes to riding but don't worry I have not completely abandoned my RUB persona completely. I am changing the amount of riding I am doing is all. I will always be a bit anal about keeping the bike clean, adding accessories, wearing bar-and-shield brand logo clothing, pledging alliance to The Factory, etc. I'll just add more riding to the mix and less time on the other parts of the addiction.

I got a new Street Glide and I am about to begin the modifications to make it custom (mine). I used to load new motorcycles down with accessories before I ever began the break-in-mileage. It was easier to tell the wife that is the way they come stock, than it was to add a piece at a time in that fine art of wife deception that most Harley owners know all too well. This time around, I am being more patient, content to add a few items at a time and adhering to that form follows function approach. I may even skip the whole chrome route and go for a blacked out, stealth, "Night-Train" Dresser look. Let's see I could call it the "Street-Train" or the "Night-Glide." Maybe I should trade mark those names before Willie G beats me to the idea.

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I like the Street Glide because it is a blank canvas without all the pin striping. By the time I no longer need the 'lectra-suit I'll probably go see Kenny Reynolds and get a custom paint job.

Speaking of defending the Moto-Factory, it has become somewhat vogue as Harleys have increased in popularity to buck the trend and dis them as sell-outs pandering to the almighty dollar. I became a HOG member in 1987 because it came as free bonus when I bought my first-ever new Harley. In '88 when it came time to renew, I opted to spend a few bucks more and become a Lifetime Member. I had ridden for close to twenty years at the time and figured I had at least another twenty in me. Now that I have began my third twenty-year leg, it is getting to be a better deal and one of the best investments I have ever made. As Harley celebrates their twenty-fifth anniversary of HOG, they have continued the practice of rewarding new bike buyers with a free one-year membership to their Owners Group. As a lifetime member, they have likely sent me more Enthusiast magazines than the one hundred dollars it cost me to join their club two decades ago. Every time I buy a new Harley (and I have bought six since) they send me a check! Yes, you heard that that right. Harley Davidson sends Lifetime Hog Members a check equal to a year membership when they buy a new motorcycle! They don't have to and I wouldn't complain or feel cheated if they didn't. It is a classy thing to do. So next time you hear someone trashing them for being money grubbers, know someone in the Factory chain-of-command still recognizes it takes more than lip service to maintain the kind of customer loyalty that causes people to tattoo the name of their business on their arm!

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REVEREND BOOGER'S TWO-WHEELED PULPIT

Well hello. I hope the new year is treating everyone well. My only resolution was not to make any resolutions. So far, all is well.

The weather has not been cooperating with my quest to put 500 miles on my Sportster. I installed cams and five-over pistons in it last month and I'm itching to get into it and see how it runs. My mechanic warned me about running it too hard before it was broken in, so I'm being easy on it for now. If the weather gives me the chance, I am going to putter around one day until it says 500 miles then twist the throttle and let her rip.

Ok, before we get into what the "Boogtown" committee (the voices in my head) thinks about riding apparel, I want to go back and talk a little more about roads. After I finished last month's article one member of the committee felt left out. That member was the one I like to call "Mr. Curious." This is the one that questions things I see while riding. Like signs dedicating a road, bridge or intersection to a certain person. I can't help but wonder who they were and what they did to get something named after them. Now some of you may be asking why I don't just research these people when I get home. Well "Mr. Curious" has a bad case of Attention Deficit Disorder, so by the time I get a couple of miles down the road that thought is out of his mind and wondering about something totally new. Another thought that has always bothered him is all the creeks I've cross-named "dry creek."



Now if it's dry, isn't it just a ditch? Doesn't "creek" mean it has water in it? How can a creek be dry? There are many other questions and thoughts that get discussed while I am out riding. They keep me entertained and make the ride a whole lot more interesting.

Ok, now let's move on to what the committee thinks about riding apparel. Some of you may disagree, but it is my opinion that everyone's fashion sense is controlled by their feminine side. The committee ran off my feminine side somewhere around puberty. She left in a huff, and was replaced with members I will call "practical dude" and "comfort dude." I have said it before and will say it again; I think clothes serve two main purposes; to protect me from the elements and to protect the world from seeing me naked. The world needs to be real grateful on that last part.

