

**Rolling Thunder XXXIII – Run To The Wall 2010**

*Milwaukee to Washington D.C. – Memorial Day Weekend*

**Thursday May 27.** We assemble at Weigel, Carlson, Blau, & Clemens, S.C. on 36th & Wisconsin Avenue here in Milwaukee. This Law Firm has been sponsoring this Run, now on its 18th year. It is spring time - time to ride. I've been riding about 29 years, but this was my first Run to the Wall. Wow, what a weekend including about 1900 miles on my 07 FLHR. At about 9am with Polack and Hog Man in the lead, along with the Milwaukee County Sherriff's Department (thanks to them also) we passed an elementary school with over 100 children waving American flags. What a heartwarming send off. Then on to I-94 east bound, our escort with the Sherriff's was short lived as we crossed the County Line just south of Milwaukee. But that didn't matter, the 180 or so bikes were so organized we breezed right through the Toll Booths in Chicago. We broke into two groups for the balance of the day to make the gas stops faster –they had this routine nailed down. But it was still 490 miles and 11 hours later (8pm)



**HANCOCK HOTEL BAR**  
 113 S. Main Street  
 Hancock, Wisconsin 54943  
 Owners: Terry & Dick Werner  
 Phone: 715-249-DICK (3425)

**\$2.25 off for members of ABATE, HOG and all veterans**

*Veterans always welcome*

**4 STOOLS SHORT**  
 Open 7 days a week  
 10 A.M.-2 A.M.

Karaoke-Thur      Live Music- Sat  
**POOL - DARTS - FOOSBALL**  
**SANDWICHES PIZZA APPETIZERS**

Wisconsin Rapids      715-421-4544

Lunch Specials      Open 7 Days A Week  
 Eat in & Out      11 am to Close  
 Entertainment

**HIAWATHA**  
 RESTAURANT

- Broasted Chicken • Fish Fry •
- Soups • Salads • Hot Sandwiches •

Call for Booking a Birthday, Anniversary or Small Wedding  
**715-457-2999**  
 Close to Mead Hunting & Lake DuBay  
**JUNCTION CITY, WIS.**  
 Centrally located between Marshfield, Stevens Point, Wisconsin Rapids & Wausau

*Motorcycle Riders Depot*  
 639 Grand Ave.      Schofield, WI 54476      715-359-0989

Full Service Dept. - Custom Builds - Repairs - Performance - Dynojet Dynasticker  
 Large Show Room      Parts & Accessories      Jewelry & Clothing      Winter Storage

**AACFI**  
 American Association of  
 Custom Fitters & Installers

**B.D.J. LTD**  
**CCW CERTIFICATION** ONE CLASS-ONE DAY  
 UTAH, FLORIDA, & MINNESOTA NON-RESIDENT CARRY PERMITS  
**CARRY LEGALLY IN 33 STATES**

BE SAFE      BE SECURE

Bill & Deb Schmitz  
 Redgranite, WI 54970  
 920-295-9435  
 CCWTRAINER@BDJ-LTD.com  
 www.BDJ-LTD.com

*We will do classes at your location/club*

by the time we rolled into the hotel that evening in Buckeye Lake, Ohio. What a day!

**Friday May 28.** The next morning the entire group (although some left earlier) left at 8am for the Ride into the big city, Washington DC here we come. Our Hotel was in Maryland just some-teen miles from The Wall. But you could feel the Thunder all around. We arrived there about 4pm and got our rooms. We went to the local VFW for the \$5 all you can eat spaghetti feast. What a great meal! They really know how to make you feel welcome. The excitement was there, and so were many veterans. Sitting in the VFW talking to these vets, you can hear the pride in their voices with each story being told. The feeling of patriotism was overwhelming. With full stomachs and warm hearts we had to head back to the hotel and more camaraderie in the courtyard over a few beers, and then a good night's rest.

**Saturday May 29.** After having a great breakfast we left the hotel parking lot at 9:30am, we Wisconsin bikers were riding with Tommy Tradwell, International/National VFW Commander as well as many other "important people". I was proud to be one of these guys. We had a private behind the scene tour of a place called MARS (felt like top secret stuff). This is the location that collects all the artifacts left at the Wall. What a place. In 1995 the Wisconsin bikers left the largest artifact ever at the Wall, a 1960's era Shovelhead Harley motorcycle (yes, entire bike). This is why we received a private tour of MARS. Wisconsin bikers collected the entire bike piece by piece, put it together and painted it. This is the first and only POW/MIA bike left at the Wall, it is awesome. We have assisted in moving the bike around to various veteran events, and it was just here in Wisconsin at LZ Lambo (a great homecoming event for Viet Nam veterans). That afternoon we were on our own to explore, and I took off and toured the Mall. The WWII Memorial moved me to tears with thoughts of my Dad and the many others who sacrificed for our country. I rode over to Vietnam Vets Wall, and the many names on this memorial really brought home what our vets do to keep us free. I struck up many conversations with the veterans in the area. These vets all have such moving stories to tell, it was great to hear their experiences. I went back to the hotel for a Luau party with grass skirts, food and drink. More than you can eat & drink for the entire evening. The hotel bed was a welcome spot when I hit it at 2am -ouch.

**Sunday May 30th.** Parade Day, or Protest day –whatever you call it. Leave the hotel parking lot at 8am, right after our morning prayer. Washington D.C. has a mandatory helmet law, but we were informed that the police wouldn't pull us over on this day for not wearing a helmet, so we could ride lid free if we wanted. Wisconsin bikers, like most, do not like to be told what to do. We have a freedom of choice State. Many choose to wear helmets, some like me choose not to. Wisconsin Rolling Thunder turned heads as we rode into the Pentagon parking lot with about 180 guys and gals. Several of our front bikes were flying big American flags, and many had the small "Don't Treat on Me" flags flying below. I felt like a dignitary. Even though we joined a huge group of bikes, there were too many to count, our flags and helmetless heads made a statement in that vast parking lot. Hanging out for hours, yes hours before we were released was another experience. It was hot, but the CMA (Christian Motorcycle Association) had booths set up every 50 feet (or so it seemed) with plenty of cold water, crackers, and even peanut butter, jelly, and bread to make yourself a sandwich. To pass the time I headed over to a shady spot for some great conversations with like-minded individuals. We were all here for one reason, to support our Veterans. The parade –well like most, it happened fast. Leaving the Pentagon parking lot, the thunder was rolling as all of the bikes made their way in the parade. The flags were waving, people were cheering, and every high five united us in our effort to support our troops, past and present.

Thanks to so many. CMA, Polack & Marlene, Hog Man, Sqr1, ABATE of Wisconsin for bringing so many of us together, Chaplain Tim who lead us in daily Prayers, all the Wisconsin Wall bike contributors/builders, and Joe Weigel

leave your footprint in motorcycle history

join  
**ABATE of Wisconsin**  
*"The Motorcycle Issue Experts..."*

Call 800-386-4442 or go to [www.abatewis.org](http://www.abatewis.org)

(and Law Firm) for your continued sponsorship in our Wisconsin Run to the Wall/Rolling Thunder. And thank you to the so many more I missed. This Run to the Wall is our show of support for all the Veterans and their families. I was proud to be a part of it, and it will be an honor to be a part of it again. I hope to see you all in the Pentagon parking lot in 2011.

sincerely, Tiger Beyer / Milwaukee, WI  
**Don't forget this years run from Milwaukee to Washington, D.C May 26th for more info call 800-486-0106 x-33 or 262-644-8769 after 7pm**