

Riding the Rotisserie

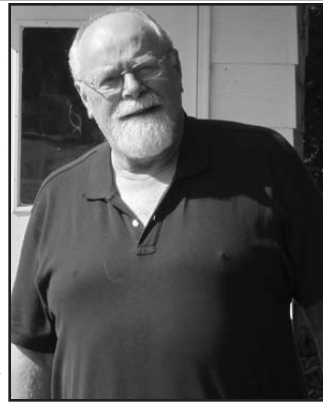
Okay, I admit it. I am really tired of the winter, after only a couple of weeks of cold and snow. It would have been much better if the weather had been nasty all winter, with sub-zero temps and piles and piles of snow. As it was, with moderately cool days and a complete absence of snow and ice, there were no excuses for not firing up the bike and going for a spin. Only one advantage I can see in winter is that the pretty white snow cover we usually have is there for a purpose - to cover up the drab grayness that pervades the landscape at this time of year. Sure it was cold, but what the heck, we're bikers, aren't we? We could put hundreds of miles on between Thanksgiving and Christmas, just because we could. Even if we didn't have anywhere to go, we could go anyway because it was so nice. We didn't get that real cold spell that finally got us to moth-ball the bike until the middle of January, and by then it is almost time to unwrap the thing for Spring tune up. Just can't win. I've been antsy all year, and I hate going through this again every year.

I have really been contemplating a move south, again, at least for part of the year. I saw an article the other day about Harley's Fly and Ride plan, where you can fly to your favorite locale, rent a Harley for the week, and then fly home. Then it listed all the places where you can do this, and there were a number of them down south that were available year-round! Of course, for what it would cost to fly and ride, I could RENT a house down there for the summer. I remember the days when we lived in Southern California and could ride all year long. Yep, those were the good old days when I could play dodge ball with the cagers. I also remember coming in from an afternoon ride feeling like I'd just climbed off the Hibachi. Way hot, man. Yeah, it was something when you had to stop by the side of the road to clean the million bugs off the goggles or the windscreen. Remind me to tell you sometime about getting caught in a sandstorm, or the time when the headwind was so strong, or the time that I was chased through the country by a wildfire. On second thought, maybe Wisconsin's winter isn't so bad when you balance it with a fairly mild summer.

That's what life is really all about, too. Balance. The reason why we put up with certain bad stuff is because it allows us to enjoy certain benefits. When we make the commitment to specific gains in life, we must be willing to endure some pain to make our goal. That's just the way life works. If you want a mild winter when you can ride (though it may be cold and rainy), you will probably have to suffer through a hot summer. That's OK if you don't mind a few weeks of riding the rotisserie through the heat waves. If you are willing to park the bike for a few weeks, you can get six or eight months of great riding in the beautiful north central region of our country. Balance. When it comes to spiritual issues in life, balance is important, too. That doesn't mean that we have to try and balance the bad in our lives with good.

Most of us realize that it would be impossible for us to pull that off. The truth is that we are unable to do much good, even when we are trying our hardest. The Bible tells us that God has provided the balance for us through Jesus Christ. God has made it possible for the sinless perfect life of Jesus Christ to act as the balance for our sinful, imperfect lives. What we could not do for ourselves, Jesus Christ did for us by dying on the cross in payment for our sin. The Bible says that if we will trust in Him, we can find that balance we need in order to go to heaven. John 3:36 says, He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. A well-balanced life is one that looks to God in repentance and faith, and trusts Him for a home in heaven, where the riding is always great, and we don't have to ride the rotisserie.

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