In the past I, like most of you, have wrapped myself in leather when I rode. As far as gloves, boots, and jackets this is okay. But the one piece of leather clothing that irritated me was chaps. To me they don't keep you that much warmer to justify wearing the inconvenient things. Being as I like to ride year round, I started noticing that other people that rode year round didn't wear much leather when it was real cold. These people wore insulated work cloths. I was so intrigued with this observation that I went out and bought some insulated bib overalls. I am a convert now, not only are they much warmer, they are 100 times easier to get to stuff in your pockets. Now I know they don't have that "biker style" look to them but I frankly don't care. I did not buy my motorcycles so I could look

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a certain way. I bought them to ride as much and as often as I can. On the flip side of this issue, I have to admit that I like seeing chaps being worn by members of the opposite sex, so I am not advocating everyone get rid of them. I just don't like wearing them myself. Two pieces of leather wrapped around my legs isn't going to help me look any better.

Another piece of practical clothing that I noticed year round riders wearing was heated gloves. My hands have always been the one body part that I had trouble keeping warm. This is probably due to poor circulation caused by a steady diet of barbeque, nicotine, and lack of exercise. The committee being the way it is, instead of correcting that part, they just come up with a solution that doesn't involve work, change of diet or the pain of quitting. Seeing as I had a little extra money Santa had left me, I went to the "Harley Boutique" and bought me heated gloves. I am here to tell you that it was money well spent. In fact they keep my hands so warm, I am having a hard time keeping the committee from talking me into hooking the gloves up to bike, putting a hotdog in each finger and a Vienna sausage in each thumb and see how well they cook them.

Some of you might have noticed that I have limited the committee to discussing mainly cold weather apparel. Seeing as it is winter, I thought that it would be inappropriate to discuss summer clothing. There will be a chance for that later in the year. There are still some more thoughts from the committee about clothing and other topics that I will pick up on next month, 'til then...

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MCIC NEWS

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 7, 2008

@ FULL MOON SALOON

The last Motorcycle Clubs In Chattanooga (MCIC) meeting was January 3 at the Full Moon Saloon off of Rossville Boulevard. The best clubs in Chattanooga were represented including the Outlaws, Black Pistons, A.R.M. Independent, Freedom Riders, Southern Journeymen, Southern Cruisers, Southern Thunder, Lone Legion Brothers, Rolling Thunder, Christian Motorcycle Association, as well as several independent bikers who came in to check everything out. Everyone is welcome!

Several things were discussed including the MCIC black long-sleeved t-shirts that would be available soon at Quick Tees on Brainerd Road or at the next MCIC meeting (2/7/08) for \$15 with the proceeds



going to the MCIC.

We talked about the MCIC MySpace profile and asked everyone interested to put in a "friend request," where information could be shared quicker throughout the community. If you have trouble finding it – you can follow the link on www.roadrashmag.com.

We also considered the possibility of putting together a large swap meet in the Chattanooga area to promote the MCIC when the weather starts warming up. It was decided that each club present would elect one representative to form a planning committee responsible for making it happen. Several locations were discussed, but the decision was put off until more facts could be gathered.

We discussed the possibility of getting a MCIC discount at local motorcycle dealerships and how if it could be worked out, we could hand out discount cards at every meeting that would be good for 30 days. While on the subject of having cards



printed, we also discussed having MCIC promotional business cards printed as an outreach effort.

An open invitation was made to everyone to attend a party at the Chattanooga Outlaws clubhouse and to a surprise birthday party for Lil' R. A request for bike riders to escort the Mike Battery soldiers to the airport on their way to Iraq was made also (all of which will have passed by the time you read this). Also, we were reminded to keep our sick and injured brothers in our thoughts and prayers. We had an update on Roger Ware's condition and learned that although the doctors have told him he has a brain tumor the size of an avocado (and given him approximately two months to live), he has checked himself out of the V.A. hospital.



The MCIC was formed as a unifying effort between local motorcycle clubs. It also serves as a place for interested independents to check out and get to know the clubs in the area and what they are about in an informal setting. All meetings are open, but club members vote on issues and direct our collective efforts. It is a great forum. Come out to the next meeting February 7 and see for yourself!





Oh crap, Keith's got a camera.



I think I've been set up.



Let me off this thing!



