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Happy New Year from the Quad City Section. As this is a time that some take a look at the past year and look forward to the coming year, I will take this opportunity to do just that.

The first thing that comes to mind is Bike Nites; there are at least eight in the greater Quad Cities. As many of you know there was a change in beer companies and radio stations that brought in a second Bike Nite on Thursdays. There was a lot of talk on what would happen, that only one place would make it through the year or it would end up with two so - so Bike Nites. But it has turned out to have worked for both places, they being Ducky's Lagoon in Andalusia, IL and Choppers Bar & Grill in East

Moline, IL. You have two different places; by nature you will have two different types of patrons or ones with some different core interests and lifestyles. No matter of these things, it has worked for both places with an increase in the number of riders going out on Thursdays. And that over all is good for the Quad Cities. One of key factors of the economy is keeping money exchanging hands over and over. That is what can help make the economy work and grow. I look for-

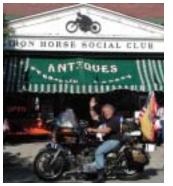
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close calls, cagers and cell phone derelicts. Woo! It is too bad we haven't written them all down. We are surely blessed, just to be here reading the "Free Riders Press".

lives. Challenging the elements, living the adventure, sharing the cohesiveness and camaraderie makes each of us - especially all of us together stronger and better.

Please say a prayer for all of our biker Brothers and Sisters who are waging major physical and spiritual warfare - just to survive. "Hey, Jingles, keep fighting that cancer!".

God Bless you and your loved ones during the Christmas Season and the year through. May you continue to be happy, healthy and successful. Dave Zien

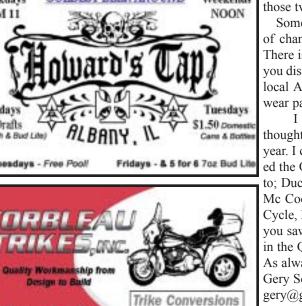




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ward to what next year will bring for you the patron, not just with those two but of all the other Bike Nites. Something that has been a free choice now has the dark clouds

of change hanging over it. I am talking about the helmet law. There is a move to make wearing a helmet the law of the land. If you disagree with this then make sure you get involved with your local A.B.AT.E chapter and help keep choice to wear or not to wear part of our freedom.

I would like to thank Preacher for letting me share my thoughts and observations of the local Bike scene over the past year. I can't forget thanking all the great BFE's that have supported the Quad City Section these past months. Thank you goes out to; Ducky's Lagoon, Howard's Tap, The Outpost, The Iron Filly, Mc Cools, Jammerz, Jesses Saloon, Stormin Normans, Hobart's Cycle, River Oaks and Jolly Rogers. Please let these BFE's know you saw their ad in the Free Riders Press help keeping The FRP

in the Quad Cities. As always Ride Safe.

Gery Schemel gery@gmaxpro.com

Merry Christmas - To God Be the Glory

Just think about it -how fortunate

each of us are. We have survived

We are indeed Spiritually and Divinely Guided. Oh, how motorcycling has enhanced our

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