

Calender of Events

April 5- (WI) GT Promotions Swap Meet at Sunny View Expo in Oshkosh, WI for info 920-989-3995
April 4-6th- (WI) 16th Annual Blue Hills H.O.G. Indoor Bike Show @ Cedar Mall Rice Lake, WI. 10:15 am - 8:30 pm Vendors, Bike Raffles, Music 50/50 drawing. FREE and open to the public!!
April 6- (WI) Expo 1 motorcycle swap meet at the Waukesha Expo. 10am-5pm for info 414-839-2712
April 6- (MN) 13th Annual Swapmeet and Bike Show at the Benton County Fairgrounds. 320-420-4123
April 9- (WI) Abate 4A Meeting 7:00 pm at Hog Creek 1303 Hwy 153 (& O) Mosinee
April 12- (WI) Heaven's Devil's Annual Walleye Days Poker Run starting at Foley's Nita Brew in Nekoosa, WI sign in 10-12 for more info 715-232-1633
April 11-13th- (MN) Abate-U in Alexandria, MN at the Holiday Inn events all day for more info Noma at 612-616-2403 or Abateu@abatemn.org
April 13- (WI) GT Promotions Swap Meet at Waupaca Expo center in Waupaca, WI 920-989-3995
April 19- The 43rd Annual Spring Run 10:29 AM .... Flood run Starts Promptly At The Beach Bar in Lake St. Croix Beach, Mn. 651 436-5065 www.floodrun.org
April 19- (WI/MN) This Old Bike™ will once again be having our Open House/Customer Appreciation Party ALL Weekend Long! VENDORS: Contact This Old Bike™ @ 1-866-327-5943 (Early-HD) 210 Lake Street Pepin, WI (715)-442-2228 (715)-410-0182 Dave@ThisOldBike.us www.ThisOldBike.us
April 18-20- (MA) MRF's BEAST of the East at the Marriott Boston Peabody in Peabody, Massachuset. For more info www.mrf.org or contact the office at (202) 546-0983
April 20- (IL) Swap Meet 8:00am-3:00pm McHenry County Fairgrounds 1051 Country Club Rd. Woodstock, IL RTE 47-1 MI. N. of RTE 14 www.walneckswap.com
April 20- (MI) Giant motorcycle swap meet at the Birch Run Expo Center in Birch Run, MI for more www.motorcycleswap.com or 800-968-4242
April 20- (WI) Gt Promotions swap meet at the Dunn County Ice Arena in Menomonie, WI 10am-5pm. For more info 920-989-3995
April 26- (WI) Abate of Wi 7D 21st Annual Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet at Recreation Park in Tomah, WI 10-5pm
April 26- (MN) The Livonia Twp. Lions motorcycle ride for "Ride for Better Vision" starting at KJ's Refuge Bar and Grill in Orrock Home of A.B.A.T.E. "Sandune Chapter" starting at 11am leaves at noon for more info Cliff Welte (763)-441-2768
April 26- (WI) ABATE of WIS Region 7A Ride Into Spring Party at Gibby's, New Richmond.3pm-12 For more info call: 715/246-9095 or 715/265-4142 or 715/425-6584 or 715/294-4266
April 26- (WI) Bikers helping Friends Wishes Spring Fling Ride starts at noon at Kronshage Park, Boscobel, Wi www.bhfw.org
April 27- (IL) Trickster Blues, Bikes & Art Show 190 S Roselle Road Schaumburg, IL call Kenn 630-675-6852
April 27- (MI) Walneck Swap Meet at the Cahoun County Fairgrounds in Marshall, MI 8-3pm for more info www.walneckswap.com
May 3- (WI) 9th Annual May Day Blood Run at Eagle Nation in Neenah, WI 9am-4:30pm for more info 920-722-6518
May 4- (WI) Road Runners MC Original Bike Blessing 2008 12pm-5pm in Oak Creek, WI for more info www.roadrunnersmc.com
May 4- (MI) Walneck swap meet in Monroe, MI- Monroe County Fairgrounds 8-3pm for more info www.walneckswap.com
May 17 & 18- (WI) MDA Firefighters Ride out of Harley-Davidson of Wausau info www.wausaufire.com or call Andy at 715-355-8789
May 17- (WI) Region 2J 16th Annual Cabin Fever Breakout Poker Run and Party. For more info call Bruce Hall 608-434-0796
May 23-26th- (IA) The Horse Bike & Music Rally held in Sabula, IA just across the river from Savanna,IL for more info www.thehorserally.com
June 1-(WI) 3rd Annual Fox Valley Motorcycle Show at South Park in Oshkosh, WI. For more info call the Park Ave Bar at 920-233-7275
June 6-8th- (WI) Elroy, WI bike meet for further info www.elroybikemeet.com
June 12-14th- (IA) Sturgis on the Mississippi held For more sturgisontheriver.com
June 19-22- (WI) Abate of WI Summer Hummer State Rally www.abatewis.org or (715) 284-7415
June 26-28th- The Great Northern Bike Rally at Mole Lake Casino. FREE Admission for more info www.molelake.com
June 26-29th Black River Rumble in Black River Falls www.blackriverrumble.com
\*\* Music- Cherokee Rose Band www.cherokeeroseband.net for schedule
\*\* 2 Wheel Tuesdays every week at the Locker Room in Menasha, WI for more info (920) 886-8727