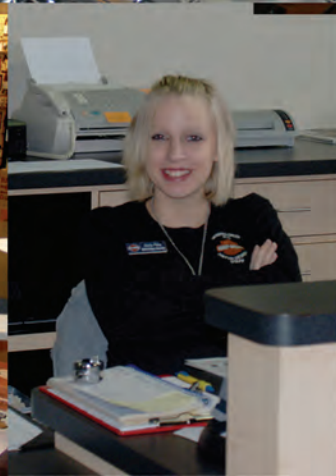
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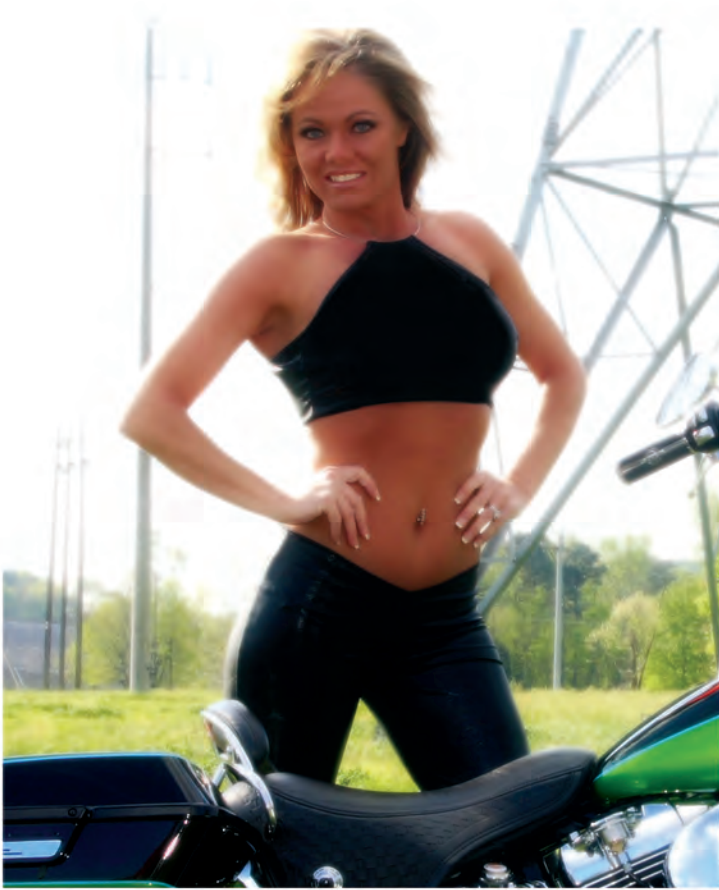
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The Low Down:

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Engine: 88 cubic inch H-D

Owners: Heath and Paula Dunn – Cleveland, TN

Paint: Heath and Paula Dunn – Cleveland, TN

The bike we have featured this month is unusual. But you wouldn't you expect anything else from someone who has been into custom cars and trucks as much as owners Heath and Paula Dunn have. Their custom show truck has been featured on the covers of numerous magazines. However, Heath says they've recently lost interest in four-wheelers and have really gotten into motorcycles. Heath and Paula have done a great job with what started off life as a Softail Springer. Upon close examination, you'll not only notice every piece of chrome that has been made available, but a lot of hard work and attention to detail you rarely see. I would say what you see here is the "end result," but I happen to know Heath has already changed out the wheels, exhaust and several other things on this bike since this shoot. Apparently, the custom paint, hopped up engine, 15-inch "ape hanger" handlebars, or the custom fabricated brackets made to install the Road King saddlebags weren't enough... Of course, a true project bike is never done.

They just don't make 'em like our cover model Melisa anymore. With her bright smile and those long legs, I'm sure she's turned more than her fair share of heads. To her credit, I've heard the weather was insanely cold during this photoshoot – but you sure can't tell it by looking at the pictures. Great job!

Special thanks goes out to Abra Autobody and Glass in Cleveland for allowing Heath to use their facilities to complete this bike's paint job, Melisa for braving the cold (see above), and to Bill McCord (www.billmccord.com) for sharing his incredible photography skills and submitting the pictures. Keep Bill in mind if you ever need a photographer! To check out many more beautiful pictures of this great bike and hot Biker Chick (and much more), go to www.roadrashmag.com!



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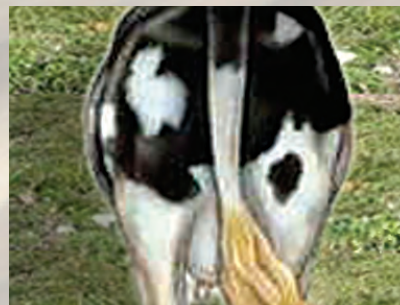
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From Behind The Handlebars



I sat in bumper-to-bumper traffic in near Chicago recently waiting on the afternoon traffic to move along so I could get back home for the weekend. It was well below 20 degrees while I sat in my warm cozy Freightliner. Traffic was crawling along and I was trying to understand the news reporter doing the live traffic report. The report is so fast paced that I had no idea what he was saying until I heard it the third or fourth time. So someone had dropped a motorcycle on the Tri-State Tollway and it was backed up for several miles. I had images of a motorcycle crash like many of us had seen. They announced a truck was involved and several cars had to be towed. Traffic crawled along at less than five miles per hour and on several occasions came to a complete standstill. I flipped around on several Chicago stations hoping to hear more about the downed biker with not one of the stations saying anything except a motorcycle was involved.

