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From the Editor:

As I spend time traveling around doing my deliveries and talking to business owners, bar patrons and your run of the mill bikers, I am sensing change in the air. The avenue a lot of these establishments are taking seems to be what it was back a couple decades. Do you remember the late 80's? The attitude of motorcyclists, bikers and wannabes? The whiskey, cigarettes and loud bands every weekend? I sort of remember some of them years. (HE-HE) The rides the brothers and I used to take. The hanging around the garage downing a 12 pack while shooting the shit. The events we went to on weekends, (almost every weekend possible when the old lady let me loose). Then come the 90's, groups didn't hang out together like they did in the previous years, and before you knew it we were full steam ahead at the Harley 100th in Milwaukee. Where am I going with this I'm not sure. Point being, that is my point. Did things change or are we just getting older while having better judgement with our riding and partying. I'm thinking all of the above is the dilemma of bikers today.

I was digging through a fellow magazines website www.myspace.com/thunderroadsmagazine (Which is a downed to earth rag covering Indiana and Northern IL) and ran across this letter. I suppose this started my under used brain thinking about all of this.

Are bikers being taken advantage of?

Poker runs, Charity rides, fund-raisers, Bike nights, and much, much more.

It seems like the number of events are growing every year, bars and restaurants that used to shun bikers are now having poker runs every weekend. Is it all just a growing concern for charities and people in need or is it people taking advantage of us?

My opinion is of course that it is both. There are bars and bikers that have held poker runs for years and many of them have a direct connection with the charity they choose to help.

Over the last couple years I have seen more poker runs put on by non-motorcyclists and for some reasons that just shock the hell out of me. There was one poker run to raise money for a girl that wanted to travel to Europe as part of an exchange program, hell I want to travel Europe too. I have also seen bars and restaurants jumping on the bandwagon and hosting events or bike nights when they are known for not liking or desiring bikers as customers.

I think as bikers, we need to pick and choose the events we ride in and we should also do some after checking to see what actually made it to the charity or cause.

Make sure your donations go where you want them too!

While I have much more running through my brain, I want to just say that with the warm weather coming, (I can't wait) the urge to ride is steadily getting more intense. Please be careful with all the sand, salt and inattentive drivers. They're not as ready as we are to be on our two wheeled kingdoms.

Remember the trivia we have going on, (see below) and please send in those events you will have for the upcoming year. I for one am setting my schedule up for the season and would like to hit as many as I can again this year. I can't do that if I don't know about it. E-mail preacher@freeriderspress.us with any thoughts, questions, events or advertising. (This is the time of year to get your business name out there.)

Till next time, Preacher

Trivia, Trivia, Trivia

We got a winner! John and Cheryl Eischen. **Congrats** Here's how it works. I give you a question supplied to me by PIPEz. When you have the answer, e-mail it to trivia@gmaxpro.com and around the 10th we will post the answer on www.gmaxpro.com/FREE-RIDERS-TRIVIA web page. From the right answers we will draw a winner. These folks will win products and items that are donated from different advertisers and businesses. Sound easy enough? Lets get to it!!!

What famous aviator set land speed records on the sands of Ormand and Daytona beaches? And how many were "firsts"

Remember: e-mail the answer to trivia@gmaxpro.com



Mission Statement:

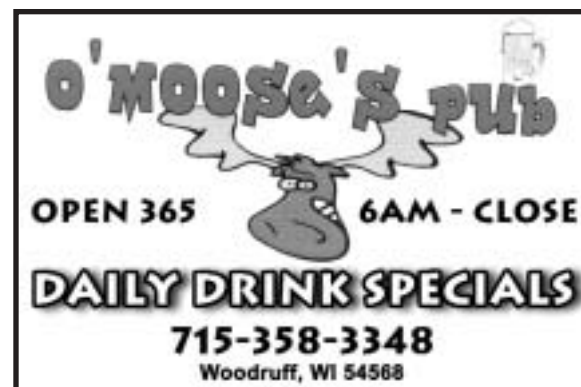
This paper was started out of the love and respect for being in the wind, and the brothers and sisters that are in the wind also. I have been riding all my life and have learned what brotherhood means. The Free Riders Press is a paper dedicated to the biker who knows this respect. Not barring any rider for what he wears or rides. We try to cover stories that make the public sit back and have a positive outlook on bikers. We will try to cover events that are for the biker and put on by the biker. This paper will be used to better the riding community through education, updates and personal views that are of positive thinking for the riding community in general. We will try to fight the ongoing discrimination that seems to be thrown onto us without our view being told. Free Riders Press is for all to enjoy, so by working together someday we can be free in the wind, without the worry of any of the aforementioned items.

"Bingo's Downed Biker Fund"

If you have a Brother or Sister down and would like to get them the Free Riders Press, NO PROBLEM, be glad to do it but it does cost money. A lot of people help out by donating some coin. We here will do what we can, but with everybody giving what they can, we will make it go a long way. We all know somebody that's down, and anything would be greatly appreciated.



Send to:
"Bingo's Downed Biker Fund"
2206 Jefferson
Two Rivers, WI 54241



Hi Dennis Lange & Shar Sonnenberg of MRF. Nice to see you again at the Supercycle Show Feb 3rd



Meet Mitchell now 26months old, the new parts specialist at W#isconsin Cycle Salvage. He goes for the fast bikes right away!



If you have a picture of your Next Generation Rider, feel free to send it in to me. Who knows it just might kick start a Hollywood career for them. Send those pic's to preacher@freeriderspress.us or by snail mail to 4500 Hwy 66, Stevens Point, WI 54481