## **Black Magic Customs Bike Show '09**

About an hour west of Chicago sits a little town on highway 34 called Sandwich. Now, I know that a town with a name like Sandwich sounds kind of weird, but just give this a thought... Back track about 4 miles, and there sits another town called Plano. Can you figure out where this is going yet? Well, if not, just imagine if there was a town in between the two called Bologna. Then what would you have? A Plano-Bologna-Sandwich! So you see, someone got the idea rolling, but must have eaten the bologna before getting the town established.

Well, aside from some corny jokes, there's actually a killer bike shop in Sandwich called Black Magic Customs. Every July 4th weekend, the town of Sandwich host their Freedom Days Festival, and the folks at Black Magic team up with Open Roads ABATE for a little bike show. The show originated downtown with all the other events, but quickly out grew the half block that the city shut down for them. So, the show was moved just south of town to a little watering hole next to Black Magic's shop called the Hideout. Well, low and behold, the show also out grew that parking lot, so this past July, the event was held at the Timber Creek Hotel, which has a very large lot out back.

The show was held on Sunday, July 5th, and the weather couldn't have been more perfect. If anything, it was a bit hot, but we'll take that over cold and rainy any day. Things were started at 10AM, with registration going until noon. Many vendors rolled in showing off their goods and services, including ABATE of Illinois with their motorcycle raffles, Ol Skool Customs, Psychotic Air, Lucas Oils, and Dream Evil Designs. Of course, the Black Magic crew also rolled in part of their collection of killer Panheads and CFLs, most of which have been seen in various magazine features worldwide.

Nearly 100 bikes rolled in to compete in the show, and while Phil, Lynn, and the crew took to the task of judging all the entries, local band DBL-Shot was cranking out some tunes up near the bar. And by the way, the Timber Creek's lounge was open so that no one had to worry about going hungry, or worse yet thirsty!

Phil and Lynn have been around the block a few times when it comes to bike shows, so they know what it's all about. They've been involved with shows all around the Chicagoland area, along with shows in Sturgis, and out in Columbus, Ohio. In total, awards were handed out in 7 different classes, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class. Best Rough Rider (no explanation needed) went to a '73 Shovelhead from a fell called Bear... Best Specialty went to Mike Kozacek for his '59 FLH... Lee Humphrey's

'07 Road King took Best Street Bike... Best Custom Bike was handed to Jerome Beckham's '08 Deluxe... Lowell Leslie walked away with Best Antique for his '77 Lowrider... And Best of Show nods went to Kenny Watts for a 2009 Custom.

Door prizes were also handed out to folks, with a separate set of prizes going out just to the bike show contestants. So the prizes combined with the fact that there's no entry fee to compete in the show, is all worth while it self!

The show is always held the Sunday of July 4th weekend, and the weekend of January 9th and 10th, 2010, the Black Magic crew will be hosting another show indoors at the Timber Creek. For more information on both shows, check out <u>www.blackmagiccus-</u>















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