After over an hour I came upon the crash site and there was motorcycle scattered all over the inside shoulder of the tollway. The crash had to be at high speed and the rider had to be severely injured in the crash. I was looking through my phone list for the Chicago area CMA chapter

contact information when I saw an Illinois State Trooper standing on the shoulder near my truck. As I eased alongside him, I rolled down the window and asked, "How bad did the biker get hurt?" The trooper kind of smiled and said, "Biker? It fell off a truck."

I found out later that the motorcycle fell off the back of a pull back wrecker and hit a tractor trailer and four cars before coming to rest along the concrete retaining wall. Imagine that phone call to the owner, "Uh, hi I was taking your motorcycle to be repaired and it fell off my wrecker and did about thirty thousand in damage to five vehicles on the tollway."



I have no idea how it all turned out, but it does show all of us that the unexpected can pop up at anytime. While that biker only lost his ride, none of us know what is around the next corner. I wasn't expecting my heart attack. Gary Scruggs wasn't expecting to hit a pick up truck. So many of us have had events in our lives that catch us off guard. While there is no one step answer there is one solution to many of the problems that can befall us. Even though I have faced death, I had no fear because I knew that my personal Savior and Lord was there with me. Jesus Christ is the only true final solution and only through Him can anyone receive the gift of salvation and eternal life. Not sure what it all means? Accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior is the way to heaven, eternal life, and the peace to accept many of the toils and snares this world throws at us everyday. It doesn't mean the world becomes perfect, but it allows us the peace to accept what has happened and the vision to work past anything. If you want to know more about Jesus just ask a CMA member or call one of us. If you need a wrecker in Chicago be sure to ask if he ever spilled a motorcycle on the Tri-State tollway first.

The Blessing of the Bikes is just around the corner! See you at the River Park on March 22!

See you on the streets,

Harry T. Stone

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Long before Martha Stewart, or any of the current crop of lady gourmets on the Food Network, who was the most famous lady baker of all times? She was created in 1921 after the Gold Medal Flour Company was being flooded with questions regarding baking issues. The company decided the best approach to this opportunity to impact their target market in a positive way was to make their responses more personal, so they created



a totally fictitious expert in baking that everyone would trust and admire. This imaginary person would go on to advise a depression era nation how to cook inexpensive, tasty meals in the 30's, and was actually voted the second most famous woman in America next to Eleanor

Roosevelt in the 40's. She was Betty Crocker and her name was derived from a Gold Medal retired director's last name (Crocker) and a first name that the creators felt had a friendly sound (Betty). This fictional character went on to author more than 200 cookbooks and in addition the company started a complete line of food products by the same name. To keep up with the times Betty's appearance has changed seven times over the years, from the more mature gray haired lady in the 30's to the computer generated dark-haired, tanned, modern Betty of today.

It's called "marketing." There are many different approaches to marketing and many behind the scenes bits of information the general public will never know. The basics of marketing are quite simple, determine your potential customers (target market), decide the strengths of your products to promote to that market, and then determine how to best communicate your strengths or advantages to that market in a way that will impact their buying habits. Successful advertising can make or break a product or company, and wise business owners know that this venture can be a bottomless pit with little returns, or it can be the tool that gets them over the hump toward a successful long-term enterprise. The secret is reaching the target market for the least amount of money per person with the media that best encourages the purchase of the product or service. Betty's advertising campaign has been quite successful over the years with their products found in virtually every grocery store across the nation and a public that will buy the products simply based on name recognition.

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This was a month that I had planned to take a break from writing an article after completing my See Eight States series, basically because I am a little tired of writing. The trip articles took me about 15-20 hours each month to author (including the map) and I have been ready for a little break. But upon reading Rock's article last month regarding the competition Road Rash is receiving locally I felt compelled to throw out my thoughts as a Road Rash writer. And since my BS degree is in Business Marketing I also will throw in my "two cents" from a marketing standpoint. First let me say we at Road Rash are honored that you allow us to enter your world and be a part of your life. Those of us who contribute articles to Road Rash get no compensation; instead we spend the time and effort because Road Rash gives us the opportunity to say things we hope can impact the readers' lives in a positive way. I recently talked to Ronnie ("Rock") about Road Rash and he indicated the money is not worth the effort, it's the love for the local cycle community that drives him, and I know "Tom the Bomb" and "Moleman" feel the same. And let me also just say I am honored these guys are my friends and they are great guys with good business heads. My quandary is that the person who represents the competition magazine is also someone I call my friend. But unfortunately, this is not an area big enough to support two cycle magazines and eventually the advertisers will have to make a choice. Are the other guys bad guys? Not in my mind. They are just venturing into a community that is not in their area and what I would personally say was not a good fit for our local businesses seeking to reach their target markets.

