

## My thoughts on the big Chopper Live Build-Off

by Preacher

I was flipping through the channels looking for something to watch and ran across the American Chopper: Chopper Live build-Off at the Las Vegas Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. After flipping through all the channels a second time to make sure I didn't miss anything that interested me more, I settled on the build-off. Two hours of past clips of OCC and the irritating arguing from Jr. & Sr. As well as present individualism on their new creations and Jesse doing what he does best- talking smack. Is this going to be a kick start to the dead custom market that everyone involved here hopes? I guess that will remain to be seen. But back to the show...

As the builds are progressing we see the made for tv pranks and self proclaimed greatness by all 3, but for what this show was built up to be, both Sr and Jesses bike were flops. I personally would rather trust Jesse's on any kind of road trip over 5 miles over Jr's, for sure. But his entry was the same as he built over the years. Cool but very West Coast Generic. Sr's entry turned out to be really cool but for a build-off (a MOTORCYCLE build-off) he never even showed up. It reminded me of the kid with the really extensive erector set who would get really stoned while watching a Mad Max movie, and then create a machine to kick the bad guys asses. Very Creative but not for this particular venue. And then there was Jr's P-51 Mustang inspired entry. This got my juices flowing with the lines, creativity and craftsmanship that went into it. As I am watching them build, I was kept in the dark of what the end product would be with it's big tires, rerouted exhaust and open concept frame design. But once they started that bad boy up and kicked in the (tank exhaust), now that was cool. And as far as I am concerned it was a true "Made For TV Custom Built Bike." It definitely has my vote.

I would love to have more bike related shows on tv and there are some coming out that the average biker can enjoy in real life. "Hairy Bikers" on the History Channel History.com show two riders traveling the U.S. in search of different things around the country. Now something like that could inspire me to travel to certain locations to check it out for myself. This is still reality tv but at least you learn something along the way.

I will be doing more of these reviews in the future, but remember to keep it real, keep your ride upright and keep it biker.

Criticism Welcome at:

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### Profiles Of Bikers

In recognition of Sturgis Bike Week, the U.S. Census Bureau posted the following daily "Profile America" feature: FRIDAY, AUGUST 12: BIGGEST MOTORCYCLE GATHERING - The small town of Sturgis, South Dakota hosts the world's largest gathering of motorcycles this week -- the 71st Sturgis Rally. Normally home to about 6,600, the town sees its population swell to some 350,000 during the rally. The idea began with just 19 riders taking part in racing and stunt events 71 years ago. Those attending are seeing races, trade shows, and thousands of bikes on display. Mostly,

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### Free Rider Press/Bikernet.com

from Dave Zien December 10, 2011

God Bless You as the Jubilation of the Merry Christmas Season emanates from your very Soul. May the joy flourish to inspire others increasingly the year around. With contagious enthusiasm and refreshing optimism – May you have Hunger in the Heart, Fire in the Belly & Souls absolutely on Fire!

Each of us are Miracles of Survival and testament to the Hand of God. Just by being alive in these most turbulent times, demonstrates God's Grace.

A movement yet to be entitled is being initiated by Vicki SanFelipo-Accident Scene Management (ASMI) and the Rescue Riders. A temporary name is "Miracle Mountain Motorcycle Monument".

Artifacts from crashes and video recorded testimonies will be gathered at the Compound/Big Bend, WI. Ideas for some type of display are welcome. Professional artists may be recruited to deliver unique/creative substance in displaying the accumulated artifacts.

Vicki coordinated the acquisition and return to the Compound of my motorcycle from Florida which was crashed 3/13/11. So far, several people are stepping forward to tell their story and donate artifacts. This is just a start – please spread the word.

**Jim Zeiler**, Grantsburg, went down and slid 250 ft. – staying in his lane, on a 2-lane highway in heavy traffic. No major injuries to him or the Gold Wing.

**C.C. Butler**, Eau Claire in LA Crescent, California, hit a car head-on at 55 mph. The car was also going 55 mph, which made the combined collision speed at 110 mph. C.C. was airborne 58 ft. at a height of 18 ft. No broken bones, but his Kawasaki chopper did not fare as well in 1976.

**Jerry Gilles**, Fall Creek, went beneath a large Amish work horse. His windshield disemboweled the horse in 1972.

**Cat Hammes** (One Legged Blond) was hit broadside by a doe on I-94, May 2011. The collision bent her prosthetic titanium leg. The manufacturer claimed the leg could not have been bent. The Harley-Davidson stayed upright and a fawn was stillborn from the collision.

**Dave Mackie**, Mosinee, just survived a miraculous collision – See Free Rider Press in the future demonstrating Divine Intervention upon Dave and his passenger Rhonda.

The Miracle Mountain Motorcycle Monument type movement may also offer testament to other factors contributing to Miracles of Survival. ASMI skills, clothing, proper insurance, rehabilitation, representation by prominent attorneys and prayer all to be included.

So often conjunctive, peripheral and secondary conditions have to be dealt with. Unintended consequences of medications and lack of exercise become paramount. Readjustment to new lifestyles, dealing with depression and different friends are difficult. Ironies and idiosyncrasies will offer proof of God's Hand.

Your ideas are welcome. Get them to Vicki SanFelipo, Steve Johnson, Dave Mackie, Tony "Pan" or Biker Chad. A committee will be set up to determine destiny Merry Christmas/God Bless You

Dave Zien

Former State Senator

Million Mile Motorcycle Man



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