You got an event? A benefit? Or just something you want to let everybody else know about, let us know. E-mail your event to preacher@freeriderspress.us. Many more events listed at www.freeriderspress.us
\*\*\*Due to space limitations, only advertised events are guaranteed to be published in Calender\*\*\*

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you just feel welcomed well Scooters is that kind of place. In the short time I was there a couple came in ordered food & got served, now that's fast service. Heading east on HWY 64 in Monmouth is Stormin' Norman's I got a look in the kitchen after I made a comment on how clean the bar area was. That kitchen was spotless and looked like it was a showroom kitchen everything was clean and well taken care of. Something you don't find often. Up in Clinton a new place called 2 Hills across from the new ADM power plant. They did a great job on remodeling the old restaurant giving it nice feel inside with out overdoing it
Until next time RIDE SAFE
Gery Schemel-gery@gmaxpro.com

Side bar -Covering the Heartland along the Mississippi River from Savanna, IL to Blue grass IA., this is where the Mighty Mississippi River turns west along its journey south. Just look on the map for where the 80 and 74 Interstates cross marking the big X.

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My hands hurt, and I laugh to myself at how stupid that sounds in my own head. My hands hurt. Please! Shut up and clap. For twenty-four minutes, soldier after soldier has come down this hallway - 20, 25, 30. Fifty-three legs come with them, and perhaps only 52 hands or arms, but down this hall came 30 solid hearts.

They pass down this corridor of officers and applause, and then meet for a private lunch, at which they are the guests of honor, hosted by the generals. Some are wheeled along. Some insist upon getting out of their chairs, to march as best they can with their chin held up, down this hallway, through this most unique audience. Some are catching handshakes and smiling like a politician at a Fourth of July parade. More than a couple of them seem amazed and are smiling shyly.

"There are families with them as well: the 18-year-old war-bride pushing her 19-year-old husband's wheelchair and not quite understanding why her husband is so affected by this, the boy she grew up with, now a man, who had never shed a tear is crying; the older immigrant Latino parents who have, perhaps more than their wounded mid-20s son, an appreciation for the emotion given on their son's behalf. No man in that hallway, walking or clapping, is ashamed by the silent tears on more than a few cheeks. An Airborne Ranger wipes his eyes only to better see. A couple of the officers in this crowd have themselves been a part of this parade in the past.

These are our men, broken in body they may be, but they are our brothers, and we welcome them home. This parade has gone on, every single Friday, all year long, for more than four years.

"Did you know that?"

The media hasn't yet told the story."