What should you, the Road Rash reader, do in regards to this situation? First, you need to decide which publication you would like to remain in our area. If both stay, both will probably disappear eventually, and I personally would hate to see Road Rash evaporate. After you decide which publication fits your needs, you need to just leave the other mag on the counter where you see them, or maybe even tell the proprietor your thoughts on the two publications. These businesses are spending their money on you; the least you can do is give them some feedback on their investment. Big time companies send out marketing questionnaires to ascertain the effectiveness of their marketing campaigns, small businesses need your personal feedback. If you leave one of the publications on their shelf and the other disappears, believe it or not you just filled out your questionnaire. And to the potential advertisers in the area - my caution would be to make sure any slick media salesmen talk in terms of cost per 1000 of your target market (probably within about 20 miles of your location) and not just in terms of cost per 1000 in general.

Betty Crocker was a successful lady that never existed; why not consider making the magazine that does exist locally the sole source for your cycle needs. Have a blessed 2008!

Under His Wings,

Eddie Rahm

edtennga@bellsouth.net

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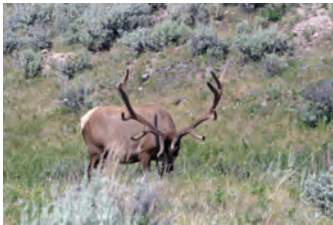


Blowing Smoke



As I am sitting down to read over this article, my heart is very heavy. I just returned home from the funeral of my friend, Stephanie Vasofsky. She's the young woman I told you about last month that was battling cervical cancer. Please keep her family, husband, and young daughter in your thoughts and prayers. Remember if you want to read her story, check out caringbridge.com/visit/Stephanievasofsky. I am still taking donations for the family and cervical cancer research for her foundation if you'd like to give. Now back to my trip...

Obviously, before we left the Yellowstone Park we had many adventures with wild creatures. From black bears crossing right in front of our path, to almost getting run over by some elk trying to cross the road, and the king of Yellowstone, the bison, either running over us to get to the river or just the herd blocking the road because they wanted to cross it. We also saw a black bear feeding on an elk that caught a lot of attention from passers by. That was pretty cool especially since he had been feeding for two days



and stopped shortly after we pulled over. Another of my favorite moments in the park was when we came across this huge elk that was minding his own business getting dinner. Everyone was stopped watching this thing when my Dad goes around behind the creature to get higher on the hillside to get his picture. Along comes a park ranger yelling for everyone to get off the hill because the animals can be "volatile." She starts yelling at my Dad, who has been sitting up on a log, to come. I was thinking, she's crazy. That elk doesn't even know that my Dad is there and you want him to come running down the hill?! Needless to say, he made it just fine and we went on to see the sulphur smelling thermal features around the park including Old Faithful and another geyser that erupts only a few times a year. This geyser erupted right as I walked up to get a picture. Did you know that Yellowstone is nestled in the middle of a super volcano? Something to think about while planning a trip out there, huh? Well, sadly we pulled off from Yellowstone the next morning and headed down into Wyoming. At the top, we were all wearing winter suits and full faced helmets and thick heavy gloves. As we wound down the side of the mountain, on the two lanes covered in gravel, it began to get warmer, and warmer.



Unlike my Dad, I didn't bring a modular helmet that I could pull the front up to get air. When we finally stopped at the bottom for breakfast I could not get out of it and the winter suit fast enough. After a yummy breakfast we hit the road again. The

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countryside out there is just amazing. If you've not been, I would definitely plan a trip soon.

