Laura the Potter

August 2009

Grrrr...I'm frustrated! I tried to look up the motorcycle fatalities in MN for 2009 so far - and man - I just wasted so much time! I couldn't find anything current. All I know is every year people that I know die on their bikes. This year already I have had a friend die, and another friend come inches from death. The thing is - there are soooo many more bikes now! It used to be that I would ride around Wright County – and know just about everyone I greeted on the road...really! Now...I know – very

few. I was just saying to a friend of mine when we were at a street dance Maday's Fish Trap

- and there were other bikers there I didn't know..."Who are they??? He said – "I don't know – I try not to know anybody." I said "No…it pisses me off if I don't know them!" I just feel like there is a whole new generation - a new breed of - motorcycle riders - I'm not saying bikers at all...it is just so different.

When I was 9 years old my family went to the Excelsior amusement park that is no longer there. We were pulling into the parking lot and about 30 or so bikes pulled in just next to us. I got out of that car and just stared at them laughing, patting each other on the back, and it really was a jaw dropping experience for me - I knew then - there was something extra cool about those people - and that stuck with me. I was married to the same man for 21 years and he wouldn't have a bike. We had many friends that rode, but a lot of it was money, and raising kids, but he really had no desire to have a bike anyway...but I sure wanted to!!!! So, we divorced in 1999. I said – I'm going to be a biker chick! And I chose to

date men that had Harley's...it wasn't long that I rode behind men that I felt were too drunk to ride, or just plain needed

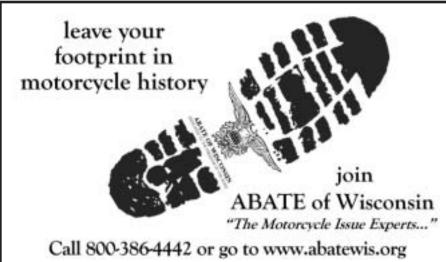
my independence that in 2000 I bought my 2001 Sportster. That was the first motorcycle I ever rode. I now know that free spirit feeling that I witnessed from those bikers when I was only 9.

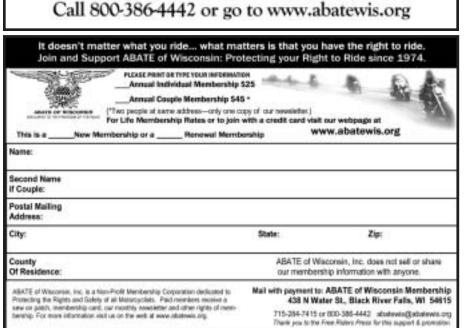
Oh...Update...I did get a wimpshield on my bike – and I love it!!!!! With my ape hangers it was like trying to hold up a barn door in the wind...what a difference! It is the quick detach kind...cost a bundle, but it is worth it to me. Function over form - and really - I don't think it looks bad at all.

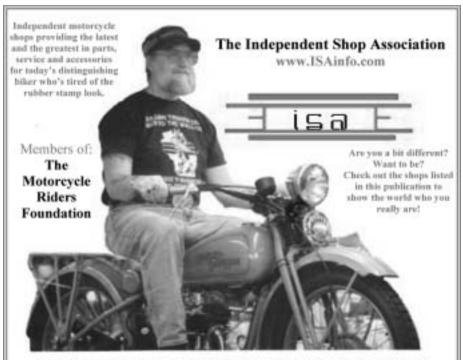
Last weekend I went to the 20th annual Dirt Farm Party...it's so great! Dirt does know how to do an awesome pig roast – and he has this bon fire...not your typical bon fire guys...its Dirt, standing in the bucket of a bobcat with a 20 gallon or so barrel of gasoline. The front end is about as high as it can go, and he pours the gas, then the driver moves the bobcat farther down the bunch of wood and he pours more out until all the gasoline is gone...He lights that thing up and man what a blast!!! I think it will burn until Tuesday. Anyway, I saw lots of people I have not seen in a while, and I had a great time. I have a bunch of photos from another magazine I used to write for from July's issue in 2004 of Dirt's party. It was fun to bring that with me and show people those old photo's...Hope you all are having a great summer! Take Care, Laura the Potter











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