The big town of Thermopolis with its 3200 people is known for its hot springs. They even have a water park fed by hot springs. Oh, and don't forget about the

Wyoming Dinosaur Center, a very cool place. They have all kinds of fossils on display and you can visit an actual dig site. Did you know that the first Triceratops, the one with three horns, were first discovered in Wyoming in 1887? That's just one of the many things I learned during my visit. Possibly one of the most unique places we drove through was the Wind River Canyon located near Thermopolis, Wyoming. This canyon was formed by the Wind River and the Big Horn River. Where these rivers come together is known as the Wedding of the Waters. This place is the most amazing place I've seen. As you drive into the canyon, you see the walls rising on both sides of you. At places the walls rise 2,500 feet on each side and it's just the road, the river, and a train track down in there with you. As you drive along, you'll see signs denoting how old the rocks are around you. Some of the oldest rocks in the world dating back to the Precambrian period more than 2.9 billion years ago with their pink and black colors are right along the



roadside.

From the Wind River Canyon, we headed east making an occasional stop at some of the roadside attractions such as Independence Rock, Split Rock, and of course, Devils Tower. The tower was proclaimed the first national monument by Teddy Roosevelt in 1906. At this point, the first rain clouds that we had seen the whole trip started giving us chase. If you've been to Wyoming, you know it's flat and what looks close can be miles away. However, these clouds were close. Every time we came to an intersection and turned, it was like they were following us. We ended up in no man's land headed to our next stop and suddenly there was a big flash of lightning and a boom of thunder. Part of the lightning bolt came down in the dark clouds and the other bolt appeared to come down in the blue sky. Talk about weird looking, it kinda freaked me out. Here we are in the middle of nowhere riding on metal and it's lightning. About that time, my Dad sped up and all I could think was "Go, Daddy, Go." I was ready to get out of there.

We made it safely away from the storm and safely out of Wyoming. Next state - South Dakota and the Black Hills. We were in the Hills for awhile until we reached our destination, Mt. Rushmore.

The fact that Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln's faces were carved out of rock is pretty amazing not to mention it was done on the side of a mountain 5500 feet above sea level. As it was getting late in the day, we headed on through the Black Hills past Crazy Horse, where they are sculpting the Crazy Horse monument in the side of another mountain. The work there began in 1948 and continues today. We drove through Custer State Park and saw the prairie dogs and more bison.



The next morning we visited the Mammoth Dig Site in Hot Springs, SD. Apparently, there was a large sink hole that the mammoths would get stuck in when they went in for water. The site was found by accident in 1974 when the land was being cleared for the building of homes. Since then they have found the remains of over 50 mammoths along with other animals, such as the short tooth bear and American lion. After a short tour of the dig site and museum, we were on the road home.

I have never seen so much corn in my life as I did coming home. It never ended. That day we completed almost 700 miles and stayed somewhere in Missouri. The next morning we tackled St Louis, which was a nightmare. I remember my Dad saying that it was gonna be that way and if we got separated to meet at some exit. I wasn't going to let that happen so I stuck close to him. By that night I was exhausted, partly due to the long riding day and partly due to the fact that this part of the trip was a little boring due to the lack of sightseeing. We stayed somewhere on the Kentucky/Tennessee border that night and headed home the next morning for some much needed rest. At the end of the trip we had covered approximately 6,000 miles and 20 states in 17 days. I think I slept for a day straight, but it was definitely the trip of a lifetime. The fact that it was just my dad and I made it even more special for both of us.

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control of his truck and got back to his side of the road. He didn't fully realize what had happened. He was told. The Chattanooga City Police were called, a report was made out, and the driver admitted everything. The police officer wrote him a citation, gave him a court date. He told him that it was the same as driving drunk and he was lucky he hadn't killed two people that day. The court date came. We were all present. The judge heard the story and promptly fined the man the minimum fine of two dollars plus court costs. Two dollars for going to sleep at the wheel, leaving the pavement by 3 to 4 feet on the opposite side of the road, hitting a motorcycle (narrowly missing a head-on collision and killing two people), driving several hundred yards down the road before being pulled over (by the people on the motorcycle he had just sideswiped) and he got the minimum fine of two measly dollars... Give me a break people and get real! By the grace of God, the motorcycle safety course training, a little luck and good reflexes (at the last split second), we made it through. I'm proud to be able to write this report and say - it's like bumper cars out there and you have to try and not get tagged. I've been riding for 40 years now and so far so good... But please be alert to your surroundings. Take the motorcycle safety course. It might just save your life. It did ours. So pray up and ride safe!

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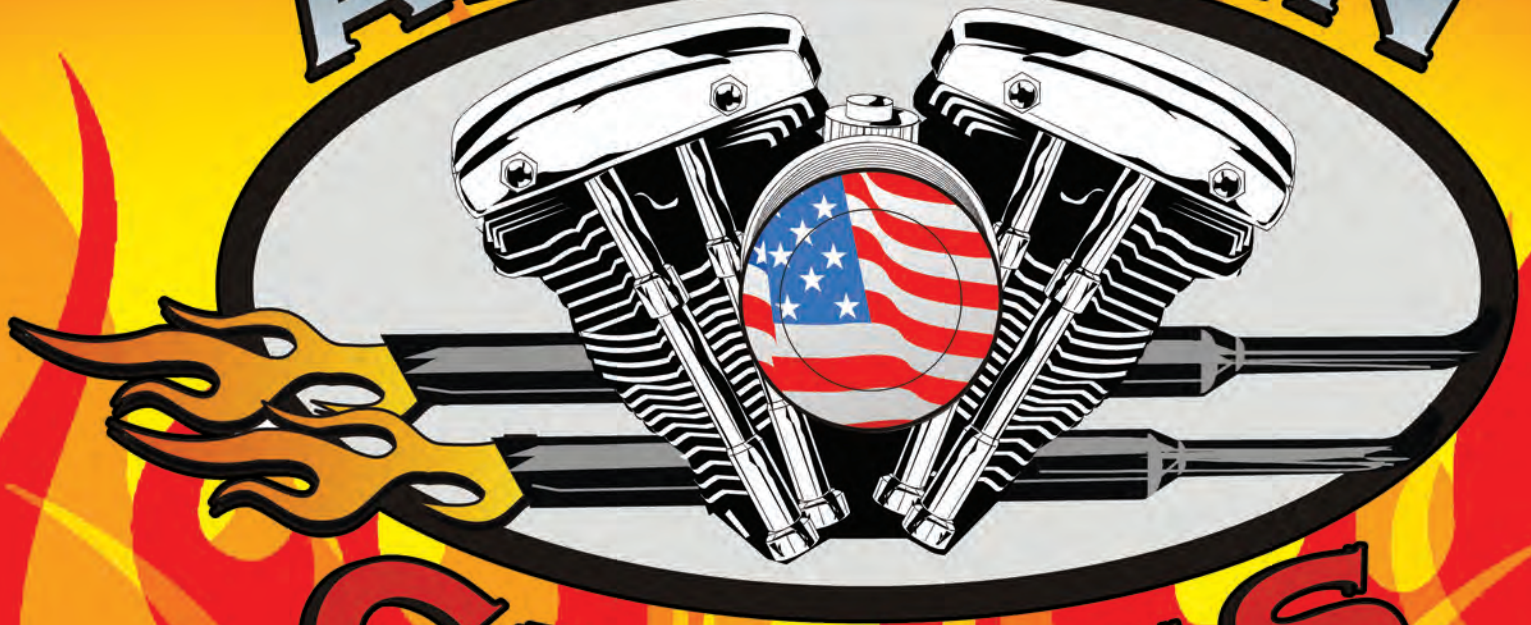


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Just A DAB

How could one person bring in the New Year by his/herself and it not be just another day? They can't, at least not in my opinion. It's a night of celebration. Not so much with family as it were, but with as many people as possible. People who are together for one night and for one purpose - to celebrate!

Special thanks goes out to Russell and Frankie Jones of the Putter Inn at 7001 Middle Valley Road in Hixson. Their New Year's Eve party was one to remember, (depending of course on how much one had to drink - of course). The most popular ladies that night would have to be Miranda, Crystal, Linda, Pam and (the very cute) Cindy who kept the cold ones coming and smiles for everyone. They never skipped a beat, dropped a drink, or failed to deliver. Kudos girls!

Speaking of beat, now we come to those who



kept this party going. We had the boys from the band Slow Ride bringin' in the New Year at this party. And bring it in they did, straight through the heart of the hour. These guys have been entertaining Chattanooga for years. Add up their years of experience and you'd be looking at the century mark folks. How are you going to beat that? Folks, the guys from Slow Ride nailed it. Their talents and achievements are simply too numerous to list. You'll just have to check them out for yourself.

Fronting for Slow Ride was Steve Wright: bassist, lead singer, and international recording artist who's opened for a mountain of major recording artists and toured with his own band



27 South for years. Lead guitarist Steve Bates stepped out big and dug deep for some soulful notes. He played everything from grab-your-girl tunes to slap-your-buddy-in-the-back Stevie Ray Vaughn. Love those blues! Our own Darrel Ray, long time drummer and vocalist struck the beat for Slow Ride, keeping tempo for our fast-paced, party-hard ride. Keeping things bright and glowing was Leo Smitt and Allan Loarance on keyboards, rhythm and vocals rounding out this five-piece group in style and class. Honorable mention also goes out to Mr. Ray "Razor" Haney of Mother Of Pearl for adding to the night's entertainment. Get it boy!

To the well-established New Year's Eve partygoer, New Years will forever play a part in our lives, one we just can't live without. It will always be the holiday most of us will reserve for being with as many close friends as possible. Fortunately I have many and cherish them every one.

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Darrel A. Brackett



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A couple of months ago, I saw a few bikes pull into a parking lot. As the bikes got closer, I noticed something different about the riders. They were all women. When they parked and dismounted, I said hello. A conversation started up and I ended up spending the next few hours getting to know some new friends. When I was introduced to Eleanor Matthews as “Nu Nu,” I had to ask her to repeat her nickname a couple of times to make sure I’d heard her correctly. I’d never heard of anyone named Nu Nu, but that turned out to be just a drop in the bucket of interesting things I’d find out about her. As it turned out, she was upbeat, friendly, educated and hard working (all attributes I admire). Although she is articulate and feminine, she works as a Fire Operator and Electrician at the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant – a job I would expect some tough guy to have. I had a blast getting to know her and thought (since I had her cornered) I would strap her into the Hot Seat and introduce her to the rest of my friends – the loyal Road Rash readers! Let’s see how she does answering our infamous questions...

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



I got the nickname “Nu Nu” when I was two years old from Lou Della, my cousin who was babysitting me. I asked her twenty years later what a “nu nu” was, and she said, “You are a nunu.” I’ve also been called “Queen Bee.” That came from my friend Parker. He says as pretty and educated as I am and the way I like to take control, people should bow down and call me the queen bee.

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

When I was almost six years old, I started riding a 50 Honda that my dad got me. My first street bike was a 550 Honda. I was thirteen, started working and bought a bigger bike. I’ve been riding a Honda ever since.

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

Well, I decided to go to Holwenwall, Tennessee (Columbia) and visit a friend. While I was there, we had a disagreement, I got mad and decided to leave in the middle of the night. I got lost on I-65, called my Dad, and he said for me to stay on I-65 until I saw Huntsville, Alabama. I did. What should have been a two-and-a-half hour ride ended up being seven hours! I got home to Bridgeport, Al. at 3 a.m. Talk about a sore butt!

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

Yes. My Dad has a Suzuki Intruder, and my sister has a 1000cc Honda “crotch rocket.”

5) Have you ever had any serious wrecks?

I think so. On July 4, 2003 my dad and I decided to clean up the bikes and go riding. I had a wreck right in front of my parents’ house. I suffered a lot of Road Rash, but my mom and her friend helped me to a speedy recovery. Well, thanks to Mom and her iodine. I think mom was just teaching me a lesson, that iodine was no joke. Just ask my dad!

6) Have you ever been discriminated against because you ride a motorcycle?

Well, not a lot. Most people are not used to seeing a woman on a bike... I think we intimidate a lot of men, so I have been called a “dike on a bike.” But more and more



women are riding, so it's not such a surprise anymore.

7) Have you enjoyed special benefits because you ride a motorcycle?
Just being able to park in small places is a big help. I love to see places that have special places for bikes to park.

8) What is your favorite type of riding and what is your favorite local route (within 100 miles)?
I love riding on back roads. My friend Stephanie and I just love picking back roads and getting lost (of course). We enjoy seeing where the road takes us.

9) On average, how many miles do you ride each year?
I just got a new Honda VTX 1300. I have only had it about two months, and I already have over 1,100 miles on it. I ride anytime of the year as long as the sun shines and it's not raining. Of course, Stephanie and I have been caught in the rain more than once.

10) If you could change one thing about the motorcycling community, what would it be?
I enjoy the motorcycling community. There isn't much I would like to change. Whenever I have needed help, my motorcycle friends are always there to assist me. The most important thing is to respect your bike, always be alert, and stay safe. I do wish more places of business (like Wal-Mart and the malls) would have designated motorcycle parking spaces.

Well, I guess if you have enough nerve to handle high voltage lines in a nuclear power plant, a few questions about your personal life aren't that big a challenge. Nu Nu did great. She even managed to smile throughout the torture! If you should happen to see Nu Nu out and about, ask her to sign your copy of Road Rash Magazine. She's a great lady with a big personality and I'm sure you'll want to make her your friend.

If you know of anyone you'd like to see featured here in The Hot Seat, please nominate him or her. Also, if you have any suggestions as to what additional or different questions you'd like to have answered every month, let us know about that also. You can use the contact information listed on page 5, or just shoot me an email to: tomthebomb@roadrashmag.com.



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